

# Southern Massachusetts Umpires Association



## Constitution & Bylaws

Effective Date: September 01, 2012

## Table of contents

<u>Article #</u>	<u>Article Name</u>	<u>Page #</u>
Article I	Association Name	1
Article II	Object	1
Article III	Membership	1-4
Article IV	Officers and Committees	4-5
Article V	Duties of Officers	5-6
Article VI	Dues and Assessments	6
Article VII	Suspensions and Fines	7-8
Article VIII	Loss of Membership	8-9
Article IX	Removal for cause, of a member	9-10
Article X	Meeting Requirements	10-11
Article XI	Amendments	11
Article XII	Association's Bylaws	11-13

## **Article I ~ Association Name:**

The name of the association shall be the Southern Massachusetts Umpires Association.

## **Article II ~ Object:**

### **Section 1. The object of this association shall be:**

- a. To establish within this association the highest standards and ethics for umpiring baseball.
- b. Develop amongst the membership of this association, a complete understanding of the rules and mechanics of umpiring baseball, so as all games officiated by our members be of the highest standards possible, thus ensuring a uniformed standard of safe and proper handling of each and every game of baseball.

## **Article III ~ Membership:**

**Section 1.** Membership in the **Southern Massachusetts Umpires Association** shall be of five (5) levels. Probationary, Active, junior, Inactive, and Honorary.

### **Section 2. Candidate Requirements:**

- a. **For Adult Candidate:** Any person of good character, interested in officiating, and the development of baseball officiating, is eligible for Adult Membership, if said candidate has attained the age of eighteen (18), by the first of April, of the year they plan to enroll in the clinic, and have been out of high school for a period of one (1) year. Candidate for membership shall file an application with the association's secretary at a designated time, and place. A non-refundable fee as established by the Board of Directors shall be paid by check, or money order. No cash shall be accepted. This includes a clinic fee, an exam fee, and first year association's dues, and must accompany each application, and must be paid to the association's treasurer.
- b. **For Junior Candidate:** Said junior candidate shall have attained the age of fifteen (15), by first of April, of the year they plan to enroll in the clinic, and are enrolled in public, private or approved home school. Candidate for junior membership shall file an application and waiver with the association's secretary at a designated time, and place. Each application and waiver must be signed by the junior candidate's parent or legal guardian. A non-refundable fee, as established by the Board of Directors shall be paid by check, or money order. No cash shall be accepted. This includes a clinic fee, an exam fee, and first year association's dues, and must accompany each application and waiver, and must be paid to the association's treasurer.

### **Section 3. To qualify for active membership:**

- a. The candidate shall have passed the M.B.U.A. written exam with a grade of 85% or higher, and attend the S.M.U.A. sponsored field mechanics clinic.
- b. Shall have served a probationary period of two (2) years, during which time they shall not umpire at the high school varsity, or senior American Legion level. A waiver may be applied for, and issued by the Board of Directors, for the purpose of umpiring varsity or Legion games.

- c. All probationary umpires must umpire a minimum of ten (10) games in their first year and a minimum of five (5) games in their second year in the association. Said games must be assigned by the S.M.U.A., Assigning Coordinator. A detailed report of the games shall be forwarded to the secretary of SMUA at season ends. Any game umpired outside of the S.M.U.A.'s control shall not count towards the probation.

**Section 4. To qualify for Junior Membership:**

- a. Must attain the age of fifteen (15), by the first of May, of the year the Junior Candidate plans to umpire, and must be enrolled in public, private, or home school, or have proof of high school graduation.
- b. Must have a signed liability waiver from a parent or legal guardian, which includes proof of medical, and liability insurance coverage, date of birth, and school enrollment.
- c. Must attend the S.M.U.A. sponsored baseball umpires clinic, and pass the M.B.U.A. written exam, with a grade of 85% or higher, and attend a S.M.U.A. sponsored field mechanics clinic.
- d. All Junior members are exempt from their probationary period, until said Junior member has attained the age of eighteen (18), and has completed high school. Said Junior member may umpire non-probationary games for their local league or may umpire probationary games for the S.M.U.A. Assigning Coordinator.
- e. Junior members are restricted to being base umpires, at the thirteen (13) year old level only, and they must work with a senior adult partner. If said partner does not attend the game, said game is postponed, at no time shall a junior umpire to be the lone umpire, or work with an unqualified person in any level game. A waiver may be issued by the board of directors, that would allow certain experienced Junior umpires to be scheduled to work behind the plate. Said Junior member must have attained the age of sixteen (16), be evaluated and recommended by a senior member of this association, have documented prior umpiring experience and have their own plate umpire equipment.  
  
All other restriction still applies to any Junior member that has been issued a waiver.
- f. Junior members shall have voting rights, but may not run for any office of the S.M.U.A.

**Section 5. To qualify for Transfer Membership:**

- a. Any person that is a member in good standing of a sanctioned Massachusetts Baseball Umpires Association board may request transfer to the S.M.U.A., by submitting a letter of transfer and a letter of recommendation from his/her current association's secretary, to the Secretary of the S.M.U.A. The letter of recommendation must state years of service, your status in your current association, and reason for transfer.

Only active umpires will be allowed to transfer to this association. If the requester is currently a inactive umpire, said umpire shall be required to pass the current M.B.U.A. written exam with a grade of 85% or higher, attend an S.M.U.A. sanctioned field mechanics clinic and pay all associated cost and fees. All requests for transfer applications shall be submitted for approval to the Board of Directors. No transfer request will be accepted after April 1.

- b. Any person that is requesting transfer from either outside the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or an association they are a member of is not a sanctioned M.B.U.A. association, may request a transfer to the S.M.U.A., by submitting a letter of transfer and a letter of recommendation from his/her current association's secretary, to the Secretary of the S.M.U.A. The letter of recommendation must state years of service your status in your current association, and reason for transfer. Only members in good standing with your current association will be allowed to transfer to the S.M.U.A.

Said umpire shall be also required to pass the current M.B.U.A. written exam with a grade of 85% or higher, attend an S.M.U.A. sanctioned field mechanics clinic and pay all associated cost and fees. All requests for transfer applications shall be submitted for approval to the Board of Directors. No transfer request will be accepted after April 1.

**Section 6. To qualify for Inactive Membership:**

- a. Shall submit an annual request to be inactive for the current baseball season prior to the first meeting of the association, for the season you request to be inactive. Inactive annual dues must be paid at the time of request.
- b. Inactive members shall not be on probation, or a junior member, and shall be a member in good standing with this association. Inactive member retain their voting rights, and maintain their seniority and certifications in this association.
- c. Inactive members are not required to attend meetings or clinics while on inactive status. Inactive member shall not accept any baseball assignments at any level, or from any assignor. Inactive members shall not be registered with the M.I.A.A., receive a M.L.B. rule book, or any other gift designated for active members. Inactive members may attend the annual spring buffet if your annual dues are paid.
- d. any members that has been inactive for three (3) or more consecutive years, and request to become active members are required to pass the current M.B.U.A. exam with a grade of 85% or higher, and attend the S.M.U.A. sponsored field mechanics clinic. Said member is required to pay all fees associated with the written exam; this is not part of your annual dues.
- e. A member can only remain inactive for a maximum of five (5) continuous years; unless said member is granted a waiver is issued by the Board of Directors.

**Section 7. To qualify for Honorary Membership:**

- a. A member shall have rendered some distinguished service to the baseball umpiring profession, or to the S.M.U.A., and has served as an active member of this association for a minimum of 20 years of active service, or 15 years of active service with a minimum of 5 years of service as an association officer, or a member of the board of directors.
- b. Shall be nominated by any member in good standing of this association, and elected to the Honorary membership status by a 2/3 vote of the existing quorum at a meeting of the association's Board of Directors.

- c. Honorary members that are retired from active service shall be non-voting members of the association, however may attend all meeting, and functions sponsored by the association. Honorary Members that are still active Baseball umpires shall retain their voting rights until their retirement.
- d. Honorary members shall not be required to pay annual association dues.

**Section 8.** Only members of this association in good standing shall be assigned games by this association.

**Section 9.** All members shall be subjected to an annual Massachusetts Sex Offenders Registry background check. Any member adjudged to be a Level 2 (moderate risk), or Level 3 (high risk) will not be allowed to work any youth baseball games assigned by the S.M.U.A.

## **Article IV ~ Officers, Board of Directors, and Committees:**

### **Section 1. Officers:**

- a. The Executive officers of this association shall consist of a President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, Assigning Coordinator, and the immediate Past President (Ex-Officio).
- b. The President and Vice-president shall be elected to serve a term of 2 years each, The President and Vice-president shall not succeed themselves in the same office.
- c. The Secretary, Treasurer, and Assigning Coordinator shall be elected to serve terms of 3 years each. The Secretary, Treasurer, and Assigning Coordinator may succeed themselves in the same office, and have no term limits. No two (2) of these officers shall not be elected is the same election year

### **Section 2. Board of Directors:**

- a. The Board of directors of this association shall consist of no less than eleven (11) members.
- b. Six (6) Board of Directors members shall be the five (5) elected officers and the immediate Past President (Ex-Officio).
- c. The remaining Board of Directors members shall be the directors elected by the body at large and the appointed Rules Interpreter.
- d. A minimum of two (2) of these shall be elected each odd year, and A minimum of two (2) each even year for a term of two (2) years, and be known as Directors. The Rules Interpreter shall be appointed by the Board of Directors.
- e. A majority vote in the affirmative shall be necessary for the board to favor any action.
- f. The Board of Directors will make any recommendation(s) to the body, by a motion duly made, seconded and voted on. The President shall only vote to break a tie vote.
- g. one (1) director will be added for every fifty (50) members of this association. There shall be a minimum of four (4) directors serving on the Board of Directors at any given time.

**Section 3. Committees:**

- a. All special committees shall be appointed, and dissolved by order of the President, or shall terminate at the end of the President's term of office.
- b. A three (3) member nomination and election committee, a three (3) member auditing committee shall be appointed annually by the President, a Training committee, a Recruitment committee, a Constitution committee, or any other committee shall be appointed as needed by the President.

**Section 4. Terms of office:**

- a. All elected Officers and Directors shall assume their elected office on the first of September of each year, at 12:01 A.M.
- b. The President, Vice-president, and Ex-Officio shall be a term of two (2) years each.
- c. The Treasurer, Secretary, and Assigning Coordinator shall be a term of three (3) years each.
- d. All Directors shall be terms of two (2) years each.

**Section 5. Vacancy of Office:**

- a. In the event of a vacancy of any office, except for the office of the President, said vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the Board of Directors. Said appointee shall serve only the remainder of the unexpired term, of the vacated office.
- b. In the event of a vacancy of the office of President, a new President shall be elected by the membership at a special election. The special election shall be held at the next association meeting following the announcement of said vacancy. The newly elected President shall only serve the remainder of the unexpired term, of the vacated office.

**Article V ~ Duties of Officers:**

- Section 1.** **The President:** shall preside over all meeting of the association, and the Board of Directors, and shall perform all other duties usually connected with the office of President.
2. **The Vice-president:** shall perform all duties of the President, in the event of the President's absence, or incapacity. Shall be chairman of all special functions, or committees.
3. **The Secretary:** shall be the custodian of all documents, and records of the association. Shall keep written minutes of all meeting. Shall send notices, and prepare correspondences as required by the association. Shall co-sign all checks prepared by the Treasurer. Shall perform all duties of the President, in the event of the President's, and Vice-president's absence, or incapacity. Shall perform all other services usually associated with the office of secretary. Shall work in conjunction with the President, and Vice-president.
4. **The Treasurer:** shall take charge of all funds and other property of the association Shall pay by check all bills authorized by the association. Shall collect, or make arrangements for the collection of dues, fees, and assessments. Shall perform all other duties usually associated with the office of Treasurer.

5. **The Assigning Coordinator:** shall assign all games that are contracted through this association. Shall keep a record of umpires that work games. Shall report to the Executive Board on the progress of the umpires that are on probation. Shall negotiate with the contracted leagues, the amount of the game fees and assigning fees.
6. **The Rules Interpreter,** or his designee, as approved by the Board of Directors, shall conduct the annual candidates clinic, and exam for prospective umpires. Shall conduct a annual mechanics (field) clinic for the general membership, and hold discussions on situations that may arise during the current season. Shall be the final authority on any point of disagreement not specifically covered by the rules of baseball. Shall also discuss with the membership all rules changes approved by the M.I.A.A.
7. **Director:** Each director shall be assigned a role, as to assist with new candidate clinic, field clinic or run the year end audit of the association books. As per the direction of the President, with the approval of the Board of Directors.

## **Article VI ~ Dues, Stipends, and Assessments:**

### **Section 1. Annual Dues:**

- a. Annual dues shall be set by the Board of Directors. Annual dues shall not exceed 1½ times the lowest baseball fee recommend by the MIAA committee. Annual dues are payable on, or before the first meeting of each year.
- b. Failure to pay your dues by the due date shall result in a fine of five (\$5.00) dollars per week until your dues are paid. If dues and fine are not paid by the second scheduled meeting, the member will be suspended automatically without a 2/3 vote by the membership. Failure to pay your annual dues by the last meeting of the year will result in termination of your membership.
- c. Honorary Members are not required to pay annual dues, and can not be fined for any reason.
- d. Inactive members will be assessed ½ the annual members dues, but not less than twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars annually.
- e. Junior member's annual dues are Thirty-five (\$35.00) dollars each year.
- f. All officers, directors, and their appointees shall be exempted from paying annual dues, while serving on, or for the Board of Directors of this association.

### **Section 2. Stipends and Reimbursements:**

- a. A three hundred fifty (\$350.00) dollar stipend shall be paid to the Assigning Coordinator, and A five hundred (\$500.00) stipend shall be paid to each the Treasurer, and Secretary for each year of service. Stipends shall be paid from the general treasury.
- b. The association shall reimburse any expense of any officer or director associated with the performance of their duties (i.e. postage, phone calls, office supplies), and any other expenses (with receipt) approved by a 2/3 vote of an existing quorum of the Board of Directors.



## **Article VII ~ Suspensions & Fines:**

### **Section 1. Member Misconduct:**

- a. Any member of this association may be suspended for misconduct with the approval of 2/3 of an existing quorum at a regular or special meeting of the association, provided such action has been recommended by the Board of Directors.
- b. A member may be suspended for misconduct for the following reasons: Any discourtesy that may reflect upon this association. (I.e. smoking, intoxication, illegal drug use, fighting, or swearing, while in uniform, and or wearing the S.M.U.A., or M.B.U.A. Patch, or hat.

### **Section 2. Required uniform shall be:**

- a. Navy or Light Blue pro style shirt with the S.M.U.A., or M.B.U.A. patch affixed on the upper left pocket. Navy or Red undershirt, (cotton or moisture wick).
- b. Heather or Charcoal Grey dress pants with belt loops, (no jeans, chinos, sweats, or cargo pants, or shorts). Black leather belt, Grey or Navy Blue ball bag.
- c. Navy Blue pro style pullover jacket with the S.M.U.A., or M.B.U.A. patch affixed on the upper left breast. (Jacket must have red stripes over the shoulders).
- d. Black leather polished plate, and base shoes. Black, or Navy Blue socks,
- e. Navy sized plate, base or combo baseball style hat, (No adjustable hats allowed) Hat must be worn properly. (Bill of the hat facing forward, including when behind the plate). M.B.U.A. hats may only be purchased from Honigs.com
- f. Plate umpires must wear an Inside chest protector, Shin guards under the pants, Black Steel toed, & tongued plate shoes, a cup and supporter, A Protective face mask, both Catcher's style or Hockey goalie style with Throat guard (dangling) is recommend. If wearing a traditional style mask, a plate, or combo hat must be properly worn, goalie style mask do not require a hat.
- g. A count indicator, plate brush, & pen, or pencil.
- h. **Optional items:** red, cream, black pro style shirt, long sleeve navy pro-style shirt, (both umpires must wear the same colored shirt while umpiring), maroon or navy blue turtle neck shirt, plate jacket, an American flag (may be worn on the left sleeve, or back of the collar). Black sized plate, base or combo hat. All protective equipment, except face mask, must be worn under the uniform. Uniform numbers are not issued or required by the S.M.U.A.

### **Section3. Failure to wear proper uniform shall result in:**

- a. First (1<sup>st</sup>) occurrence: written warning.
- b. Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) occurrence called before the Board of Directors and a fine of two game fees imposed, with a maximum of one hundred twenty dollars (\$120.00).
- c. Third (3<sup>rd</sup>) occurrence membership suspension for one (1) calendar year

**Section 4. Meetings and Game Assignments:**

- a. All members are required to attend a minimum of four (4) association meetings per year. Any member that fails to attend four (4) association meetings, without excuse shall be suspended without a 2/3 vote of the membership. Request for a meeting excuse must be submitted to the secretary in writing, before the start of the meeting that you are requesting excuse for. Excuses are accepted by postal, E-mail, and phone. Excuses received after the start of the meeting will not be accepted. No excuses will be accepted for the first meeting of each year. This is a mandatory meeting for all members.
- b. Any member that cannot fulfill their accepted assignment(s) must contact the Assigning Coordinator twenty four (24) hours prior to the game. In no instance shall the assigned umpire send a replacement. Failure to give notice could result is loss of schedule for both umpires.
- c. When an umpire receives their assignments, they must return immediately to the Assigning Coordinator any dates which they know they can not fulfill. In no instance shall the assigned umpire send a replacement. Failure to give notice could result is loss of schedule for both umpires.
- d. Any probationary member found in violation of their probationary period, outlined in Article III, Section 3, shall be automatically suspended without the necessary 2/3 vote of the membership. Suspended probationary members must take the written exam, and pay the exam fee set by the Board of Directors.
- e. A suspended member will have their name removed from the rosters posted on the S.M.U.A. web site. All area baseball assignors, the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association, and the Massachusetts Baseball Umpires Association notified of their suspension. Any suspended member may submit a request for reinstatement to the Executive Board, and must appear before the board. If the board accepts to reinstate the suspended member, they must pay a twenty-five (\$25.00) dollar reinstatement fee.

**Article VIII ~ Rules of Membership:**

**Section 1. Rules violations:**

- a. Any member, adult, honorary, junior, inactive, or probationary guilty of violating the rules of this organization herein or hereinafter adopted, shall be suspended.
- b. Any member shall be suspended by a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors for violating the rules of this association or who has dishonored or disgrace this association by his action. Further action may be necessary.
- c. No member of this association shall work for a game fee less than the game fees voted by this association. Umpires fees may be donated in the case of a charity game.
- d. Members of this association shall not work games with non-members of this association, unless said non-member is a qualified patch member of another state recognized umpire's association. Permission to work in such a game must be granted by the Board of Directors.

- e. No member shall knowingly work with any umpire that is under suspension, from this, or any other association, unless said member's application for reinstatement has been accepted by the Board of Directors.
- f. No member while under suspension from this association shall be allowed to transfer to another baseball umpires association.
- g. No member will be permitted to work for any team, or league serviced by this association, without prior approval of the Board of Directors. No member shall umpire any game that said member has a relationship with, (i.e. Relative in game, or works for team or league) or has a known conflict of interest. Any special situation must be submitted for approval by the Board of Directors. The association shall allow any member to work for any N.C.A.A., Cranberry League, Coastal League, Can-Am League, Cape League, or American Legion League without penalty.

**Section 2. Reinstatement Procedures:**

- a. A suspended member may request a hearing before the Board of Directors, by submitting a request for reinstatement in writing to the association's secretary within Seven (7) days of your suspension notification.
- b. The suspended member shall appear before the Board of Directors and explain the reason for the violation, and shall offer a corrective solution for the violation.
- c. The Board of Directors will vote whether or not to accept the explanation and corrective solution. If accepted the suspension will be lifted once all fees and fines are paid. There is a twenty five (\$25.00) dollar reinstatement fee that must be paid before reinstatement of the suspended member can occur.

**Article IX ~ Removal for cause of a member:**

**Section 1. Investigation and Notification:**

- a. Member must have been first suspended by the Board of Directors for his action.
- b. Any member of this association may be expelled for any reason that bring dishonor or disgrace to the SMUA or whose character is not of the high standards expected of this association.
- c. A disciplinary committee consisting of the President, Vice-president and two Directors appointed by the President shall investigate the charges. The committee is to use proper public reports to obtain the truthful facts before proceeding. Chairman of this committee shall be spokesman, with all matters involving the charges at hand.
- d. Within 72 hours President shall call a Board of Directors meeting, to vote on whether to pursue the case against the member. If action is only to suspend go to Article VIII Section 2 b.

**Section 2. Vote to expel:**

- a. Said member shall first be notified in writing by certified mail with a signed return receipt to address on file with the SMUA. that he is under question of expulsion for his action. He must answer within seven (7) days of receipt, and appear before the Board of Directors within fourteen (14) days. If there is no reply within twenty-one (21) days expulsion is enforced.
- b. After review of all the facts, the committee will make recommendation to full Board of directors within seventy two (72) hours. This vote and all votes must be 2/3 vote in affirmative.
- c. This expulsion shall take affect after written notice has been sent by certified mail to member's address on file with SMUA. If no return receipt is received within five (5) working days, this notice of expulsion shall be understood as to have been delivered and the expulsion shall be enforced.

**Article X ~ Meeting Requirements:**

**Section 1. Association Meetings:**

- a. This association shall schedule a minimum of six (6) meetings per year.
- b. The Meetings of this association shall fall between the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of February and no later than the second Monday of May. All meetings shall be held at a place, and time designated by the Board of directors. The Secretary shall notify all members of all scheduled meetings.
- c. The first (1<sup>st</sup>) association meeting of each year shall be a mandatory meeting. All members are required to attend this meeting. No excused absences will be accepted for this meeting. All dues must be paid in full, and all required paperwork must be turned in at this meeting. The second (2<sup>nd</sup>) association meeting of the year shall be reserved for the nomination of officers, and board of directors. The third (3<sup>rd</sup>) association meeting shall be reserved for the association's elections and annual dinner.
- d. A quorum for conducting any actions at meetings of this association shall consist of no less than 25% of members in good standing. All votes must be a majority vote of the existing members present.
- e. The final association meeting shall be the business meeting. All others shall consist of:
- f. An agenda established by the Secretary, and or the Board of Directors.
- g. Meetings shall be called to order by the President, or highest ranking officer present, and all reports read and pertinent business transacted by the Board of Directors.
- h. Rules interpretations by the Rules Interpreter.

**Section 2. Executive, Board of Directors, and Committee meetings:**

- a. A quorum for all meetings of the Board of Directors shall consist of no less than six (6) members.

- b. A quorum for all Committee meetings shall consist of one (1) more than half of the committee's membership.
- c. Robert's Rules of Order. Revised, shall be the authority on all questions of procedure not specifically stated in the Association's Constitution.
- d. Each member of the Board of Directors shall be issued a copy of the Roberts Rules of Order which shall be present at all meetings and returned to the secretary at the completion of their term.

## **Article XI ~ Amendments:**

### **Section 1.**

- a. Any proposed amendments to this Association's Constitution, must be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors for approval. If approved by the Board of Directors, the BoD shall present this proposed amendment to the membership, together with their comments, and recommendations, at the next association meeting. The membership shall vote on the amendment, provided there is a quorum present.
- b. The Constitution, or the bylaws of this association may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the quorum present.
- c. All amendments, or by-laws that have been accepted by the membership shall take effect on the first of September following the vote of said amendment, or by-law change. No amendment or By-law change can be made retro-active.
- d. The Board of Directors shall annually review this Constitution, and make recommendations they feel are necessary, or that are in the best interest of the Association.

## **Article XII ~ Association's Bylaws:**

### **Section 1. Expenditures:**

- a. In the case of an association member, or a member of their immediate family, who is injured, or hospitalized for any period of time. An expenditure for a gift may be made at the discretion of the Board of Directors, in the behalf of the Association.
- b. An expenditure may be made at the discretion of the Board of Directors in the behalf of the Association in the case of the death of an Association member, or of their immediate family.
- c. An expenditure of fifty (\$50.00) dollars shall be paid to cover the costs of transporting the M.B.U.A. representatives to the M.B.U.A. meetings.
- d. An expenditure of any amount may be used at the discretion of the Board of Directors as long as said expenditure is in the best interest and betterment of the association as a whole.
- e. an expenditure of two hundred fifty (\$250.00) dollar shall be issued to the secretary for the use as petty cash. This expenditure shall be returned to the general treasury in either cash or receipt at the end of the season.

**Section 2. Election of officers:**

- a. Any active member of the Southern Massachusetts Umpires Association may choose to be considered for a position on the Executive Board, or Board of Directors as long as said member meets the following requirements:  
  
Shall be a member in good standing.  
  
Shall have been a member of the S.M.U.A. for a minimum of four (4) continuous years.  
  
Said Nominee is not an Inactive, Honorary or Junior Member.  
  
Has completed their probationary period and has worked fifteen (15) games in two (2) years assign by the S.M.U.A. Assignor.
- b. The President shall appoint an election committee, consisting of three (3) members, on, or before the first meeting of the year.
- c. It shall be the duty of the election committee to conduct the association's election, on a high plane, by means of a secret ballot.
- d. Nominations for office shall be held at the second regular meeting.
- e. Election shall be held annually, at the third regular meeting.
- f. Any unopposed candidate for office. The President shall direct the Secretary to cast one (1) vote for said candidate. In the case of the Secretary's office the President shall cast one (1) vote for said candidate.
- g. All officers and directors, elected or appointed to the Board of Directors shall be an individual member of the National Association of Sports Officials (NASO), for the duration of their term on the Board of Directors.

**Section 3. Removal of an officer or director for cause:**

- a. The association may remove any Officer or member of the Board of Directors for cause, by a vote of the majority of a quorum present, at a meeting called for the purpose provided. However such removal shall not occur until after said Officer or member of the Board of Directors shall be given reasonable notice, and the opportunity to be heard before the body proposing to remove said Officer or member of the Board of Directors.

**Section 4. Meeting Excuses:**

- a. Any member that is on active duty with the United States Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force or Coast Guard shall be granted an exemption from paying annual dues. Said member shall be placed in inactive status with the S.M.U.A. until they are discharged from their branch of service.

- b. Any member that is enrolled in High School College or University shall be only required to attend one (1) association meeting per year. Said member must have a letter of excuse on file with the Secretary in order to get this exemption. Annual dues must be paid, and all required documents shall be submitted to the association by their due date.
  
- c. Any member that is having financial difficulties may request to delay the payment of their annual dues. All request must be in writing and submitted to the Board of directors prior to the first association meeting of the year. If the request is granted all dues must be paid in full by the last meeting of the year.