

# CAPE COD SOCCER OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION

## CONSTITUTION

*Revised September 10, 2012*

### Article I - Name

The name of this association shall be the "Cape Cod Soccer Officials Association", herein referred to as the C.C.S.O.A.

### Article II - Purpose

1. The Cape Cod Soccer Officials Association was organized April 19, 1968 to promote, develop, and improve, in general, the American game of soccer on Cape Cod and elsewhere. The following were the key figures who organized this association: Fred Clarke, Lou Drake, Dick Davenport, Don Long, John Medeiros, and Fred Toran.
2. The specific purpose of the C.C.S.O.A. shall be a professional organization of soccer officials thoroughly trained and capable for use by all schools.
3. Coaches, athletic directors, faculty managers, and all interested persons are strongly urged to attend the first official meeting of each membership year.

### Article III - Membership

1. Membership in the CCSOA shall be as follows:
  - A. **Active membership:**

Members who are not under suspension, have paid the current year's dues, have attended the required number of meetings (or had excuses for missed meetings deemed reasonable by the Executive Committee), and have no unexcused missed assignments are members in good standing.
  - B. Members under suspension, not paying dues, missing required number of meetings, missed assignments would constitute a member in "bad standing". Members in "bad standing" will not receive game assignments until they are considered to be in "good standing". For a member who was suspended to become a member in "good standing" that person/s will have to be recertified by passing the written examination and payment of appropriate fines and fees.
  - C. Membership shall be open to all high school graduates or qualified persons eighteen years of age or older as of August 31st of the year for which membership is sought and who have passed the requirements set forth by the C.C.S.O.A. Executive Committee. Dues for active members shall be \$90 per year, payable on or before July 15.
  - D. **Inactive membership:**

Active members, upon written request and subject to approval of the Executive Board of the C.C.S.O.A., may become inactive. Inactive membership shall be for a period of up to two years. After this time re-examination will be required in

the form of a written test taken in August. Inactive Member dues will be \$6.00, or equivalent to the MIAA fee.

E. **Honorary membership:**

Honorary membership will be accorded to members who have distinguished themselves in the interest of soccer. An honorary member shall have neither the right to vote, hold office, the obligation to pay dues, nor officiate (unless he/she is also an active member). After 25 years of active service to the board and still officiating, shall be entitled to free membership.

F. An official requesting transfer from a recognized local board must provide a letter of membership in good standing and the number of year's experience. Transfers are subject to the review of the Executive Board.

2. New officials must attend the interpretation meeting plus two clinics at the discretion of the Interpreter. The test will be given at the discretion of the Interpreter and a grade of 86% shall be the passing mark on the written examination. The Interpreter shall notify the applicant of the results of the examination.

3. Quorum:

A. A quorum shall be 30% of the voting membership (voting membership is the total of all active members in good standing) for any action to be voted (other than a change to the Constitution).

#### **Article IV - Officers/Organizational Structure**

1. The elected officers shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, or Secretary and Treasurer. They shall be elected at the last regular business meeting for the following two years. The Interpreter is appointed by the Executive Committee.

A. Executive Committee:

The Executive Committee shall be made up of the above officers plus the past president.

The Executive Committee shall determine the policies, activities, and grievances of the C.C.S.O.A. and shall have emergency power to act for the C.C.S.O.A.

The President shall act as chairman of the Executive Committee.

The President shall approve all expenditures in excess of \$20.00

Active members in good standing are eligible to hold office.

Any vacancy occurring during the year shall be filled at the first meeting thereafter by a vote of the membership.

Officers will serve a two year term.

The Treasurer's books shall be audited annually, prior to the second meeting in September by the Executive Committee.

President Emeritus shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.

#### **Article V - Uniform**

1. Uniform

A. Uniform and the alternate uniform to be in accordance with the guidelines of the National Federation or the state organization, MIAA.

- B. It is mandatory that both officials dress in uniforms of the same type.
- C. Penalty (for not in proper uniform)
  - First time - \$10.00 fine.
  - Second time - Suspension for two games with right to appeal to the Executive Committee.
  - Third time - Suspension for one year.

### **Article VI - Meetings**

1. The first meeting will be held the week following the interpretation meeting of the MIAA.
  - A. Members who fail to attend the mandatory first meeting shall be suspended, if cause for nonattendance is not reasonable as determined by the Executive Committee.
  - B. Attendance is mandatory for all members of the C.C.S.O.A. for the first meeting.
  - C. Active members should attend all regularly scheduled meetings. Attendance is important. It is mandatory that each active member shall attend at least three meetings. Any member who doesn't make the required number of meetings will be penalized a varsity fee.
  - D. The Secretary will notify those members who are in danger of not fulfilling their attendance requirements for the year.
  - E. The end of season awards ceremony shall not be considered an official meeting.

### **Article VII - Fine and Suspensions**

1. Dues:  
Any member who fails to pay dues on or before July 15 will incur a fine of ten dollars (\$10.00) along with payments of regular dues. Failure to comply will result in suspension. Suspended members shall be deemed as being in "bad standing" and shall not be assigned any games to officiate.
2. Misconduct:  
The Executive Committee shall have the authority to censor, suspend, or expel any member guilty of any breach of the soccer code of ethics. Any member so dealt with shall have the right to appeal to the Executive Committee. The expelled member must be notified in writing within one (1) week after such misconduct with the right to appeal in writing to the President. Said hearing shall be held immediately and the Assigners will be notified. Censored, suspended, or expelled members shall be deemed as being in "bad standing" and shall not be assigned any games to officiate.
3. First Meeting:  
Members who fail to attend the first meeting shall be suspended if cause for nonattendance is not reasonable as determined by the Executive Committee. Suspended members shall be deemed as being in "bad standing" and shall not be assigned any games to officiate.
4. Game Assignment

An official who does not show up for an assigned game shall be fined a varsity fee for that particular game with the right to appeal to the Executive Committee within 48 hours of the missed assignment.

### **Article VIII - Robert's Rules of Order**

1. Robert's Rules of Order will be the guideline for C.C.S.O.A. meetings.

### **Article IX - Amendments**

1. Amendments to this Constitution shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the voting membership.
2. Motions to amend this Constitution must be approved at one meeting during the present year and voted at the next meeting.
3. Votes will be tabulated by the Executive Committee.

### **Article X - Personal Liability**

#### **Personal Liability**

- A. The members, Directors, and Officers of the Association shall not be personally liable for any debt, liability or obligation of the organization. All persons, corporations or other entities extending credit to, contracting with, or having any claim against the Association may look only to the funds and property of the Association for payment of any such contract or claim, or for the payment of any debt, damages, judgment or decree, or of any money that may otherwise become due or payable to them from the Association, and each of the members hereby waives and agrees not to assert any and all claims against the Association for any injuries or harm which they suffer or incur as a result of or in connection with their membership in the Association.
- B. Any Officer or Director shall; have no personal liability to the Association or to its members for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as an Officer or Director notwithstanding any provision of law imposing such liability. This provision shall not, however, eliminate or limit the liability of an Officer or Director:
  1. For any breach of the Officer or Director's duty of loyalty to the Association or its members;
  2. For acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of the law;
  3. For any transaction from which the Officer or Director derived an improper personal benefit.
- C. This provision shall not eliminate the liability of an Officer or Director for any act or omission occurring prior to the effective date of these Bylaws. No amendment or repeal of this provision shall apply to or have any effect on the liability or alleged liability of any Officer or Director of the Association for or with respect to any acts or omissions of such Officer or Director occurring prior to such amendment or repeal.