

# **RAPPAHANNOCK SOCCER REFEREES ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS**

## **ARTICLE I - NAME**

The name of this Association shall be the Rappahannock Soccer Referees Association (RSRA); a corporation established and maintained under the laws of Virginia.

## **ARTICLE II - MISSION**

The Association mission is to promote, foster and perpetuate the game of soccer through the recruitment, training, testing, development, and advancement of soccer referees. Additionally, it shall develop, promote and maintain the highest ideals of sportsmanship, safety and fair play.

## **ARTICLE III - GOVERNING**

The Association is governed by its by-laws and its Board, which establishes policies in order to carry out the by-laws' guidelines and directives. By-laws, policies, and procedures shall be available for inspection by the membership.

## **ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP**

Association membership is available to any person regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex or age who has passed his/her 13th birthday, and who successfully meets the standards for membership as outlined below:

### **SECTION I - ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:**

Active membership, with full voting rights in all proceedings of the Association, is open to all persons currently registered with the United States Soccer Federation (USSF) and/or the Virginia High School League (VHSL) and can verify that they have completed a current year certification course.

Abide by all Association by-laws, policies, and procedures. Active membership also requires payment of dues at a rate and frequency as established by the Board.

### **SECTION II - INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:**

Inactive membership, with passive voice in Association proceedings, but no voting right, shall be afforded to any individual who had been an Association active member in good standing and due to extenuating circumstances, was unable to fulfill all the obligations of active membership for the current year. Inactive membership shall not exceed one year.

Abide by all Association by-laws, policies, and procedures.

### **SECTION III - ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP:**

## RSRA By-Laws

Other memberships may be offered with the Board's approval to those persons that are not active or inactive members within the Association. An associate membership may be afforded to those individuals who represent other soccer organizations and leagues. Typically, this is a person who meets the requirements for an active member; however, their membership is with another association. This membership will only have a passive voice at meetings and no right to vote.

Abide by all Association by-laws, policies, and procedures.

### **SECTION IV - HONORARY MEMBERSHIP:**

An honorary membership may be afforded to an individual who has distinguished him/her-self in the advancement of the game of soccer. This membership is not restricted to only referees. This membership will only have a passive voice at meetings and no right to vote.

Abide by all Association by-laws, policies, and procedures.

### **SECTION V - REVOCATION OF MEMBERSHIP:**

The Board reserves the right to revoke any person's membership it deems detrimental to the Association.

## **ARTICLE V - ELECTED OFFICERS**

The Association elected officers are Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, Director of Training and Referee Development, Director of Assignments, Secretary, Treasurer, and two At Large Representatives.

### **SECTION I - TERM OF OFFICE:**

Association officers shall serve a two year term. A year of office is defined as 01 October through 30 September.

### **SECTION II - QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE:**

Officers shall be selected from Association active members in good standing as defined in the RSRA Procedures Handbook. An individual may hold no more than one elected position at a time.

### **SECTION III - ELECTIONS:**

Elections shall be conducted during regular membership Fall preseason meetings. The Commissioner, Director of Training and Referee Development, Secretary, and one At Large Representative shall be elected during even-numbered years. The Deputy

## RSRA By-Laws

Commissioner, Director of Assignments, Treasurer, and one At Large Representative shall be elected during odd-numbered years.

### **SECTION IV - REPLACEMENT OF OFFICERS:**

Any officer failing to perform the duties of the position may be removed during a Board meeting provided a motion to remove from office was made at the previous Board meeting.

Should any officer position become vacant, the Board may nominate and vote to elect a replacement to fill the vacancy for the unexpired part of the term.

## **ARTICLE VI - DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

### **SECTION I - COMMISSIONER:**

Serve as the official chief executive officer for the Association.

Preside at Association and Board meetings.

Delegate duties and responsibilities as appropriate.

### **SECTION II - DEPUTY COMMISSIONER:**

Assist the Commissioner with matters related to Association business.

Perform the functions of the Commissioner in his/her absence.

Solicit and serve as administrator for all contracts and written agreements made between the Association and associations, organizations, and schools.

Conduct investigations, mediate disputes, and make reports regarding matters of contention.

### **SECTION III - DIRECTOR OF TRAINING AND REFEREE DEVELOPMENT:**

Responsible for the development and delivery of soccer referee training program(s).

Make recommendations for Association soccer referee trainers.

Serve as official rules/laws interpreter for the Association.

### **SECTION IV - DIRECTOR OF ASSIGNMENTS:**

Responsible for the assignment of game referees.

## RSRA By-Laws

Make recommendations as to the number of official assigners required to support Association commitments.

Provide invoices to customers.

### **SECTION V - SECRETARY:**

Maintain copies of the Association's by-laws, policies, and procedures as well as meeting minutes.

Prepare general correspondence.

Monitor records and other necessary files regarding the Association.

### **SECTION VI - TREASURER:**

Propose an annual budget and submit it to the Board.

Maintain records and monitor Association credits and debits.

Perform referee payouts.

Submit a financial report at each Board meeting.

Prepare and maintain required tax records.

### **SECTION VII - AT LARGE REPRESENTATIVE:**

Represent the Association members.

## **ARTICLE VII - BOARD**

### **SECTION I - STRUCTURE OF THE BOARD:**

Consist of the elected officers.

Chaired by the Commissioner.

### **SECTION II - MEETINGS OF THE BOARD:**

Board meetings shall be held as necessary to effectively execute Association business. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum and each member shall have one vote. The Commissioner shall vote only when necessary to resolve a tie. Meetings shall normally be scheduled by the Commissioner with at least seven days notification to the active membership. As may be necessary, ad hoc and emergency meetings of the Board

## RSRA By-Laws

may be convened to address urgent business that cannot be deferred to permit the seven-day notification.

### **ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENT**

Proposed amendments to the by-laws may be offered to the Board at any of its regularly scheduled meetings. Once agreed upon by the Board, the proposed amended by-laws will be posted in their entirety to the Association for a period of 30 days prior to adoption. Members may comment on the proposed amendments during the 30-day period. The Board will consider membership comments and finalize the by-laws at its next regularly scheduled meeting following the conclusion of the comment period. Once adopted by the Board, the finalized by-laws will be made available to the membership.

The above RSRA By-Laws were accepted and enacted on 12 August 2021 by the Board after a thirty (30) open comment period for the membership.

Mark E. Bailey  
Deputy Commissioner  
Rappahannock Soccer Referee Association