

**USADB New Proposals to
Constitution, By-Laws and Guidelines
by Governance Committee and USADB Board**

**submitted to Regional Secretaries
on February 15, 2010**

The proposals will be brought on the floor at the House of Delegates meeting on Wednesday, April 7, 2010. Please review the proposals with your region delegates and bring input to USADB HOD meeting.

\$20 Membership Fee Issue

Current: Appendix A (Annual Dues, Fines, and Fees Table):

USADB Membership Fees <i>Section 13.05 and 13.07 (7)</i>	\$20.00 per year
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Proposed: Open for a discussion and **PICK ONE** of those: \$20 membership fee or \$100/\$150/\$200 team flat fee

Based on about 75 teams/750 members

	Proposal #1 (Remain the same)	Proposal #2	Proposal #3	Proposal #4
Fee	\$20.00 membership fees	\$100	\$ 150	\$200
Estimate Income	\$15,000	\$7,500	\$11,250	\$15,000
Other Estimate Income (ie combo tickets, sponsors)	??? \$15,000???			
Income Total:	\$30,000	\$22,500	\$26,250	\$30,000
Estimate Tournament Expense	\$30,000			
Total:	EVEN	(-\$7,500)	(- \$3,750)	EVEN

Rationale: It is very IMPORTANT for you to discuss this with your regional delegates. As you see the chart above, we will need to decide whether to stick with \$20 membership fee or change it to a team flat fee of \$100, \$150, or \$200. Look at the income and expenses figures and realize how we can help USADB stay healthy financially. Any new ideas are welcome!

Constitution

Article 4 - Officers

Current: § 4.01 Officers.

The seven officers of the Association shall be as follows:

- (a) Commissioner.
- (b) Deputy-Commissioner.
- (c) Secretary.
- (d) Treasurer.
- (e) Tournament Director.
- (f) Team Director/International Coordinator.
- (g) Youth Coordinator.

Proposed:

The ~~five seven~~ officers of the Association shall be as follows:

- (a) Commissioner.
- (b) Deputy-Commissioner.
- (c) Secretary.
- (d) Treasurer.
- (e) **Public Relations Director.**

The staff members of the Association shall be as follows:

- (a) **Tournament Director.**
- (b) **Team Director/International Coordinator.**
- (c) **Youth Coordinator.**

Rationale: It is imperative for USADB to have a Public Relations director on the board whereas the focus of this job is on public relations. All website work, public announcements, vlogs, press releases will be under direction of this position.

Tournament Director, International Coordinator, and Youth Coordinator positions are considered as staff positions where their job responsibilities/duties are to run the programs. They report directly to the Commissioner and the commissioner will direct the command line. Board will oversee the staff members and evaluate their duties.

Article Eight - Committees

Current: § 8.01 Committees.

The Executive Board shall have the authority to establish such committees as necessary to meet the needs of the organization.

Proposed: § 8.01 Standing Committees.

The following shall be standing committee of the Association:

(a) Governance Committee

(b) Finance Committee

§ 8.02 Ad Hoc Committees.

The Executive Board shall have the authority to establish ad hoc committees, if Necessary, in order to meet the needs of the organization.

§ 8.03 Liaison.

Rationale: Constitution and Bylaws need to be consistent with each other. Governance and Finance committee are in the bylaws but not in Constitution. Ad Hoc committee is mentioned in Bylaws but not in Constitution thus making slight changes will increase consistency.

Article 11 – 11.02 – Rights of Athletes

Current: § 11.02 Rights of Athletes.

(1) No member may deny or threaten to deny any amateur athlete the opportunity to compete in any basketball competition subject to the provisions set out in the regulations and guidelines.

(2) Any high school player (student) shall not play for a team in the same academic year unless he has used up his high school basketball eligibility.

(3) No one under the age of 18 shall not play.

Proposed:

REMOVE the entire 11.02 because all above is already outlined under Article 14 – USADB National Tournament Rules – 14.03 – Player Eligibility Rules

Article 14 – 14.07 – USADB Registration Forms. #10

Current: The USADB membership shall be from January 1 to December 31 each year.

Proposed: The USADB membership shall be from September 1 to August 31 each year.

Rationale: If our basketball season usually starts in September or October and ends in April. It make much sense for us to change our yearly dates to September 1st to August 31st. In this way, we will plan much better (in advance) starting in September. When our basketball season ends at national tournament in mid-April, the officers MUST wrap up everything by August 31st. Then we will begin new season on September 1st. In addition to that, when we know which regions are affiliated by September 1st, it will give us time to prepare USADB forms to be send out by October 1st. Timing will be much better this way.

Article 14 – 14.07 – USADB Registration Forms. #7

Current: Any team who submitted the USADB registration form with USADB teams fee, USADB player membership fees and/or region team fee (surcharge fees), after February 1 (postmarked), shall not be allowed to play in the regional tournaments or national tournament. This rule shall not be suspended for any reason.

Proposed: Delete entire thing

Rationale: It is already mentioned in Bylaws 13.07 (5). No need for duplications.

By-Laws

Chapter 2 – Officers

Current: § 2.04 Eligibility Limitations.

- (1) No elected officer of any member region shall hold office in the Association.
- (2) A candidate for any office of the Association shall have been a full member of the Association in good standing for at least four consecutive years prior to the meeting of the Basketball Council at which the election is held.

Proposed: Add (3) to above.

- (3) **Elected officers of member regions shall not hold office in the USADB or any other national basketball organization.**

Rationale: Based on recommendations of two parliamentarians and several highly respected officers of several organizations, this need to be in place to restore the loyalty toward USADB.

Article Three: Duties of Officers

Current:

§3.06 Team Director/International Coordinator.

The Team Director/International Coordinator shall:

- (a) handle all correspondences with USA Deaf Sports Federation (USADSF), all other international affairs and USA Basketball Teams

§3.07 Youth Coordinator.

The Youth Coordinator shall:

- (a) supervised the Elite Youth Camp
- (b) work with coaches for the Girls' and Boys' All-Star games

Proposed:

§3.06 The Public Relations Officer shall:

- (a) serve as the official liaison to the media;
- (b) be responsible for outreach and advertising of all USADB events;
- (c) coordinate live reporting and statistics of national tournaments;
- (d) coordinate a daily e-newsletter for the national tournament, when feasible
- (e) work with the Tourney Director to gather all game and statistical paperwork to be submitted to the Secretary within thirty days for the official file at the conclusion of the national tournament;
- (f) supervise the art and design work for national tournaments, such as tickets, flyers, posters, etc.
- (g) oversee the USADB website content, provide direction and updates to the webmaster on a regular and consistent basis (weekly, biweekly or monthly) and
- (h) be responsible for soliciting sponsorships, advertisers and exhibitors for the national tournament by October of each year for the following year.

§3.07 Team Director/International Coordinator.

The Team Director/International Coordinator shall:

- (a) handle all correspondences with USA Deaf Sports Federation (USADSF), all other international affairs and USA Basketball Teams

§3.08 Youth Coordinator.

The Youth Coordinator shall:

- (a) oversee the Elite Youth Camp
- (b) work with coaches for the Girls' and Boys' All-Star games

Rationale: Same as above.

Chapter Five. Basketball Commissioners

Should we remove the entire chapter because we do not have those positions anymore? If we remove it, the entire chapter will be definitely put on hold until we clean up everything and if the positions are back, we can always put it back?

Chapter 7 – Member Regions

Current:

- 7.04 – FWDBA
- 7.07 – NWAAD
- 7.09 – SWAAD

Proposed:

- 7.04 – FAAD
- 7.07 – NWADB
- 7.09 - SWBAD

Chapter Nine – Functions of Standing Committees

Current: § 9.02 Finance Committee.

(1) The Finance Committee shall consist of the Treasurer as chair and two other members of the organization. It shall have the authority to handle all matters pertaining to the establishment of the annual budget of the organization, and to prepare a quadrennial budget of projected income and expenses of the organization.

Proposed:

(1) The Finance Committee shall consist of the Treasurer as chair and **between two (2) and five (5)** other members of the organization. It shall have the authority to handle all matters pertaining to the establishment of the annual budget of the organization, and to prepare a quadrennial budget of projected income and expenses of the organization.

Rationale: It will give more flexibility to the Treasurer to have between 2 to 5 committee. With higher demand of keeping eye on USADB's financial, treasurer may need more than 2 committees to help and complete tasks.

13.05 Dues for Individuals

Current:

- (2) USADB/USADSF individual membership year shall be for January 1st to December 31st for all USADB members.
- (3) Individual membership shall be paid once per year.

Proposed: Combine #2 and #3 to make it less confusing

- (2) USADB/USADSF individual membership year shall be **paid once a year from September 1 to August 31** for all USADB members.

13.07 Dues for Member Regions

Current: Region membership dues and renewal, in an amount determined in Section 13.04, shall be due on Dec 31 before the start of the next basketball season.

Proposed: Region membership dues and renewal, in an amount determined in Section 13.04, shall be due on **September 1** before the start of the next basketball season.

13.08 (e)

CURRENT:

13.08 Expenses of the Association (e): Mileage expenses shall be reimbursed at 25 cents per mile (effective 4/12/2000).

Proposed: Expenses of the Association (e): Mileage expenses shall be based on 'IRS Standard Mileage Rates' driven in service of charitable organizations. (Refer to www.irs.gov)

Rationale: In this way, we will NEVER have to change bylaws from year to year but we simply follow IRS's Standard Mileage Rates. If they change, it will not have any effect on our by-laws.

13.09 – Collection of Fees, Dues, Applications and Forms.

Current:

(4) Each fan who attends the USADB National Tournament shall pay, in an amount determined in Section 13.04, fan registration fee.

(5) Check policy: Service charge fee, in an amount determined in Section 13.04, for any returned checks.

Proposed: Remove #4 and #5 because it is already mentioned under #2 and #3

(2) Each fan who attends the USADB National Tournament shall pay fifteen dollars (\$15.00) fan registration fee.

(3) Check policy: \$25 service charge fee for any returned checks

Current: Any statement in bylaws “as determined in Section 13.04” will be re-worded to:

Proposed: “as determined in Appendix A”

Rationale: The Dues, Dines, and Fees guideline should be renamed to Appendix A to our fee schedule more clearer.

13.09 Collection of Fees, Dues, Applications and Forms

Current: (2) Each fan who attends the USADB National Tournament shall pay fifteen dollars (\$15.00) fan registration fee.

Proposed: (2) Each fan who attends the USADB National Tournament shall pay twenty dollars (\$20.00) fan registration fee.

Rationale: It needs more consistent between players/coaches who paid \$20 membership fee, fans should pay \$20 as well.

Chapter 16 – Basketball Rules

Current:

(j) The USADB registration form must be filled completely. Any cross-off, scratched out or alterations shall be subject the region to a fine, determined in Section 13.04. Regions may assess it’s own fine system.

(k) Regions shall pay the fine on behalf of the team. Regions have the right to follow up with their own regional teams to pay money back to their regions.

(l) USADB registration form is limited to 15 signatures. Any additional signature exceeding 15 signatures shall not be recognized.

Proposed: Delete all three sections.

Rationale: It has nothing to do with Basketball rules. Not only that but J and L are already mentioned in 14.07 (#11) and 14.08 (2) respectively.

Guidelines

Current:

- Shall reserve 4 nights (Wednesday through Saturday) at the tournament headquarters, a suite for the USADB President, a room each for the USADB officers (Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Director, Tournament Director, and designated staff support for USADB). The USADB Treasurer shall be responsible for the USADB expenses. Officers shall be requested to share rooms if USADB financial circumstances prohibit individual rooms.

Proposed:

Shall reserve 5 nights (Wednesday through Saturday) at the tournament headquarters, ~~a suite for the USADB President~~, a room each for the USADB officers (**Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner**, ~~Vice President~~, Secretary, Treasurer, ~~Public Relations Director~~, Tournament Director, and designated staff support for USADB). The USADB Treasurer shall be responsible for the USADB expenses. Officers shall be requested to share rooms if USADB financial circumstances prohibit individual rooms.

Rationale: It is almost impossible for Officers to arrive on Wednesday morning by 9 am for their Executive Board and Regional President roundtable meetings. Officers will need to arrive on Tuesday night to get ready for day-long meeting on the following day. The USADB board also felt that a suite is NOT necessary thus we are proposing to remove it.