

Anchorage Hockey Officials, Inc.
BYLAWS

*Bylaws of the Anchorage Hockey Officials Inc.
A non-profit corporation of the State of Alaska*

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Article 1 – Name

Section 1.1 – Name

The name of this corporation shall be the Anchorage Hockey Officials Inc. (hereinafter called AHO), a non-profit corporation of the State of Alaska. The corporation may conduct business utilizing the business name of Anchorage Hockey Officials, Inc. and/or Alaska Hockey Officials.

Article 2 – Mission

Section 2.1 – Mission

The mission of AHO is to improve the quality and delivery of on- and off-ice officiating services to amateur and professional hockey organizations in the Anchorage area by:

- pursuing uniformity of rule interpretations and game procedures by assisting USA Hockey, National Federation of State High School Associations, and other hockey governing entities as appropriate with dissemination of guidance, procedures, and other items of importance as necessary,
- creating better understanding between officials, coaches, players, and other persons for the development of more proficient officiating,
- assisting the USA Hockey District 12 Evaluation Coordinator in the operation of a referee evaluation and feedback program meeting the requirements set forth by USA Hockey,
- providing a forum for the discussion and dissemination of information on hockey rules, procedures and interpretations, and customer feedback,
- pursuing an interface between hockey organizations and referees for scheduling and pay purposes,
- pursuing referee access to clean, safe, and secure dressing areas at each ice arena facility,
- ensuring a safe experience for on- and off-ice officials, players, coaches, volunteers, parents, and spectators immediately before, during, and after hockey games,
- representing the interests of the AHO membership to the Alaska State Hockey Association, to the local and state leadership of USA Hockey, and to other entities and organizations as appropriate.

Article 3 – Membership in AHO

Section 3.1 – Membership

Membership shall be open to those persons who are in compliance with all provisions of these Bylaws and all Policies of AHO. Individual shall be deemed as a member in good standing once the criteria have been met. Applicants may apply for membership in AHO pursuant to criteria set forth herein. Such applications for membership may be rejected by a

majority vote of the Board of Directors at any meeting they may hold in accordance with these Bylaws.

Membership shall be renewed annually. Membership for the current season shall begin no earlier than 1 September and will automatically expire on 31 August of the following year.

Section 3.2 – Active Members

Active Members of AHO are individuals who have completed the registration requirements of the governing body that they will officiate and have complied with all membership requirements of AHO.

Section 3.3 – Allied Members

Allied Members are comprised of individuals or organizations, as approved by the Board of Directors, which have a special interest in the mission of AHO.

Section 3.4 – Honorary Members

Honorary Members are comprised of individuals upon whom AHO desires to confer such status, as approved by the Board of Directors. Membership fees shall be waived for Honorary Members.

Section 3.5 – Resignation

Any member may resign by filing a written resignation with the Secretary or President. The Secretary or President shall present said resignation to the Board of Directors at the first meeting after its receipt. Such resignation shall not relieve the resigning member of the obligation to pay any fees owed, assessments, or other charges previously accrued and unpaid prior to the receipt of such resignation.

Section 3.6 – Reinstatements

The Board of Directors may reinstate a former member to the membership upon receipt of a written request signed by said former member and filed with the Secretary.

Section 3.7 – Voting rights

Each Active and Honorary Member shall be entitled to one vote on any issue requiring the consent of the general membership as long as they are in good standing. The President will cast a vote only when a majority has not been reached.

Section 3.8 – Membership fees

The Board of Directors shall determine the membership fees for Active and Allied members of AHO.

Section 3.9 – Membership status

All members of AHO are considered independent contractors in their officiating capacities and are not employees of AHO. As independent contractors, members are not required to accept assignments from AHO. All members of AHO recognize this status and understand that AHO nor its officers or directors are employers and therefore, not eligible to receive benefits or protections reserved for employees. This shall include any and all claims to worker's compensation, any and all claims of damage to personal property, and any and all claims to injuries sustained while officiating.

Article 4 – General Meetings

Section 4.1 – Meetings of the Membership

A general membership meeting shall be held during the month of April and shall be considered the Annual Meeting. The Board of Directors shall set the date and time. The membership shall be given sufficient notice prior to the date of the meeting. An agenda for the meeting shall be posted when the notice of the general membership meeting is posted.

Section 4.2 – Annual Meeting

The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to hold elections of the Board of Directors. Those physically present at the Annual Meeting shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of the election. No other meeting shall take place until after the election has been certified (see Section 8.3). The Annual Meeting shall be open to the public. No executive session will be permitted during the Annual Meeting (see Section 5–3). The order of business for the Annual Meeting shall be as follows:

1. Call to Order (by current President)
2. Minutes from previous Board Meeting
3. Election/Seating of new Officers and Board Members (new board is now seated and Chair of Meeting responsibilities shifts to the senior most member of the Board present)
4. Reports (Treasurer's Report, and others if warranted)
5. Establishment of the time and place for next Board of Directors Meeting
6. Adjournment

Section 4.3 – Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by petition filed with the President and signed by ten (10) percent of the membership. Transactions at a special meeting shall be limited to the purposes listed in the call for the special meeting.

Section 4.4 – Procedures

Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with parliamentary procedures as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised. By majority vote of those Active and Honorary Members present, Robert's Rules of Order may be suspended for all or part of the current meeting.

Article 5 – Board of Directors

Section 5.1 – Configuration

The Board of Directors shall consist of the Officers of AHO and six (6) At Large Members. The Officer must reside in the Municipality of Anchorage or Matsu Borough. 5 of the At Large Members must reside in the Municipality of Anchorage. 1 At Large Member must reside in the Matsu Borough.

No one may hold office if engaged in a position where a conflict of interest, as determined by the Board of Directors or any reasonable person, may exist.

Section 5.2 – Powers and Duties

The powers and duties of the Board of Directors shall be to:

- govern, in concert with the Bylaws of the governing body of which officials are assigned to;
- formulate, prescribe, alter and amend the Bylaws and Policies for the government of AHO;
- impose and enforce penalties for any violation of the Bylaws or Policies of AHO;
- remove or remit any suspension or penalty that has been imposed by its Officers or committee;
- forthwith, remove from office any Officer or At Large Member by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors;
- fill a vacancy on the Board of Directors caused by an election, resignation, expulsion or withdrawal of any Officer or At Large Member;
- appoint sub-committees from the membership or otherwise employ individuals for the handling of special or specified business;
- establish and collect fees and funds of AHO and direct the expenditure of monies;
- interpret, define and explain all the provisions of the Bylaws and Policies of AHO;
- call any necessary special meetings of AHO and fix the time and place of special meetings not fixed by the Bylaws;
- have immediate access through a qualified auditor on demand, or on the demand of the President, to all books, vouchers, receipts, and records generally pertaining to the finances and operation of AHO;
- receive a copy of the financial statement (balance sheet and operating statement) of AHO;
- act upon temporary rulings by the President on emergencies not provided in the Bylaws of Policies of AHO;
- hear and rule on appeals;

- maintain, in force, comprehensive general liability insurance coverage as required by the governing bodies

Section 5.3 – Meetings

The Board of Directors shall meet at a minimum of four (4) times per fiscal year. Date, time and location shall be set within sixty (60) days after the Annual Meeting.

Meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President or by a written request to the President from a majority of the Board of Directors. The President must hold such meeting within fourteen (14) days after receipt of the request. Written notification of the meeting time and location must be provided to the Board of Directors at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

All meetings of the Board of Directors shall be open to the public. However, the Board of Directors may adjourn into executive session for discussion of an agenda item covering personal action or for the purpose of conducting a hearing on an appeal to a prior action of the Board of Directors. No formal or binding action on AHO or any member may be taken in executive session.

A simple majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, except as noted in Section 11.2. Members participating electronically constitutes their presence at the meeting.

Section 5.4 – Voting

Each Board of Director (except the President) shall have one (1) vote in the conduct of business. The President shall vote only to break a tie vote.

A majority vote of the Board of Directors present will carry or defeat motions of normal business.

If an item is time sensitive, an “electronic vote” may be taken outside of a regularly scheduled meeting.

1. The President must approve the initiation of any on–line vote.
2. A motion, in writing must be submitted to the President for approval, and upon approval, must be forwarded to the entire board.
3. The motion must be seconded.
4. The motion may not be amended.
5. A minimum of five days are required between the motion being seconded and voting. During that period, discussions should “cc all” if done online. A conference call may be arranged at the prerogative of the President.
6. Votes shall be collected by the Secretary, and the results announced after a one day voting period.

7. Any motion voted electronically will be brought forward for reconsideration at the next Board meeting.
8. No discussions or motions of the type that would typically require an executive session shall be accomplished electronically.
9. Any such motion and the results of the vote shall be recorded in the minutes.

Section 5.5 – Resignation, Removal from Office

Resignations from the Board of Directors shall be in writing and received by the Secretary. The Secretary shall present said resignation to the Board of Directors at the first meeting after its receipt. Such resignation shall not relieve the resigning member of the obligation to pay any fees owed, assessments, or other charges previously accrued and unpaid prior to the receipt of such resignation.

A member of the Board of Directors may be removed from their Board of Director position if member has three unexcused absences from Board meetings during the fiscal year or for other reasons by a three-fourths-majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 5.6 – Vacancies

A vacancy occurring in any Board of Director position shall be filled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors within sixty (60) days of position vacation unless the position's term is to expire within ninety (90) days of the vacation. Any appointed board member, whether Officer or At-Large member, shall hold the appointed office until the normal expiration of that position.

Article 6 – Officers

Section 6.1 – General

The Officers of AHO shall consist of the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Only an Active Member of AHO may be an Officer.

Section 6.2 – Powers and Duties

The powers and duties of the Officers shall be as follows:

The President shall:

1. preside at all meetings of AHO and generally perform the duties assigned to the office of President;
2. determine questions arising from emergencies not provided for in the Bylaws or Policies of AHO until such time as said questions may be acted upon by the Board of Directors;
3. represent AHO at meetings as required;
4. see that all requirements of the Bylaws and the Policies of AHO are carried out;
5. be an ex officio member of all committees;

6. be responsible for coordinating activities with the governing bodies as needed;
7. ensure the Board of Directors reviews and approves all policies, procedures, operating documents, contracts, and similar instruments created, used, or adopted by AHO. Such review shall, at minimum, ensure that each instrument fully complies with the letter and spirit of these bylaws.
8. appoint the duties of the Secretary or Treasurer at any meeting which said officer(s) is not present.
9. upon direction of hockey governing authorities, such as the USA Hockey Local Area Supervisor, etc., ensure implementation and termination of suspensions and restrictions affecting officials providing services in collaboration with AHO.

The Vice-President shall:

1. perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President or in the event of the President's inability or refusal to act;
2. chair the Discipline committee.

The Treasurer shall:

1. have the responsibility of receiving all funds due AHO, depositing them in a chartered bank selected by the Board of Directors;
2. be liaison to any entity that provides any financial services to AHO; be responsible for AHO's federal and state status as a "Not-for-Profit" organization;
3. provide a copy of the financial statement to the Board of Directors at each meeting;
4. ensure the required income tax statements are completed and filed with the IRS and other required agencies upon approval of the tax statements by the Board of Directors;
5. submit to the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting a financial statement relative to the prior year's operating budget for approval by the Board of Directors;
6. Prepare an annual budget for presentation to and approval of the Board of Directors within 60 days following the annual meeting.
7. perform other duties usually associated with the position of Treasurer and as established by the Board of Directors and the Policies of AHO.

The Secretary shall:

1. have the responsibility of recording the minutes of the meeting of AHO;
2. provide notices to the Board of Directors relative to meeting and other important information;
3. maintain in good standing AHO's Affiliate Agreement with governing bodies;
4. certify eligible voting members;
5. perform other duties as is customary to the position of Secretary and as established by the Board of Directors and the Policies of AHO.

Article 7 – Standing Committees

Section 7.1 – General

Ad hoc committees may be established by the action of the Board of Directors. Committees such formed shall have a minimum of three (3) members with a Board of Director serving as Chairperson. The Board of Directors will select committee members. Committees shall terminate at the Annual Meeting and may be put back into place once the new Board of Directors is selected.

Section 7.2 – Disciplinary Committee

The Board of Directors shall appoint a Disciplinary Committee at the first meeting following the annual meeting. The committee shall be chaired by the Vice-President of AHO unless a conflict of interest exists in a specific case. The makeup of the remainder committee and procedures to be followed by the committee shall be in accordance with the current AHOI Rules, Procedures, and Guidelines.

Article 8 – Election Procedure

Section 8.1 – General

The Officers and At Large Members shall be voted upon at the Annual Meeting. However, web based voting and absentee voting shall also be permitted as described in section 8.3.

No member of the Board of Directors may remain in that position without an election for more than two (2) years.

In odd number years, the President, Treasurer, two Anchorage At Large Members and one Mat-Su Borough At Large Board Member positions shall be on the ballot. In even years, the Vice-President, Secretary and three Anchorage At Large Member positions shall be on the ballot.

Only Active Members in good standing shall be permitted on the ballot.

Section 8.2 – Nomination Procedure

The Board of Directors shall appoint a Nominating and Elections Committee and the Chairman of the committee. The Nominating and Elections Committee shall:

1. be responsible for monitoring the Election process
2. be appointed no later than 60 days prior to the date set for the Annual Meeting;
3. solicit the membership for nominations;
4. ensure that a nomination list of the candidates is properly posted to all Active Members 15- days prior to the Annual Meeting;
5. produce and make available enough viable ballots at the Annual Meeting.
6. Confirm directly with any nominee that they accept the nomination.

Nominations shall be made by members in good standing with the organization. Self-nominations shall be permitted. Nominations shall be communicated directly to the Chair of the Nomination Committee as directed by the Board of Directors. Nominations shall be closed no later than thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

Should an individual receive nominations for multiple open board seats, the Chair shall communicate with that member to determine which single seat they wish to have their name appear on the ballot for.

Section 8.3 – Election Procedure

Initial voting shall be by pre-printed ballot at the annual meeting, web-balloting to coincide with the annual meeting, or a combination of both. Absentee voting shall also be permitted. Active members in good standing and Honorary members are eligible to vote. A voter eligibility list will be provided to the Election Committee Chair by the Secretary 30 days prior to the scheduled annual meeting.

Members shall be eligible to vote for At Large Board Members only in the area in which they reside. (Mat-Su Borough or Muni of Anchorage)

All Members are eligible to vote for Board of Director, Officer Nominees.

Procedures for each voting mechanism are as follows:

1. **Web-based voting:** Web-based voting shall be an optional authorized method of voting when approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Said vote and authorization must be taken and approved no later than thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting and in concurrence with the closure of nominations as specified in section 8.2.

Should web-based voting be approved by the Board of Directors, the following are recommended procedures that should be utilized in an effort to maximize, within reason, the level of security provided to the web-based voting process and minimize the possibility and probability of voter fraud. These procedures have been drafted in anticipation of use of the free web-based voting system known as “Ballot Bin”; however other similar services may be employed. Modifications to these procedures shall be permitted with approval from the Board of Directors so long as said modifications comply with the spirit and intent of these bylaws.

Web Voting Procedures: Only members with a “unique” e-mail address may participate in web-voting. Eligible members sharing an e-mail address will be required to provide the Election Committee Chair a unique e-mail address in order to vote via the web-based system (it is relatively easy to establish or acquire a free web-based e-mail address for this purpose). The Election Committee Chair will notify the members holding “shared” e-mail addresses and advise them of this requirement. Within 5 days prior to the annual meeting, the Election Committee Chair will cause e-mail messages to be sent to eligible

members which contain unique election voting codes and instructions for casting their votes. Alternatively, voting codes may be generated by the Chair of the Election Committee and provided to members by the Chair in-person, via mail, telephonically, or via manually generated e-mail if requested. The on-line voting system shall be open for votes for a 24-hour period that shall be timed to terminate 12 hours prior to the scheduled start time of the annual meeting.

2. **Pre-printed ballot voting at annual meeting:** Ballots will be available at the Annual Meeting for all Active and Honorary members eligible to vote. Ballots will be available for 15 minutes after the start of the meeting. At that time, all voting will be closed. The Election Committee Chair will verify that any member casting a pre-printed ballot has not already cast an absentee vote or a web vote. Only eligible members NOT already noted as casting their votes via absentee ballot or via the web-based system shall be eligible to cast pre-printed ballot votes. Any member casting a pre-printed ballot vote will be required to sign the eligibility list.
3. **Absentee voting will be allowed using the following guidelines:** Absentee voting shall be available to members upon the closing of nominations as indicated in section 8.2. A member who wishes to vote by absentee ballot must contact the Chairman of the Election Committee and make arrangements to vote. Upon completing their ballot, they will place their ballot into a sealed envelope. Member shall sign said envelope which will serve as an equivalent “eligibility list”. The Election Committee Chair will cause the member’s name to be removed from web-based voting system’s voter list (if web voting is being utilized). The ballot will be held by the Election Committee Chair until the annual meeting, at which time the Election Committee will verify the voter’s eligibility and that the member casting a pre-printed ballot has not already cast a web vote. If found to be eligible, the Election Committee Chair shall sign the “eligibility list” next to that member’s name, preceding his signature with the words “VERIFIED ABSENTEE”. The envelope will then be opened, the envelope discarded, and the ballot tallied with the other ballots on hand.

A candidate’s name may only appear on one position vacancy on the ballot.

Write-in candidates shall be allowed.

A non-partisan committee shall tally ballots and the results announced when complete.

A recount of the pre-printed ballots is permitted provided there is no more than a ten (10) percent difference between the candidate requesting the revote and the candidate receiving the higher vote count. A verbal request from the affected candidate(s) to the Chair of the Election Committee shall be made immediately after a tally of the votes and prior to certification of the election.

The candidate(s) with the most votes, in their area, shall be declared the winner(s).

If a clear winner cannot be determined by the ballots cast, there shall be a run-off election between those tied candidates receiving the most votes in the first balloting. The Active and Honorary Members present at the Annual meeting will vote on a written ballot, as eligible by their area of residence. If a tie vote results in this second balloting, a secret vote of the members of the current Board of Directors (less the President) present at the meeting shall be conducted with the candidate(s) receiving the most votes being declared the winner(s). In the event of a tie vote by the Board, the President shall cast a final and decisive vote to determine the winner(s).

In the event that no one is elected to fill a position, that position will remain vacant until the other Board of Directors are elected, who will then fill the vacancy as defined in Section 5.6.

The elections shall be certified by the Chair of the Election Committee prior to the conclusion of the Annual Meeting. Once certified, the newly elected Board of Directors shall assume their responsibilities.

The election results, including vote totals for each candidate and position, as well as the written statement of certification, shall be maintained by the Secretary until the two-year term for those elected has been fulfilled and a new election has been conducted.

Article 9 – Discipline of Members

Section 9.1 – Grounds for Discipline

Members of AHO are liable to be fined, placed on probation, suspended or expelled for any of the following reasons:

- a violation of these Bylaws;
- a violation of the Policies of AHO;
- decisions of the Board of Directors;
- conduct conclusively established to be contrary to the best interests of AHO

Section 9.2 – Discipline Procedures

Disciplinary procedures will be followed in accordance with the current AHOI Rules, Procedures, and Guidelines.

Article 10 – Indemnification of Officers and Directors

Section 10.1 – General

AHO shall indemnify any person made a party to an action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil or criminal, by reason of the fact that said person was an Officer or Director of AHO, or served in such a capacity upon reasonable cost of settlement of any action, suit or proceeding

provided that that the Officer or Director is not liable for gross negligence or willful misconduct in performance of duty of AHO.

Article 11 – Amendments and Changes to the Bylaws

Section 11.1 – Procedures

Proposed amendments or alterations to the Bylaws must be submitted at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors and discussed as a regular agenda item. The Board may then consider action on the proposed amendments or alterations no sooner than twenty-one (21) days following the meeting as which the proposed amendment or alteration was advanced.

Section 11.2 – Adoption

Amendments or alterations to these Bylaws shall be made only by a two-thirds majority vote of the seated Board of Directors present.

Voting may be done by a show of hands or a written ballot.

Article 12 – Miscellaneous Provisions

Section 12.1 – Fiscal year

The fiscal year of AHO shall end on the 31st day of December each year.

Section 12.2 – Not for Profit

This association is one that does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profits to the members thereof and is organized for not-for-profit purposes. No part of any net earnings thereof shall inure to the benefit of any member or any individual.

Section 12.3 – Directors and Officers Insurance

Directors and Officers (D&O) insurance shall be obtained and maintained by AHO.

Section 12.4 – Depositories

The Board of Directors may appoint banks, trust companies or other depositories in which AHO monies or securities shall be deposited.

Section 12.5 – Checks, Drafts, and Notes

All checks, drafts or other orders for the payment of money and all notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of AHO shall be signed by either the Treasurer or other

Board Officer as designated by resolution of the Board of Directors at any Board meeting. The Board shall ensure that there is a second signer designated at all times. Designation shall be made at the first meeting of the new board following the annual meeting and can be modified at any subsequent meeting.

Section 12.6 – Contracts and Other Information

Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, the Board of Directors may authorize any officer or agents to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name and on behalf of AHO. Such authority may be general or confined to specific instances as approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 12.7 – Dissolution

A resolution to dissolve this corporation may be adopted by the Board of Directors, directing that the question of such dissolution be submitted to a vote at a meeting of members, which may be either a regular or special meeting. Written notice stating that a purpose of the meeting is to consider the dissolution of the corporation shall be given to each member entitled to vote not less than 20 days prior to the date set for the meeting. At such meeting, the resolution for dissolution shall be adopted by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members present and voting.

Section 12.8 – Disposition of assets

Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Directors shall pay or make provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the corporation. The Board of Directors shall then convey all of the remaining assets of the corporation to one or more organizations engaged in substantially similar activities to this corporation. Such organization or organizations shall be operated exclusively for charitable or educational purposes as shall at the time qualify as exempt organization or organizations under the Internal Revenue Code.

Article 13 – Adoption and Amendment History

Section 13.1 – Adoption of Bylaws

Adopted at the Annual Membership meeting of AHO on June 3, 1999.

Section 13.2 – Amendments

Amended on May 15, 2004, May 16, 2015, May 10, 2008, June 16, 2013, February 1, 2016, September 12, 2016, January 23, 2017