

**BYLAWS  
OF THE  
TEXAS  
WRESTLING OFFICIALS  
ASSOCIATION**



# Texas Wrestling Officials Association - TWOA

## ARTICLE ONE

### NAME & PURPOSE

**Section 1.1 Names.** The name of this Organization is the **TEXAS WRESTLING OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION**, herein called the Association. Each Local Chapter of the Association within the State of Texas shall be governed by these Bylaws. However, it shall be understood that each Local Chapter of the Association is a separate entity and the funds and actions of any one Local Chapter shall not impose any specific liability on any other Local Chapter.

**Section 1.2 Purpose.** The Association is organized and will be operated under the guidance of the Texas UIL sports officials program.

The Association is created to promote and maintain the highest ideals of sportsmanship and improve the techniques of officiating to benefit the sport of wrestling and those who participate in the sport.

**Section 1.3 Office.** The Association shall have its principal and registered office at the office of its duly elected President. In addition to its principal and registered office, the Association may have offices at such places, both within and without the State of Texas, as the Association may, from time to time, determine or as the activities of the Association may require.



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## ARTICLE TWO

### GOVERNING BODY AND OFFICERS

**Section 2.1 Governing Body.** The Association shall be governed:

- At the State level by a State President, elected by the Association to serve as the President of the UIL Executive Board which acts as the liaison between the Local Chapters and the Texas University Interscholastic League (UIL).
- At each Local Chapter by an Executive Board of Officer(s) consisting of at least an elected President.
  - A UIL Board Representative must also be appointed but may or may not be part of the local Chapter Executive Board.
  - In addition, each Local Chapter may also elect a Vice President, Scheduler, and a Secretary/Treasurer as deemed necessary by the Chapter Executive Board.

**Section 2.2 Governing Body Qualifications.** To be eligible to serve on the Executive Board of the Local Chapter, a member shall be a member of the organization as defined in Section 3 of these Bylaws.

**Section 2.3 Election of Officers.** The officers of the Association and the Local Chapters shall be elected to serve up to, but not more than, a two (2) year term upon election.

**Section 2.31 Time & Place of Election.** The election of Local Chapter officers shall be conducted at a designated post-season date that is broadcast to all qualifying members at the beginning of the wrestling season.

**Section 2.32 Nominations.** These may be made from the floor by Active Members of the Association prior to the election and/or by a duly appointed nomination committee at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the election.

**Section 2.33 Voting.** Officers shall be elected separately by written ballot cast by an Active Member in person, or by written proxy presented at the time of the election. The President may appoint the Secretary/Treasurer to collect votes and assist the local President in facilitation of the election. Ballots submitted via e-mail to the existing Secretary/Treasurer by the time of the election will be considered as “written proxy”.



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**Section 2.4 Filling of Vacancies.** Any vacancy occurring for any reason shall be filled by election of the Active Members of the Association. The elected Officer shall serve the balance of the unexpired term of the official being replaced.

**Section 2.5 Duties of Executive Board.** The Executive Board of each Local Chapter shall have the responsibility for recommending policy and overseeing the operations of each Local Chapter in accordance with the UIL policy and these Bylaws.

**Section 2.51 Member Sanctions.** Sanctions for members shall include reprimand, censure, revocation of certain meet assignments, or revocation of membership for cause as determined by either the Local and/or State Executive Board.

Cause shall include but not be limited to:

1. Conduct unbecoming an official.
2. Violation of the Officials Code of Ethics.
3. Gross negligence or disregard of the rules.
4. Acceptance of meet assignments directly from Association services schools or associations not assigned through a TWOA Scheduling Coordinator or designee.
5. Reporting to a meet involving an Association services school while intoxicated or under the influence of a controlled substance whether appearing as an assigned official or spectator.
6. Conviction or Deferred Adjudication of a felony or crime involving moral turpitude.

## Section 2.6 Duties of Officers and Members of Local Chapter Board.

**Section 2.61 President.** The Local Chapter President shall preside over meetings and serve as the official spokesperson and representative for each Local Chapter to schools and other associations. The President shall be, or appoint, an official having responsibility for consulting with the UIL State Rules Interpreter regarding the interpretation of rules.

**Section 2.62 Scheduling Coordinator.** The Scheduling Coordinator shall be responsible for contacting all affiliated schools within the Region serviced by the Local Chapter to obtain season schedules and shall schedule and notify officials and related organizations of all officiating assignments within that Region.

- In the absence of a Chapter Evaluation Committee the Chapter Executive Board shall be responsible for coordinating the review of all local members



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with regard to officiating ability. As a result, to avoid conflict of interest situations, the Scheduling Coordinator should not be compensated.

**Section 2.63 UIL Executive Board Member.** Each Local Chapter will appoint a UIL Executive Board Member to represent their chapter on the UIL Board. The UIL Executive Board Member must be a member in good standing with the Local Chapter. The Executive Board Member is the conduit for all Chapter communication with the UIL. Each UIL Executive Board Member will have the Local Chapter's vote for all issues dealing with the TWOA and the UIL. The UIL Executive Board member will report directly to the State President for all matters involving UIL/TWOA decisions.

**Section 2.64 Secretary/Treasurer.** If the Local Chapter requires a Secretary/Treasurer this person shall act as the recorder for all meetings of the Local Chapter. He shall send out notices of called meetings and be responsible for all correspondence of the Local Chapter, unless otherwise provided for. The Secretary/Treasurer shall maintain all records of the Local Chapter and shall receive all dues and monies. The Secretary/Treasurer may maintain a checking and/or savings account in the name of the Local Chapter from which all bills and expenses of the Local Chapter shall be paid. The Secretary/Treasurer shall also maintain an accounting of all receipts and expenditures of the Local Chapter and shall give a report to the Local Chapter regarding the status of the funds whenever requested, with a minimum of two (2) reports required each year. The records of the Secretary/Treasurer shall be subject to audit by the remainder of the Local Chapter Executive Committee or other individual/organization as directed by the Local Chapter Executive Board.

**Section 2.65 Vice President.** If the Local Chapter requires a Vice President, he/she shall support the Chapter President. The Vice President will assist in the running of Chapter meetings and will fill the role of President in their absence.



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## ARTICLE THREE

### MEMBERSHIP

**Section 3.1 Number and Qualifications.** Membership in the Association shall be open to all individuals who have paid the annual registration fee as a Texas UIL wrestling official, who agree to abide by the purpose of the Association as outlined in Section 1.2 of these Bylaws, who have passed all required qualifications for membership as outlined in these Bylaws and who are elected to membership as outlined in Section 3.2 of these Bylaws.

**Section 3.2 Eligibility Criteria for Active Status.** To obtain Active status in a Local Chapter the following eligibility criteria must be met by a member. The local Chapter Executive Board can make exceptions to these criteria based on extenuating circumstances.

- **Dues and Fees:** Be current
- **Assignments:** Must work at least five (5) events in the current season
- **Training Clinic Attendance:** Must have attended at least one (1) training clinic at either the Local Chapter or State level
- **Meeting Attendance:** Must have attended at least 50 percent (50%) of all scheduled Local Chapter meetings
- **NFHS Wrestling Rules Exam – Part I:** Must have a passing score (as established by the NFHS)



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## ARTICLE FOUR

### MEETINGS, DUES, AND BUSINESS OF THE ASSOCIATION

**Section 4.1 Meetings.** Each Local Chapter shall hold an organizational meeting prior to the beginning of the wrestling season each year, as determined by the Local Chapter Board. There shall be a minimum of one (1) meeting each month during the months of October, November, December, January and February of each year. The time, dates and locations of the regular meetings of the Local Chapter shall be determined by the Local Chapter Board and the membership shall be notified by a Board Member of said meetings. The President and/or the Executive Board may call other meetings as necessary in order to conduct the business of the Local Chapter.

**Section 4.2 Quorum.** A quorum shall consist of a majority of the Active Members of the association as certified by the Local Chapter President.

**Section 4.3 Proxy Voting.** Except when amending the Bylaws of the Association as outlined in Article Seven of these Bylaws or when voting for Officers of the Association as outlined in Section 2.3 of these Bylaws, proxy voting is not allowed. Electronic voting via a secure method is allowed.

**Section 4.4 Conduct of Meetings.** All meetings of the Association shall follow an agenda as determined by the President and/or the Executive Board. The most current edition of Roberts Rules of Order shall be generally followed when conducting the business of the Association.

#### **Section 4.5 Dues, Insurance and Payment of Expenses.**

**Section 4.51 Dues.** Each member of the Association shall pay registration to the Texas UIL as a membership fee to the Association. Additional Local Chapter annual dues **shall** be an amount determined by the Local chapter Board prior to the annual organizational meeting of the Local Chapter.

**Section 4.52 Insurance.** The registration fee collected during registration to the Texas UIL provides the member insurance through the National Federation of State High School Sport Associations (NFHS). Insurance through the NFHS is a requirement for every official who is a member of TWOA.



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## ARTICLE FIVE

### STATE PRESIDENT, STATE TOURNAMENT SELECTION PROCESS, STATE OFFICIALS CLINIC

**Section 5.1 State President.** The State President shall be elected by the Active Members of each Local Chapter in even numbered years at the Spring meeting of each Local Chapter following the conclusion of the wrestling season. The State President shall serve a two-year term and shall be eligible for re-election. This position will not be served by the same person more than two concurrent terms.

**Section 5.11 Nomination and Election of State President.** By March 15th of each even numbered year, each Local Chapter may submit the name of one Active Member from their Chapter in nomination for State President. The nominations shall be forwarded to the UIL Executive Board Members representing each chapter, who will then notify the UIL Rules Interpreter.

- The State UIL Rules Interpreter shall compile a list of the qualified nominees and forward the list to the UIL Executive Board Members of each Local Chapter by March 20th of each even numbered year, which will transmit the ballot to the Active Members in the respective Local Chapter.
- Active members from each Local Chapter shall be eligible to vote for the State President and shall return the completed ballot to the Local Chapter UIL Executive Board Member by April 1<sup>st</sup> of each even numbered year.
- The completed ballots shall then be forwarded to the State UIL Rules Interpreter for final tabulation no later than April 15th.
- All members of the Association shall be notified through the respective Local Chapter UIL Executive Board Member of the name of the elected President by May 1st.

**Section 5.12 Duties of State President.** In addition to those duties enumerated in Section 2.1 of these Bylaws, the State President shall coordinate training for Association members, the selection of officials for the state tournament, and shall serve at the Ex-Officio Head Official for the State Tournament.





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**Section 5.2 State Tournament Eligibility.** Eligibility to officiate at the State Tournament shall be based on criteria established by the Association subject to the process described in Section 5.2 of these Bylaws.

**Section 5.21 Member Status.** Only Active Members of the Association, as defined by these Bylaws, will be eligible to officiate at the Texas State High School Wrestling Tournament.

**Section 5.22 NFHS Test Minimum Scores.** In order to be eligible to officiate the Texas State High School Wrestling Tournament, each Active Member must score a minimum of 75% on Part I, and an 85% on Part II of the NFHS test.

**Section 5.23 Regional Tournament Selection.** Each Active Member must have officiated at least two Regional Tournaments in the past 5 years in order to officiate the Texas State High School Wrestling Tournament.

**Section 5.24 State Tournament Selection.** The UIL, with the input of the TWOA State President, shall determine the number of Officials required for the Regional and State Tournaments (eligibility described in Section 5.21 through 5.23).

**Section 5.251 Local Chapter UIL Board Members Selection of State Tournament Officials.** The selection of qualified officials for the state tournament will be as follows. A minimum number of officials will be chosen under the guidelines established by the TWOA UIL Executive Board with UIL approval.

- Each Local Chapter shall provide a list of Recommended Officials to the State President for vote by January 8<sup>th</sup> of the tournament year.
- The State President will compile a ballot of all recommended officials from the individual Local Chapter lists.
- Each UIL Executive Board Member will have a number of votes based on the number of officials determined by the UIL and TWOA State President as necessary for the State Tournament.
- The UIL Executive Board shall have the authority and flexibility to substitute up to two (2) officials who have not previously officiated a State Tournament in place of the officials who received the lowest number of qualifying votes. In order to be substituted for another official, the official who has not previously officiated a State Tournament must have received at least two (2) votes in the



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balloting.

- The State President will submit the State Tournament Officials to the UIL by January 15<sup>th</sup> of the State Tournament year.

**Section 5.3 State Wrestling Clinic.** A Saturday in September or October of the current year will be designated for the assemblage of representatives from all Local Chapters belonging to the Texas Wrestling Officials Association. This clinic will include current year rule changes, demonstrations, media presentations (if applicable), and business discussions affecting the Texas Wrestling Officials Association. The TWOA State President and Local Chapter Representatives will facilitate the program. All current members of the Texas Wrestling Officials Association will be invited to attend the annual TWOA State Wrestling Clinic. At least one (1) Local Chapter Representative should be in attendance at the State Clinic. If applicable, future TWOA State Wrestling Clinic sites will be discussed at the annual meeting.



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## ARTICLE SIX

### ADDENDA

**Section 6.1 Regional Addenda Authorized.** Each Local Chapter is authorized to develop addenda to these Bylaws, which pertain to issues specific to a Local Chapter. No addendum shall be authorized which alters the scope and intent of the Bylaws of the State Association as adopted herein.

**Section 6.2 Adoption of Addenda.** Addenda proposed by each Local Chapter shall be adopted in the same manner as an amendment to these Bylaws as described in Article Seven of these Bylaws, except that said addendum shall not be subject to review by each Local Chapter President and shall only be subject to the approval of the membership of the Local Chapter to be affected by the Addendum.

**Section 6.3 Captioning of Addendums.** Each adopted addendum shall be captioned "Addenda to Bylaws of the Texas Wrestling Officials Association - \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter" followed by the number of the addendum. All addenda for each Local Chapter shall be numbered consecutively, beginning with number "1".

**Section 6.4 Filing of Addendums.** All addenda adopted by a Local Chapter shall be forwarded to the State President upon their adoption.



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## ARTICLE SEVEN

### AMENDING BYLAWS

**Section 7.1 Eligibility for Amending Bylaws.** Any Active Member of the Association may propose changes to the Bylaws of the Association.

**Section 7.2 Presentation of Amendments.** All proposed amendments to the Bylaws of the Association shall be presented in writing to the Local Chapter UIL Executive Board Member. The Local Chapter UIL Executive Board Member shall forward the proposed changes to the State President who will contact each Local Chapter UIL Executive Board Members for review.

Following the review by the State President and each Local Chapter UIL Executive Board Member, each Local Chapter UIL Executive Board Member will forward the proposed changes to all Active Members of the Association seven (7) days prior to any formal consideration for change by the Active Members.

**Section 7.3 Changing Bylaw.** All proposed changes to the Bylaws of the Association shall be considered at a regular or called meeting of the UIL Executive Board. The Bylaws may be changed by a two-thirds (2/3's) vote of a quorum of the Active Members within the Association.

**Section 7.4 Effective Date of Amendments.** Unless specified otherwise in the amendment, all adopted amendments to the Bylaws of the Association shall take effect immediately upon their adoption by the UIL Executive Board Members of the Association.

