

# CONSTITUTION OF THE ONTARIO AMATEUR WRESTLING OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION

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## ARTICLE 1

### **SECTION I NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Ontario Amateur Wrestling Officials Association (OAWOA). The association is an affiliated member of the Ontario Amateur Wrestling Association (OAWA) and the Canadian Amateur Wrestling Officials Association (CAWOA).

### **SECTION II DEFINITION**

OAWOA is the amateur wrestling officials governing body in Ontario. The OAWOA consists of regional representative organization dedicated to stimulating and perpetuating interest in officiating.

### **SECTION III CLARIFICATION**

Where the pronoun "he" is utilized, it will be deemed "HE" OR "SHE".

## ARTICLE II

### **SECTION I INSIGNIA**

The association shall have such official insignia as the governing body may decide.

### **SECTION II COLOR**

The colors of this association are red, white and blue.

## ARTICLE III

### **SECTION I PURPOSE**

This association is a non-profit organization dedicated to fostering the development of officials, regional, nationally and internationally, who desire to join in membership to the advancement of Olympic wrestling, and provide an opportunity to participate and contribute to that growth. These purposes are fulfilled through the aims and objectives.

## **SECTION II AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 1) To improve the skills and technical knowledge of officials in the OAWOA.
- 2) To stimulate interest in people so that they would act as officials for the OAWOA.
- 3) To unify and co-ordinate the efforts of all regions interested in promoting officiating and permit them to have a voice in the development of an officials association in Ontario.
- 4) To create and maintain research projects that will benefit all parties interested in officiating by up-dating officiating techniques.
- 5) To provide a clearing house for the distribution of officiating literature, films, research materials and rules collected from sources both in Canada and abroad.
- 6) To give prompt attention to valid suggestion on how to improve wrestling officiating in Ontario
- 7) To establish regional, provincial, national and FILA wrestling officials clinics.
- 8) To train and certify competent officials ,and to recommend officials for assignments to CAWA and OAWA
- 9) To promote the officials as an integral part of the Ontario Wrestling Team scenario.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **SECTION I MEMBERSHIP (ACTIVE AND HONORARY)**

Membership in the association shall include any individual official (on mat official or pairing master) who has successfully participated in an area up-grading clinic and who has been successfully rated by an assigned clinician, is a member in good standing with the OAWOA and has paid their dues.

### **SECTION III RATINGS**

ONTARIO AE  
ONTARIO A  
ONTARIO B  
ONTARIO C  
ASPIRANT

### **SECTION II FEES AND REGISTRATION**

1. There shall be an initial membership fee payable on becoming a member of the association, plus a fee to be paid each year thereafter. These fees are subject to annual review.
2. All dues for the upcoming year must be paid on or before a date established by the Board of Governors. Late registration must be ratified by the vice-chairman communication. The membership fee includes a clinic, a rating and OAWOA card, a subscription to the Ontario Wrestler and mailing rights.

3. Fee shall be paid to the area chairman and/or treasurer by cheque, money order or cash.
4. Members in arrears shall not be permitted to vote, nor will be selected or sanction to officiate at regional, provincial, national or international events.
5. The fiscal year of the association shall coincide with that of the OAWA.
6. All dues for Provincial "A", National and Fila officials must be paid by Dec.15 of the upcoming year to be eligible for the bid process. A late registration shall not be considered for the bid process until all other's application are reviewed.

## ARTICLE V

### SECTION I QUORUM

A quorum of the Board of Directors shall exist when greater then 50% of eligible participants are present at a meeting, except for the Executive where two thirds of the directors are required to be in attendance.

## ARTICLE VI

### SECTION I OFFICERS

The officers shall consist of the following:

- Chairman
- Past Chairman (PC)
- Vice-Chairman Administration (VCA)
- Vice Chairman Technical (VCT)
- Vice Chairman Marketing (VCM)
- Vice Chairman Financial (VCF)
- Vice Chairman Communication (VCC)

### SECTION II DUTIES OF OFFICERS

1. CHAIRMAN
  - a) The association shall have a chairman who shall be elected by the majority of the votes by the delegates present at the annual general of the association.
  - b) The newly elected chairman shall assume office after the completion of "Election of Officers" of the meeting at which he was elected.
  - c) He shall serve a two year term from the moment of the meeting at which he was elected and he may be re-elected to unlimited two year terms.
  - d) The Chairman or his representative shall preside at all meetings of the association, and shall be responsible to co-ordinate the activities of the association and ensure that the other officers of the association perform their duties strictly in accordance with the constitution.

- e) The Chairman shall be responsible for the affairs of the association and with the assistance, support and approval of the executive body, shall execute and administer the policies of the association
- f) The Chairman shall co-ordinate the activity of the members of the executive and work to implement the programs.
- g) In conjunction with the Executive Committee, the Chairman shall be responsible for international and national operations and correspondence with FILA and CAWOA.
- h) In conjunction with the VCA the Chairman shall be responsible for provincial operations. (OFSSA, Provincials, Summer Games, Etc.).
- i) In Conjunction with the VCF he shall be responsible for the submission and allocation of all grants and budgets and with the treasurer shall sign all orders for the disbursement of the associations' funds.
- j) The chairman shall regularly hold one meeting of the Board of Directors. Preferably in the month of October and one executive meeting in conjunction with the O.A.W.O.A. AGM. The Chairman may also call executive meetings if and when he deems it necessary throughout the year.
- k) The chairman shall regularly evaluate the operation of the association and the performance of its members.
- l) It shall also be his duty to ensure that the other officers of the association perform their duties in accordance with the constitution.

## 2. VICE CHAIRMAN ADMINISTRATION (VCA)

- a) The association shall have a VCA who shall be elected by the majority of the votes by the delegates present at the annual general meeting of the association.
- b) The newly elected VCA shall assume office after the completion of "Election of Officers" of the meeting at which he was elected.
- c) He shall serve a two year term from the moment of the meeting at which he was elected and he may be re-elected to unlimited two year terms.
- d) In the event that the Chairman is unable to perform their duties, the VCA will assume the duties until such a time the chairman is able to resume his responsibilities.
- e) The VCA shall assist the Chairman in executing and administering the policies of the Association.
- f) The VCA shall take the responsibility for national and international operations; he shall develop the necessary programs and budgets for the recruitment and training of national and international officials and co-ordinate the activities of these officials, under the Chairman's supervision and liaison with the national executive of CAWOA.
- g) He shall regularly report upon and evaluate the performance of the national and international officials and programs.
- h) The VCA shall co-ordinate the rooms and reservations for provincial tournaments.
- i) He shall be responsible to prepare and send out all registration to Area Chairmen and executive for the upcoming seasons.

- j) The VCA shall be responsible for the distribution and collection of monies for rule books.
  - k) He shall receive all bid sheets and submit recommendations to the executive.
  - l) He shall be responsible to collect and keep records of all mileages accumulated during the fiscal year, and forward to the VCF yearly.
3. VICE CHAIRMAN TECHNICAL (VCT)
- a) The association shall have a VCT who shall be elected by the majority of the votes by the delegates present at the annual general meeting of the association.
  - b) The newly elected VCT shall assume office after the completion of “Election of Officers” of the meeting at which he was elected.
  - c) He shall serve a two year term from the moment of the meeting at which he was elected and he may be re-elected to unlimited two year terms.
  - d) In the event that the Chairman and the VCA are unable to perform their duties the VCT shall assume the duties until such a time the Chairman and the VCA are able to resume their responsibilities.
  - e) The VCT shall assist the Chairman in executing and administering the policies of the Association.
  - f) The VCT shall take responsibilities for provincial operations; he shall develop the necessary programs for the recruitment and training of provincial officials and co-ordinate the activities of these officials, under the chairman’s supervision.
  - g) He shall be responsible for coordinating the golden whistle awards.
  - h) He shall maintain the Area Chairman/Regional Clinicians manual.
  - i) He shall regularly report upon and evaluate the performances of the provincial officials and programs. He shall maintain the list of officials, ranking upgrades and downgrades
4. VICE CHAIRMAN FINANCIAL (VCF)
- a) The association shall have a VCF who shall be elected by the majority of the votes by the delegates present at the annual general meeting of the association.
  - b) The newly elected VCF shall assume office after the completion of “Election of Officers” of the meeting at which he was elected.
  - c) He shall serve a two year term from the moment of the meeting at which he was elected and he may be re-elected to unlimited two year terms.
  - d) The VCF shall be responsible for all monies of the Association entrusted to his care and any other financial matters delegated to him by the Association. He shall complete a financial statement in full for the annual meeting and at other times requested.
  - e) He must be able to give on demand a general analysis of the Associations financial standing.
  - f) The VCF shall report to the executive prior to the end of any fiscal period a proposed operation budget for the ensuing fiscal year, and more often if required.
  - g) He shall be responsible for the collection and reporting all operating budgets as required by the O.A.W.A. These budgets must be submitted by the persons

responsible to the executive at the spring executive meeting and ratified by the Executive.

- h) The VCF shall keep an inventory of the equipment and materials necessary for the members use.
  - i) The VCF shall collect all fees and dues as required of the members.
  - j) He shall keep and publish to the executive an up to date record of names and addresses of all members of the Association in conjunction with VCT, VCA, VCC.
  - k) He shall keep the books in such a manner that they are readily available at all times to members entitle to view the books.
5. VICE CHAIRMAN COMMUNICATION (VCC)
- a) The association shall have a VCC who shall be elected by the majority of the votes by the delegates present at the annual general meeting of the association.
  - b) The newly elected VCC shall assume office after the completion of “Election of Officers” of the meeting at which he was elected.
  - c) He shall serve a two year term from the moment of the meeting at which he was elected and he may be re-elected to unlimited two year terms.
  - d) The VCC shall be responsible for the minutes of all executive meetings and forward a copy to each executive member and Board of Directors.
  - e) He along with each member of the executive shall maintain the names, addresses and ratings of each member in good standing.
  - f) He shall be responsible to conduct the “Election of Officers”.
  - g) He shall work in conjunction with VCM in maintaining and posting information to the web site.
  - h) He shall be responsible for coordinating articles for publication.
6. VICE CHAIRMAN MARKETING (VCM)
- a) The association shall have a VCM who shall be elected by the majority of the votes by the delegates present at the annual general meeting of the association.
  - b) The newly elected VCM shall assume office after the completion of “Election of Officers” of the meeting at which he was elected.
  - c) He shall serve a two year term from the moment of the meeting at which he was elected and he may be re-elected to unlimited two year terms.
  - d) He shall be responsible for organizing ~~presenting~~ provincial awards (Dave Rendall award, OFFSSA awards, Golden Whistle award, and Bill Perkins award) and other awards deemed by the Board of Governors of the O.A.W.O.A.
  - e) He shall be responsible to submit names to O.A.W.A, C.A.WA. and C.A.W.O.A. for awards as deemed by the membership.
  - f) He shall be responsible for the implementation of the bursary program.
  - g) He shall be responsible for the sportsmanship awards at OFSAA competition.
  - h) Responsible for recording years of service.
  - i) Responsible for coordinating fundraising.

7. PAST CHAIRMAN (PC)
  - a) The association shall have a Past Chairman who shall be the most recent past president of the Association, who is a member and is prepared to serve the Association.
  - b) The Past Chairman shall assist the president in executing and administering the policies of the Association.
  - c) He shall when requested help organize and run an O.A.W.O.A. conference.
  - d) Responsible for aiding VCF with collecting dues.
  
8. AREA CHAIRMAN
  - a) He shall be responsible for the regional development of officials.
  - b) He shall liaise with regional coaches and conveners.
  - c) He shall appoint officials for area meets and tournaments.
  - d) He shall organize and conduct an annual area clinic.
    - i) If the area chairman is not a qualified on mat official he shall call upon another area chairman or qualified official to conduct the clinic.
  - e) He shall submit an annual list and collected fees to the VCF.
  - f) He shall work in conjunction with the BOD to facilitate events other than regional which might occur within his jurisdiction.
  - g) He shall submit to the provincial executive such information as may be required.
  
9. PAIRING MASTERS CHAIRMAN
  - a) This person shall be responsible to organize, train and certify Pairing Masters throughout the province.
  - b) At least one annual clinic must be held at which all interested people may attend.
  - c) Responsible for collecting bid sheets from provincial pairing masters.
  - d) Submit a list of tournament recommendations to VCA.

### **SECTION III EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

1. The officers of this Association shall consist of the following seven positions: Immediate Chairman, Vice Chairman Administration, Vice Chairman Technical, Vice Chairman Marketing, Vice Chairman Finance, Vice Chairman Communication and Past Chairman. The executive shall be elected every 2 years at the annual general meeting.
2. The following positions are elected in a given year: Vice Chairman Communication, Immediate Chairman and Vice Chairman Technical.
3. The following positions are elected the following year: Vice Chairman Administration, Vice Chairman Marketing and Vice Chairman Finance.
4. The Immediate Chairman and the Vice Chairman Finance must not be elected in the same year. These two positions must be elected in different years.

## **SECTION IV POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

The executive shall have the power to impose and enforce suspension and/or penalties for any violations of the constitution, bylaws and/or regulations or edicts of the Chairman of this committee by majority vote.

## **SECTION V STRUCTURE OF OAWOA**

EXECUTIVE:           Chairman  
                          Vice-Chairman Administration  
                          Vice-Chairman Technical  
                          Vice-Chairman Financial  
                          Vice-Chairman Communication  
                          Vice-Chairman Marketing  
                          Past Chairman

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Executive  
                                  Pairing Masters Chairman  
                                  Area Chairmen

IDENTIFIED AREAS (these areas may vary from year to year):  
Windsor, Sarnia, London, St.Catherines, Hamilton, Kitchener -Waterloo, Guelph-Fergus, Peel-Halton, Durham, Kawartha/Bay of Quinte, Kingston, Ottawa, Georgian Bay, Sudbury, Sault Ste Marie, Thunder Bay/Northwestern Ontario, Toronto East, Toronto West, York Region, Brant Haldiman-Norfolk .

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **SECTION I ANNUAL AND SPECIAL MEETINGS**

1. The place and date of the annual meetings of the Association shall be decided by the executive committee.
2. At all meetings of the association voting shall be done by a show of hands, unless the meeting decides on a secret ballot.
3. Election shall be done by a secret ballot.
4. That if an executive member is also an area member he will have one vote. A representative from his area may carry the area vote.
5. Parliamentary Authority: The O.A.W.O.A. shall follow Roberts Rule of Order except in cases which are in conflict with these bylaws.
6. Proxy votes must be submitted to the Chairman and must be from the same area as the Area Chairman.



## **SECTION II ARRANGEMENTS**

All plans, arrangements, budgets and like subjects affecting the welfare and policies of the Association shall be prepared and actuated by the executive body.

### **ARTICLE VIII**

#### **SECTION I GOVERNING BODY**

1. The association shall have a governing body consisting of one representative from each geographical area (Area Chairman), Pairing Master plus the executive.
2. Each of the areas shall nominate a member to the governing body or the executive shall appoint one.
3. The governing body shall meet at least once a year. The annual meeting shall be scheduled at the time that is convenient for the membership. Thirty days prior to the meeting, the chairman shall notify the membership of the place, date and time of the meeting.
4. The Chairman is authorized to conduct polls and/or voting by any means legally accepted. Such polling should be ratified in writing.
5. The governing body, In addition to the powers elsewhere provided in the constitution, is authorized to undertake the following duties and may exercise the necessary authority to complete said business. The governing body may by majority vote:
  - a) Impose and enforce penalties for violations of the constitution or bylaws.
  - b) Collect dues and monies for the association.
6. The program for training, certifying officials for regional, provincial, national and international competition will be organized by the governing body. The Association will work cooperatively with provincial, national and international wrestling and wrestling officials associations (O.A.W.A., O.F.S.A.A., C.A.W.O.A., C.A.W.A., C.I.S., F.I.L.A., O.U.A.)

### **ARTICLE IX**

#### **SECTION I AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

1. Proposed amendments shall be submitted to the secretary at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which the amendments are to be considered. The VCC shall communicate any proposed amendments to the membership of the governing body no later than ten (10) days preceding any such meeting.
2. The constitution may be amended at any annual meeting of the governing body, by two thirds (2/3's) of the votes of the delegates present and voting following the latest edition of Roberts Rule of Order.
3. The bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the governing body by a majority of votes of those members present and voting.

## ARTICLE X

### **SECTION I CODE OF ETHICS**

1. An official shall:
  - a) Be totally fair, honest and impartial;
  - b) Maintain an emotional calm and poise in all situations;
  - c) Take pride in doing the best job possible;
  - d) Respect the rights of the wrestler, coaches and spectators;
  - e) Cooperate fully with other officials;
  - f) Give complete attention to the task at hand;
  - g) Dress appropriately and be well groomed;
  - h) Refrain from unsportsmanlike conduct or uncouth behavior;
  - i) Act in a manner which earns the respect of wrestlers, coaches, fellow officials and spectators.
2. A official shall not
  - a) Publicly criticize the action or appearance of another official or agree with negative comments about another;
  - b) Argue with coaches, wrestlers or spectators;
  - c) Coach any athletes when dressed as an official and;
  - d) Let personal feelings affect the way the job is performed on and off the mat.

### **SECTION II DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

1. The disciplinary committee shall consist of the Chairman or designate plus two other members of the association, who are not in conflict of interest position.
2. The disciplinary committee shall have the power to impose and enforce penalties for any violation of the constitution, by laws, code of ethics and /or regulations of the association. Such penalties must be agreed upon by the majority of the committee.

### **SECTION III DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS**

1. Upon receipt of a written report of conduct unbecoming of an official, the disciplinary committee, after due consideration, may select one of the following disciplinary actions:
2. Reprimand;
3. Demotion of the official to a lower category.
4. Suspension from a major tournament of the committee's choice;
5. Suspension for a period of 3, 6 or 12 months or
6. Indefinite suspension (subject to appeal to the governing body).

## **SECTION IX REGULATION**

### **1. GREIVENCES**

- a) All grievances shall be forwarded to the Chairman of the Association in writing and shall be dealt with by the executive committee. The members concerned must attend these meetings and must be provided the opportunity to defend himself.
- b) In the event of a grievance involving a third party, the third party must be informed of all proceedings including the initial charge, should he be a member of the association he shall be invited to attend. Furthermore, a copy will be sent to every member of the governing body.

### **2. DISCLAIMER**

- a) The Association is not responsible or liable for any expenses incurred by an official, unless same is authorized by the Chairman or the VCF of the OAWOA.

### **3. RECORDS**

- a) Prior to election all officers shall at the end of their term in office, hand over to the past chairman such records appertaining to his office to.
- b) All records and correspondence shall be reviewed once a year and those found of no value shall be destroyed by two thirds (2/3's) majority of the Executive Committee.

### **4. ORDER OF BUSSINESS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING SHALL BE:**

Roll call  
Reading of minutes and correspondence  
Business arising from the minutes  
Chairman's report  
VCA report  
VCT report  
VCF report  
VCM report  
VCC report  
PC report  
Pairing Masters Chairman's report.  
Area Chairman's report  
Resolutions  
Elections of officers  
General and new business  
Adjournment

1. ORDER OF BUSSINESS AT ALL OTHER MEETINGS SHALL BE:

Roll call  
Reading of minutes and correspondence  
Business arising from the minutes  
Treasurer report  
Payment of bills  
New business  
Adjournment