

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
OF THE
WHITE PINES OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION**

ARTICLE I - NAME

This Association shall be called the WHITE PINES OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

- Section 1 - To unite, under a common bond, officials of various sports into one unified organization.
- Section 2 - To study appropriate rules and to discuss their intent for uniform interpretations and progressively improve the quality of athletic officiating through the study of approved techniques.
- Section 3 - To establish, promote, and maintain a code of officiating ethics and to conduct each athletic contest as an instrumentality in the development of character and good sportsmanship.
- Section 4 - To generally improve working conditions and establish an effective and continuing communications program for its members and for the public.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1 - The membership of this Association shall be limited to officials who are either members or affiliated members of the Illinois High School Association.
- Section 2 - Membership is open to all persons regardless of race, color, creed, or sex.
- Section 3 - New members must submit a membership application.
- a. If a prospective official has been registered for 2 years or more, they must be recommended by a White Pines Official in good standing.

ARTICLE IV - DUES

- Section 1 - Dues for the individual members are payable to the Treasurer of the WPOA by the 31st day of May proceeding the year of membership and shall be as follows:
- Annual Association dues \$35..00
 - Penalty fee for Annual Association operation dues received after the date identified in Article IV – Dues Section 1. \$10.00
- Section 2 - Additional assessments, if any, for legitimate organizational operating expenses may be made with the consent of a simple majority of all members attending the Business Meeting, with the approval and recommendation of the Executive Committee.
- Section 3 - Unless supplemental rosters are distributed, the current year's roster will not include the names of any officials whose payment for dues is received after May 31.
- Section 4 - No member who has been dropped from, or has left the Association shall be considered a new member upon reinstatement.
- Section 5 - Any member who is the age of 17 and older and is currently enrolled in high school or college full time will not be required to pay annual membership dues until after graduation from school.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

- Section 1 - Election of officers shall be held on the even-numbered years at the Spring Business Meeting and shall take office as of June 1 of that year.
- Section 2 - The officers of this Association shall consist of President, Vice - President Football, Vice - President Basketball, Vice - President Softball, Vice President Baseball, Vice – President Wrestling, Secretary/Treasurer, Assignment Chairperson, , and Sportsmanship Chairperson.
- Section 3 - The term of office shall be for two years, however, officers may be re-elected to serve additional terms.
- Section 4 - Should an officer resign his/her office, a replacement shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and hold the position until the end of that term.

Section 5 - Officers shall be exempt from paying any dues during their term in office.

Section 6 - The Vice-Presidents shall conduct an audit of the Association's financial records on an annual basis.

Section 7 - Duties of the officers shall be as follows:

President: The President shall preside at all Association business meetings. He/she shall also appoint committees, as needed.

Vice - Presidents: The Vice - Presidents shall preside at all Association business meetings in the absence of the President.

The Vice - Presidents of their designated sport shall establish and preside over each sport's interpretation/mechanic meetings. The Vice - Presidents shall monitor all committee activities and be part of the Executive Committee.

Secretary / Treasurer: The Secretary / Treasurer shall give notice of all Association general membership meetings and shall keep minutes of such meetings. He / She shall conduct all correspondence and shall maintain the records of the Association. He / She shall receive all monies from membership dues or other sources and shall give receipt for same. All outstanding bills are to be paid each month upon receipt of documentation for said bills.

Assignment Chairperson: The Assignment Chairperson shall allocate all games for the Association. Any member who receives multiple game dates from a school for assignment purposes shall forward them to the Assignment Chairperson. All games received by the Assignment Chairperson for allocation shall be awarded to Association members first.

Sportsmanship Chairperson: The Sportsmanship Chairperson will send out preliminary information to the area schools and White Pines members; tally the ballots and follow established criteria to determine a winner for each sport; obtain the award banners and arrange for an awards presentation at the winning schools.

Each active Association member shall be responsible for keeping the Assignment Chairperson up-to-date on his / her game schedule. If the Assignment Chairperson has not been updated on a member's game schedule, no game dates shall be assigned to that member.

ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS

Business Meetings:

Section 1 - ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER shall be followed at all times at business meetings.

Section 2 - Business meetings will be held two times per year unless a special business meeting is called by the President.

Schedule: Approximately the first week of April
 Approximately the first week of August

Section 3 - At least two officers and a quorum of active membership (the two officers to be counted as part of the quorum must be present at any business meeting.

Section 4 - At each Spring business meeting, the State of the Association shall be presented by all officers.

Interpretation / Mechanics Meetings:

Section 1 - At least one interpretation / mechanics meeting shall be held prior to the start of each sport season.

Section 2 - To remain an active member of this Association, each official must attend a minimum of one meeting for his / her respective sports(s).

Section 3 - All Association meetings will be limited to two hours, without exception!

Section 4 - Special meetings may be called at any time at the desecration of the President.

ARTICLE VII - DISCIPLINARY ACTION

If the Executive Committee determines that one of our member's actions has discredited the WPOA the following actions shall be taken:

1. For the member's first offense that member shall be contacted by a person of the Executive Committee and discuss the situation. It will be explained to the member what they have done wrong and what actions should be taken to improve or correct the situation. A memo of this meeting shall be kept on file with the Secretary of the WPOA.
2. For the member's second offense that member shall be contacted by a person of the Executive Committee and discuss the situation. It will be explained to the member what they have done wrong and that member shall be notified that they will no longer be associated with the WPOA. A memo of this meeting shall be kept on file with the Secretary of WPOA.

When a member of the WPOA is indicted or charged with any criminal offense or charged with a violation of any statute pertaining to minors, drugs or a controlled substance, such membership will automatically be suspended, pending resolution of the indictment or charge. Conviction or adjudication of fault, guilt or a violation under any such indictment or charge shall result in immediate and automatic forfeiture of the WPOA membership.

WPOA members must inform the WPOA of any such indictment or charge immediately upon receipt of or upon having knowledge of such indictment or charge. Failure to notify the WPOA shall itself be a basis for immediate and automatic forfeiture of the membership.

Any member that is involved in any of the above situations may have due process. They can have a meeting with the Executive Committee to explain their side of the situation. During this meeting the Executive Committee will determine if any changes need to be made to the earlier decision.

ARTICLE VIII – OFFICIALS' EDUCATION

To remain recognized by the IHSA has a certified officials' association will ensure members have access to education events: Certified IHSA Clinics and sport specific association meetings. Football, Baseball, Softball, Basketball (Boys/Girls) and wrestling.

ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be altered and amended by two-thirds vote of the representatives present at a regular business meeting or special meeting of the Association providing written notice of the proposed amendments has been mailed or emailed/electronically communicated to each member of the Association at least 10 days prior to the meeting date.

Amended:

3/4/98	11/5/03	8/3/05	03/31/19			
8/1/01	8/4/04	4/10/16				

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