

**BYLAWS**  
**OF**  
**USA BADMINTON, INC**

Updated December 30, 2022

## **SECTION 1.**

### **NAME AND STATUS**

#### Section 1.1. Name.

The name of the corporation shall be USA Badminton, Inc. (referred to in these Bylaws as “USAB”). USAB may establish such acronyms or abbreviations as may be appropriate for business use, and may establish logos, service marks or trademarks as may be appropriate to further its purposes, mission, recognition and goals.

#### Section 1.2. Non-Profit Status.

USAB shall be a non-profit corporation incorporated and licensed pursuant to the laws of the State of Colorado. USAB shall be operated for charitable and educational purposes, and it shall also have as its purpose to foster national and international amateur sports competition in the sport of Badminton. USAB shall operate consistent with and shall maintain a tax-exempt status in accordance with section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

## **SECTION 2.**

### **OFFICES**

#### Section 2.1. Business Offices.

The principal office of USAB shall be in Colorado Springs, Colorado. USAB may at any time and from time to time change the location of its principal office. USAB may have such other offices, either within or outside Colorado, as the Board of Directors may designate or as the affairs of USAB may require from time to time.

#### Section 2.2. Registered Office.

The registered office of USAB required by the Colorado Revised Nonprofit Corporation Act (the “Nonprofit Corporation Act”) shall be maintained in Colorado. The registered office may be changed from time to time by the Board of Directors or by the officers of USAB, or to the extent permitted by the Nonprofit Corporation Act by the registered agent of USAB. The registered office may be, but need not be, the same as the principal office.

## **SECTION 3.**

### **MISSION**

#### Section 3.1. Mission.

##### Mission Statement:

USA Badminton will foster the growth of badminton in the United States of America and competitive excellence by U.S. athletes in international and Olympic competition.

##### Vision Statement:

Badminton has widespread participation and popularity in the United States of America and USA Badminton develops Olympic champions.

## SECTION 4.

### RECOGNITION AS NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY

#### Section 4.1. Recognition as a National Governing Body.

USAB shall seek and attempt to maintain recognition by the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee as the National Governing Body for the sport of Badminton in the United States. In furtherance of that purpose, USAB shall comply with the requirements for recognition as a National Governing Body as set forth in the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, 36 U.S.C. § 220501 *et seq.* and as mandated by the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (referred to in these Bylaws as “USOPC”) as such requirements are promulgated or revised from time to time. In fulfilling those requirements USAB shall:

- a. Be a member of only one (1) international sports federation, which is recognized by the International Olympic Committee as the worldwide governing body for the sport of Badminton (currently the Badminton World Federation);
- b. Be autonomous in the governance of the sport of Badminton by independently determining and controlling all matters central to such governance, by not delegating any of that determination or control, and by being free from outside restraint;
- c. Maintain the managerial and financial competence and capability to establish national goals for Badminton relating to the development and wellbeing of the sport, to implement and administer a plan for the attainment of those goals, and to execute its obligations as the National Governing Body for the sport of Badminton;
- d. Provide for individual and organizational membership;
- e. Ensure that its Board of Directors, and any other governance body, has established criteria and election procedures for, and maintains among its voting members, individuals (as defined in Section 7.6) who are actively engaged in amateur athletic competition in Badminton or who have represented the United States in an international amateur athletic competition in Badminton within the preceding ten (10) years, and ensures that the voting power held by Elite Ten Year Athlete directors is not less than twenty (20) percent of the membership and voting power held in its Board or other governance body and Elite Ten Year Athlete Directors and Elite Ten Year+ Athlete Directors shall at all times comprise at least thirty-three and three tenths percent (33.3%) of the membership and voting power of the Board (See Section 7.5);
- f. Provide for reasonable direct representation on its Board of Directors for any amateur sports organization which, in the sport of Badminton, conducts on a level of proficiency appropriate for selection of amateur athletes to represent the United States in international amateur athletic competition, a national program, or regular national amateur athletic competition, and ensure that representation reflects the nature, scope, quality, and strength of the programs and competitions of that amateur sports organization in relation to all other of those programs and competitions in the sport of Badminton in the United States;

- g. Be governed by a Board of Directors whose members are selected without regard to race, color, religion, national origin or sex, with reasonable representation on the Board of both males and females;
- h. Provide an equal opportunity to amateur athletes, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, and officials to participate in Badminton competitions without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex or national origin;
- i. Not have an officer who is also an officer of another amateur sports organization that is recognized by the USOPC as a National Governing Body;
- j. Provide procedures for the prompt and equitable resolution of grievances of its members;
- k. Provide fair notice and an opportunity for a hearing to any amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official before declaring such individual ineligible to participate;
- l. Agree to submit to binding arbitration in any controversy involving: (i) its recognition as a National Governing Body, or (ii) the opportunity of any amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official to participate in amateur athletic competition in Badminton, upon demand of the USOPC or any aggrieved amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official, conducted in accordance with the Commercial Rules of the American Arbitration Association or as modified pursuant to the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act;
- m. Not have eligibility criteria relating to amateur status or to participation in the Olympic or Pan American Games that are more restrictive than those of the international sports federation for the sport of Badminton recognized by the International Olympic Committee (currently the Badminton World Federation);
- n. Perform all other obligations and duties imposed by the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act and by the USOPC on a National Governing Body.

Section 4.2. National Governing Body SafeSport and Anti-Doping Obligations.

- a. Compliance with the USOPC and U.S. Center for SafeSport Policies and Procedures. As a member National Governing Body of the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee, USAB is required to adhere to the safe sport rules and regulations of the USOPC. Additionally, USOPC Bylaw Section 8.7(1) provides that, as a condition of membership in the USOPC, each National Governing Body shall comply with the policies and procedures of the independent safe sport organization designated by the USOPC to investigate and resolve safe sport violations. The USOPC has designated the U.S. Center for SafeSport as that organization. The current safe sport rules, policies and procedures are available at the offices of USAB or on-line at the following websites: [www.safesport.org](http://www.safesport.org).
- b. Compliance with the USOPC and United States Anti-Doping Agency ("USADA") Rules and Regulations. As a member National Governing Body of the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee, USAB is required to adhere to the anti-doping rules and

regulations of the USOPC. Additionally, USOPC Bylaw Section 8.7(k) provides that, as a condition of membership in the USOPC, each National Governing Body shall comply with the policies and procedures of the independent anti-doping organization designated by the USOPC to investigate and resolve anti-doping rule violations. The USOPC has designated the USADA as that organization. The current anti-doping rules, policies and procedures are available at the offices of USAB or on-line at the following website: [www.usada.org](http://www.usada.org).

## **SECTION 5.**

### **MEMBERS**

#### Section 5.1. Categories of Membership.

USAB shall have individual and organization membership categories as follows:

a. Individual Membership Categories –

1. Athlete members. Athlete members are those individuals who register as competitive athletes and are eligible for competition in USA Badminton events.
2. Coach members. Coach members are those individuals who register as active coaches and who are certified as level one (1) through four (4) coaches by USAB.
3. Technical Official members. Technical Official members are those individuals who register as an active court official (Referee, Umpires or Line Judges).
4. General members. General members are those individuals who register as general members and who are interested in the purpose, programs, aims and objectives of USAB.
5. The Board may vote to create such other additional classes as it may deem advisable.

b. Organization Membership Categories –

1. Club members. Club members are those Badminton clubs that register as clubs and which agree to conduct their programs in accordance with and agree to be bound by the rules and regulations of USAB.
2. Contributing Organization members. Contributing Organization members are those amateur sports organizations that register as contributing organizations and which conduct athletic programs or activities that further the sport of Badminton in the United States or which otherwise support the sport of Badminton in the United States.
3. National Organization members. Those eligible for USAB membership in this category shall be amateur sports organizations that register as national organizations with USAB and which conduct, on a level of proficiency appropriate for the selection of amateur athletes to represent the United States in international amateur athlete competition, a national program or regular national amateur athletic competition in the sport of badminton.

#### Section 5.2. Voting Members.



Each individual member, in good standing, above the age of 18 and each organizational member shall be entitled to one vote for elections for the USAB Board of Directors per Section 7.6 of these Bylaws. For purposes of clarification, any individual who is a member of more than one (1) membership category shall designate the membership category in which he or she shall vote. Notwithstanding these restrictions on voting, membership in USAB is open to individuals who are less than eighteen (18) years of age.

#### Section 5.3. Membership Requirements and Dues.

Membership in USAB is a privilege and creates with it certain obligations and duties. The Board of Directors may establish such membership requirements and dues as the Board shall deem necessary or appropriate. Further, the Board may establish such rules and procedures for the manner and method of payment of dues, the collection of delinquent dues and the prorating or refund of dues, as the Board shall deem necessary or appropriate. No privilege of membership shall be available until all membership requirements are satisfied and all dues, fines, judgments and other financial obligations are paid in full and the member is otherwise in good standing.

#### Section 5.4. Termination of Membership.

Subject to this Section 5.4., the membership of any member may be terminated or suspended at any time with or without cause by the Board upon 10 business days' prior written notice. A member receiving such notice shall have the right to a hearing prior to termination or suspension by appealing to the Ethics/Judicial Committee within 5 business days of receipt of such notice. The determination of the Ethics/Judicial Committee shall be conclusive, without limiting the rights of the Board with respect to any future termination or suspension of such member. A member may only resign if the member has paid all dues, fines, judgments and other financial obligations then payable.

#### Section 5.5. Transfer of Membership.

Members may not transfer their membership in USAB. Members shall have no ownership rights or beneficial interests of any kind in the property of USAB.

#### Section 5.6. Membership SafeSport and Anti-Doping Obligation.

As outlined in Section 4.2., as a condition of membership in USAB and a condition for participation in any competition or event sanctioned by USAB or its member organizations, each USAB member and each athlete, coach, trainer, agent, athlete support personnel, medical or para-medical personnel, team staff, official and other person who participates in USAB or USAB events (whether or not an USAB member), agrees to comply with and be bound by the safe sport rules, policies and procedures of the U.S. Center for Safe Sport and to submit, without reservation or condition, to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Center for Safe Sport for the resolution of any alleged violations of those rules, policies and procedures, as may be amended from time to time. To the extent any USAB rule is inconsistent with the rules of the U.S. Center for Safe Sport, such rule is hereby superseded.

It is the duty of members of USAB to comply with all anti-doping rules of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), Badminton World Federation, the USOPC, including the USOPC National Anti-Doping Policy, and of the USADA, including the USADA Protocol for Olympic and Paralympic Movement Testing ("USADA Protocol") and all other policies and rules adopted by WADA, the Badminton World Federation, the USOPC and USADA. Members agree to submit to drug testing by the Badminton World Federation and/or USADA or their designees at any time and understand that the use of methods or substances prohibited by the applicable anti-doping rules make them subject to penalties including, but not limited to, disqualification and suspension. If it is determined that a member may have committed a doping violation, the member agrees to submit to the results management authority and processes of USADA, including arbitration under the USADA Protocol, or to the results management authority of the Badminton World Federation and/or USAB if applicable or referred by USADA.

## **SECTION 6.**

### **REGIONAL DIVISIONS**

#### Section 6.1. Regional Divisions.

The Board of Directors shall divide the United States into geographic regions as the Board determines in its sole discretion will best serve the interests of the sport of Badminton. The Board may only change the geographic region division once every four (4) years after the initial division. The regions shall be an extension of USAB and not separate entities. The purpose of the regions shall be to facilitate communication between grass roots/regional directors and the Board. Each region shall form a board of directors and appoint a chair. Additionally, USAB may hold regional competitions or conduct such other regional activities that promote the mission of USAB as the Board and the Chief Executive Officer determine in their sole discretion.

## **SECTION 7.**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### Section 7.1. General Powers.

Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, all corporate powers shall be exercised by or under the authority of, and the business and affairs of USAB shall be governed by, its Board of Directors.

#### Section 7.2. Function of the Board.

The Board of Directors represents the interests of USAB's membership, the United States Badminton community and Badminton athletes by providing USAB with policy, guidance and strategic direction. The Board oversees the management of USAB and its affairs, but it does not manage USAB. The Board shall select a well-qualified and ethical Chief Executive Officer and diligently oversee the Chief Executive Officer in the operation of USAB. The Board shall focus on long-term objectives and impacts rather than on day-to-day management, empowering the Chief Executive Officer to manage a staff-driven organization with effective Board oversight. In addition, the Board performs the following specific functions, among others:

- a. Selects, compensates, supports, and evaluates the Chief Executive Officer and plans for management succession;
- b. Reviews and approves USAB's strategic plan and the annual operating plans, budget, business plans, and corporate performance;
- c. Sets policy and provides guidance and strategic direction to management on significant issues facing USAB;
- d. Reviews and approves significant corporate actions;
- e. Oversees the financial reporting process, communications with stakeholders, and USAB's legal and regulatory compliance program;
- f. Oversees effective corporate governance;
- g. Approves capital structure, financial strategies, borrowing commitments, and long-range financial planning;
- h. Reviews and approves financial statements, annual reports, audit and control policies, and, upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee, selects independent auditors;
- i. Monitors to determine whether USAB's assets are being properly protected;
- j. Monitors USAB's compliance with laws and regulations and the performance of its broader responsibilities; and

- k. Ensures that the Board and management are properly structured and prepared to act in case of an unforeseen corporate crisis.

### Section 7.3. Diversity of Discussion.

The Board of Directors shall be sensitive to the desirability of diversity at all levels of USAB. The Board shall develop norms that favor open discussion and favor the presentation of different views.

### Section 7.4. Qualifications.

Each director of the Board must be a citizen of the United States and eighteen (18) years of age or older. A director need not be a resident of Colorado.

A director shall have the highest personal and professional integrity, shall have demonstrated exceptional ability and judgment, and shall be effective, in conjunction with the other directors, in serving the long-term interests of USAB. Directors should possess the highest personal values, judgment and integrity, understanding of athletic competition and the Olympic ideals, and have diverse experience in the key business, financial, and other challenges that face USAB. Directors should have a high level of experience and capability in Board oversight responsibilities, including in the areas of finance, marketing, fundraising, audit, management, communications, and sport. At least one (1) of the independent directors shall have financial expertise.

### Section 7.5. Number.

The Board of Directors shall consist of fourteen (14) total directors, five (5) of whom shall be independent directors, five (5) of whom shall be elite athlete directors, one (1) of whom shall be a coach director, one (1) of whom shall be a technical official director, one (1) of whom shall be at-large directors, and one (1) of whom shall be a national organization director. If there is no national organization member, then the affiliated organization director seat shall remain vacant and there shall only be thirteen (13) total directors. Elite Ten Year Athlete directors shall at all times comprise at least twenty percent (20%) of the membership and voting power of the Board and Elite Ten Year Athlete Directors and Elite Ten Year+ Athlete Directors shall at all times comprise at least thirty-three and three tenths percent (33.3%) of the membership and voting power of the Board.

### Section 7.6. Election/Selection.

The Board of Directors shall be elected/selected as follows:

- a. Independent Directors. The Nominating and Governance Committee shall select, using whatever process the Nominating and Governance Committee determines to be appropriate, five (5) Board directors from among individuals considered to be independent, as that term is defined in Section 7.7.
- b. Elite Athlete Directors. Elite Athletes are defined as those individuals: who have ever represented the United States in badminton as athletes in the Olympic or Paralympic Games, the Pan American Games, Para Pan American Games and/or the World or Para World Championships. An Elite Ten Year Athlete is one who represented the United

States in one or more of these competitions within the previous ten years. An Elite Ten Year+ Athlete is one who represented the United States in one or more of these competitions at any time. Only Elite Ten Year Athletes shall be eligible to vote in the election. Both Elite Ten Year Athletes and Elite Ten Year+ Athletes are eligible to run for election to the USAB Board of Directors.

The five (5) Athlete Board directors shall be elected by athletes as follows:

- 1) One athlete director shall be USAB's representative to the USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council (USOPC AAC).
- 2) One athlete director shall be USAB's alternate representative to the USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council (USOPC AAC).
- 3) One athlete director shall be elected by the Elite Ten Year badminton athletes and be the candidate who has the highest vote total and must be an Elite Ten Year badminton athlete
- 4) One athlete director shall be elected by the Elite Ten Year badminton athletes and be the candidate with the second highest vote total and may be either an Elite Ten Year badminton athlete or an Elite Ten Year+ athlete. Must be Able Bodied or Para, whoever has not been elected up to this point.
- 5) One athlete director shall be elected by the Elite Ten Year badminton athletes and be the candidate with the third highest vote total and may be either an Elite Ten Year badminton athlete or an Elite Ten Year+ athlete. Must be Able Bodied or Para, whoever has not been elected up to this point to equal a minimum of two Able Bodied athletes and two Para athletes.

Additionally, in order to be eligible to run for election, an individual shall be a citizen of the United States and eighteen (18) years of age or older when their term is scheduled to begin. The election shall take place after the scheduled conclusion of the Summer Olympic Games, but prior to the first Board meeting of the year following the Summer Olympic Games.

The five elected athletes (See Section 7.6), (with the one additional current ARC member until his/her term expires, this provision to be removed on his/her term's expiration) shall compose the USAB Athletes' Advisory Council, which will be internally referred to as the USAB Athletes' Representative Council (USAB ARC). Additionally, any athletes elected to the BWF Athletes' Commission and any athletes elected to the BWF Para Athletes' Commission will be ex-officio non-voting members of ARC.

- c. Coach Director. The Nominating and Governance Committee shall solicit nominations of at least level 1 certified coaches. The nominees will be considered by the Nominating and Governance Committee. The Nominating and Governance Committee shall select at least two (2) individuals, assuming at least two are nominated and meet the minimum requirements, from those nominated who shall then stand for election. All current USAB

coach members shall then vote for the Board director. Each USAB coach member shall have one (1) vote. The individual with the highest vote total is elected.

- d. Technical Official Director. The Nominating and Governance Committee shall solicit nominations of technical officials who are at least national level officials. The nominees will be considered by the Nominating and Governance Committee. The Nominating and Governance Committee shall select at least two (2) individuals, assuming at least two are nominated and meet the minimum requirements, from those nominated who shall then stand for election. All current USAB technical official members shall then vote for the Board director. Each USAB technical official member shall have one (1) vote. The individual with the highest vote total is elected.
- e. At- Large Directors (one member). The Nominating and Governance Committee shall solicit nominations of individuals from USAB's regions. The nominees will be considered by the Nominating and Governance Committee. From those nominated, the Nominating and Governance Committee shall select one (1) individual from each region who shall then stand for election. All current USAB members shall then vote for one director. Each USAB member club shall have one (1) vote. The individual with the highest vote total is elected.
- f. National Organization Director. Voting privileges for National Organization Board members will be determined solely by USAB's Board of Directors after a review of the nature, scope, quality, and strength of the National Organization member's programs and competitions in relation to all other Badminton programs and competitions in the United States. If there is no National Organization member, then the National Organization Board director seat shall be vacant. If there is one (1) National Organization member, then that organization shall select a qualified individual to serve as the National Organization Board director. If there is more than one (1) National Organization member, then the National Organizations as a group shall select a qualified individual to serve as the National Organization Board director who shall represent the cumulative voting strength of each National Organization member as determined by USAB.

### Section 7.7. Independence.

An "independent director" must be determined to have no material relationship with USAB, either directly or through an organization that has a material relationship with USAB. A relationship is "material" if it would interfere with the director's independent judgment. The Nominating and Governance Committee shall determine the independence of a director after considering all relevant information concerning that director.

A director of the Board will not be considered independent if, within one-year preceding his or her election:

- a. The director was employed by or held any governance position (whether a paid or volunteer position) with USAB, the Badminton World Federation, the Pan American Badminton Confederation, or any other organized Badminton group or entity;
- b. An immediate family member of the director was employed by or held any governance position (whether a paid or volunteer position) with USAB, the World Badminton Federation, the Pan American Badminton Confederation, or any other organized Badminton group or entity;
- c. The director was affiliated with or employed by USAB's outside auditor or outside counsel;
- d. An immediate family member of the director was affiliated with or employed by USAB's outside auditor or outside counsel as a partner, principal or manager;
- e. The director was a Badminton coach, umpire, grassroots or affiliated organization member, or a member of the Athletes' Advisory Council.
- f. The director receives any compensation from USAB, directly or indirectly; or
- g. The director is an executive officer, controlling shareholder, or partner of a corporation or partnership or other business entity that does business with USAB.

### Section 7.8. Tenure.

The term of office for a director of the Board shall be four (4) years. A director shall hold office until the director's successor is elected and qualified, or until the director's earlier resignation, removal, incapacity, disability or death.

### Section 7.9. Term Limits.

No director of the Board shall serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.



#### Section 7.10. Director Attendance.

Directors of the Board are expected to attend in person all regularly scheduled Board meetings. Each director must attend a minimum of at least one-half (1/2) of the Board meetings during any twelve-month (12) period.

#### Section 7.11. Resignation, Removal and Vacancies.

A director's position on the Board may be declared vacant upon the director's resignation, removal, incapacity, disability or death. Any director may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Chair of the Board, except the Chair's resignation shall be given to the Board. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein, and unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

Directors shall be removed by the Board if they fail to attend at least one-half (1/2) of the regular meetings of the Board during any twelve-month (12) period, unless they are able to demonstrate to the other directors of the Board that the presence of exigent circumstances caused and excused the absences. In such circumstances, the absent director can be removed upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting power of the Board (not including the voting power of the absent director). Directors may also be removed for cause upon the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the total voting power of the Board (excluding the voting power of the director in question). Directors may also be removed without cause upon the affirmative vote of at least three-fourths (3/4) of the total voting power of the Board (excluding the voting power of the director in question).

Any vacancy occurring in the Board shall be filled as set forth for the election of that director. A director elected to fill a vacancy shall be elected for the unexpired term of such director's predecessor in office.

#### Section 7.12. Regular and Special Meetings.

The Board of Directors shall meet at regularly scheduled meetings at least two (2) times per year, one of which may be held remotely. The required in-person meeting may also be held remotely if the following occurs to interrupt the meeting, including but not limited to acts of God, compliance with any order or request of any governmental authority, fires, floods, explosions, accidents, riots, strikes or other concerted acts of works, whether direct or indirect or any other causes, whether or not of the same class or kind as those specifically named above, which are not within the reasonable control of USAB. The Board shall hold at least one (1) meeting semiannually. Special meetings of the Board shall be held upon the call of the Chair or upon the written request of not less than fifty (50) percent of the Board. The Chair shall set the time and place of any special meeting. If the Chair has not set the time and place of a legally called special meeting within 30 days of receipt of the request, the person calling for the meeting shall do so.

#### Section 7.13. Notice of Meetings.

Notice of each meeting of the Board of Directors stating the date, time and place of the meeting, and in the case of a special meeting the purpose for which the meeting is called, shall be given to each director of the Board by or at the direction of the Chair of the Board. Notice may be given

either in writing or orally. Written notice may be delivered either personally, by mail, by private carrier, by facsimile or by electronic transmission. Such notice shall be delivered to the director's business or residential address (or to such other address provided by the director for such purpose), to the director's facsimile telephone number or to the director's email address. Written notice shall be delivered no fewer than thirty (30) days before the date of the meeting. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed delivered when deposited in the United States mail. If delivered by private carrier, such notice is deemed delivered upon deposit with the carrier. If transmitted by facsimile or electronic transmission such notice shall be deemed to be given when the transmission is complete. Oral notice may be delivered either personally or telephonically. Such notice shall be delivered to the director (or to such other individual provided by the director for such purpose). Oral notice is effective when communicated. The method of notice need not be the same as to each director.

A director may waive notice of any meeting before, at, or after such meeting. The attendance of a director at a meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, except where a director attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened.

#### Section 7.14. Quorum.

The presence of a majority of the directors of the Board at the time of any meeting constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business, and the act of a majority of directors on the Board constitutes the act of the Board.

#### Section 7.15. Voting by Proxy.

No director of the Board may vote or act by proxy at any meeting of the Board.

#### Section 7.16. Presumption of Assent.

A director who is present at a meeting of the Board of Directors at which action on any corporate matter is taken shall be presumed to have assented to the action taken unless such director's dissent shall be entered in the minutes of the meeting or unless the director shall file a written dissent to such action with the individual acting as the Secretary of the Board before the adjournment thereof or shall forward such dissent by registered mail to the Secretary of the Board immediately after the adjournment of the meeting. Such right to dissent shall not apply to a director who voted in favor of such action.

#### Section 7.17. Action Without a Meeting.

Any action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of the Board of Directors may be taken without a meeting if each and every director of the Board in writing either: (i) votes for such action; (ii) votes against such action; or (iii) abstains from voting. Each director who delivers a writing described in this Section 7.18. to the corporation shall be deemed to have waived the right to demand that action not be taken without a meeting.

#### Section 7.18. Transacting Business by Mail, Electronic Mail, Telephone or Facsimile.

The Board of Directors shall have the power to transact its business by mail, electronic-mail, telephone, or facsimile, if in the judgment of the Chair of the Board the urgency of the case requires such action. For purposes of establishing a quorum in such instances, ‘presence of a majority’ as required under Section 7.15 above shall mean receipt by a majority of the mail, electronic-mail, telephone, or facsimile of the business at hand.

#### Section 7.19. Agenda.

The agenda for a meeting of the Board of Directors shall be set by the Chair of the Board, after consultation with the Chief Executive Officer. Any director of the Board may request that items be placed on the Board’s agenda.

#### Section 7.20. Questions of Order and Board Meeting Leadership.

Questions of order shall be decided by the Chair of the Board unless otherwise provided in advance by the Board. The Chair shall lead meetings of the Board. If the Chair is absent from any meeting of the Board, then the Chair shall designate in writing in advance one (1) other director of the Board to preside. If the Chair is unable to make or has not made such a designation, the Board may choose another director to serve as presiding officer for that meeting.

#### Section 7.21. Effectiveness of Actions.

Actions taken at a meeting of the Board of Directors shall become effective immediately following the adjournment of the meeting, except as otherwise provided in the Bylaws or when a definite effective date is recited in the record of the action taken.

#### Section 7.22. Open and Executive Meeting Sessions.

Ordinarily, all meetings of the Board of Directors shall be open to USAB members as observers. The Chair of the Board, with the consent of a majority of the directors of the Board in attendance, may convene an executive session to consider and discuss any sensitive matter. Further, the Chair of the Board may open a meeting of the Board to non-USAB members, with the consent of a majority of the directors of the Board in attendance.

#### Section 7.23. Minutes of Meetings.

The minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors shall be published on USAB’s web site. Every reasonable effort will be made to publish the minutes within forty-five (45) days after completion of the meeting.

#### Section 7.24. Compensation.

Directors of the Board shall not receive compensation for their services as directors, although the reasonable expenses of directors may be paid or reimbursed in accordance with USAB’s policies. Directors shall not be disqualified from receiving reasonable compensation for services rendered to or for the benefit of USAB in any other capacity, provided that the rendering of such services and such compensation are approved by the Ethics/Judicial Committee.

## Section 7.25. Board International Federation Delegate.

### 7.25.1. Role and Responsibilities.

The International Federation Delegate of the Board (“IFD”), along with the Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 14.3, is responsible for representing the Board of USAB at meetings of the Badminton World Federation (BWF) and Pan American Badminton Confederation (PABC). The IFD will submit a written report of activity from international meetings and any follow-on meetings or communications to the Chair, no later than 30 days after any event or activity.

### 7.25.2. Election/Selection.

The IFD will be selected by the Board with a majority vote at the beginning of each odd-numbered year, after the Chair election has been completed, ideally at the first board of directors meeting but no later than March 31, and at least 30 days prior to an annual meeting by the BWF or PABC. Should the election involve more than two candidates and result in such a way that no IFD candidate has the majority vote, then the candidate with the least number of votes shall be eliminated and the election will be re-run. If there are only two candidates and a tie remains, then the Chair shall appoint the IFD from the final two IFD candidates.

### 7.25.3. Tenure.

The term of the IFD will be two (2) years, starting January 1 or the date of election in the odd-numbered year, to December 31 of the following even-numbered year. See Section 7.25.5 for term limits.

### 7.25.4. Qualifications.

- a. The IFD must be a USAB member in good standing, above the age of 18, with a current United States passport and no international travel restrictions.
- b. Candidates must be nominated by a sitting member of the board.
- c. In order to be nominated, a candidate must be a USAB member in good standing, with a current background check on file and a current Safe Sport certification of completion on file with the USAB office.

### 7.25.5. Term Limits.

IFD representatives are term limited to a total of five (5) terms.

### 7.25.6. IFD Removal, Resignations, Vacancies and Temporary Absences.

- a. Should the IFD position be vacant or held by an individual whose term has expired, the Chair of the Board shall serve as the IFD on an interim basis until the next meeting of the

Board, where the board will elect another IFD candidate to complete the remainder of the IFD term.

- b. If the Chair is unable or unwilling to fulfill the duties of the IFD, the Chair will designate a willing and able current or former Board member to serve in the IFD role on an interim basis until the next meeting of the Board, where the Board shall elect an IFD candidate to complete the remainder of the IFD term.
- c. Should the IFD not be able to attend an international meeting (temporary absence), they shall inform the Chair. The Chair shall appoint an individual to represent the IFD for the specified international event. This individual shall have full IFD privileges for the duration of that international meeting and must comply with all IFD requirements for that international meeting.
- d. The IFD may be removed by the Board if they are 1) unable to attend the annual general meeting (AGM) of the BWF and the AGM of the PABC, or 2) fail to attend/participate in at least one-half (1/2) of the regular international meetings (including online meetings and teleconferences) during any twelve (12) month period, by an affirmative vote of a majority of the voting power of the Board. The IFD may also be removed for cause upon the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the total voting power of the Board. The IFD may also be removed not for cause upon the affirmative vote of at least three-fourths (3/4) of the total voting power of the Board.

#### 7.25.7. Compensation

The IFD shall not receive compensation for his/her services and travel expenses, although reasonable expenses may be paid or reimbursed in accordance with USAB's policies. The IFD shall not be disqualified from receiving reasonable compensation for services rendered to or for the benefit of USAB in any other capacity, provided that the rendering of such services and such compensation are approved in advance, in writing, by the Ethics/Judicial Committee.

**SECTION 8.**  
**OFFICERS**

Section 8.1. Designation.

The officers of USAB shall be a Chair of the Board and a Secretary.

Section 8.2. Election/Selection.

The Board of Directors shall elect from among the directors of the Board, by majority vote, a Chair. The election shall be held at the first meeting of the Board on odd numbered years. The newly elected Chair shall take office immediately.

The Chair shall select a Secretary, and an Assistant Secretary, if needed. Any Secretary or Assistant Secretary shall be approved by the Board.

Section 8.3. Tenure.

The term of office of the Chair of the Board shall be two (2) years. The newly elected Chair shall take office immediately. The Chair shall hold office until the Chair's successor is elected and qualified, or until the Chair's earlier resignation, removal, incapacity, disability or death.

Section 8.4. Authority and Duties of Officers.

The officers of USAB shall have the authority and shall exercise the powers and perform the duties specified below and as may be additionally specified by the Board of Directors or these Bylaws, except that in any event each officer shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as may be required by law:

- a. Chair of the Board. The Chair shall: (i) set all meeting and meeting agendas, (ii) preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors, (iii) see that all Board commitments, resolutions and oversight are carried into effect, and (iv) exercise such powers and perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the Board.
- b. Secretary. The Secretary shall: (i) keep the minutes of the proceedings of the Board; (ii) see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws or as required by law; (iii) be custodian of the corporate records; (iv) perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and (v) perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to the Secretary by the Chair or by the Board.
- c. Assistant Secretary. An Assistant Secretary, if any, shall have the same duties and powers as the Secretary.

### Section 8.5. Restrictions.

Officers of USAB shall perform their functions with due care. No individual may serve simultaneously as an officer of USAB and as an officer of an organization holding membership in USAB or as an officer of another amateur sports organization that is recognized by the USOPC as a National Governing Body.

### Section 8.6. Term Limits.

No Chair of the Board shall serve more than two (2) terms during an eight (8) year period.

When a Chair is elected to fill a vacancy because of the Chair's resignation, removal, incapacity, disability or death, and the remaining term is for more than one (1) year, such term shall constitute a full term. If the vacancy being filled is for one (1) or more years, the Chair can serve one (1) additional two (2) year term following completion of the filled vacancy term. If the vacancy being filled is for less than one (1) year, the term shall not be a full term and the director can serve two (2) additional two (2) year terms following completion of the filled vacancy term.

### Section 8.7. Resignation, Removal and Vacancies.

An officer's position with USAB may be declared vacant upon the officer's resignation, removal, incapacity, disability or death. The Chair of the Board may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Board. The Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the Board, if any, may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Chair of the Board. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified in the notice, and unless otherwise specified in the notice, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

The Chair may be removed for cause upon the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the total voting power of the Board (excluding the voting power of the director in question). The Chair may also be removed not for cause upon the affirmative vote of at least three-fourths (3/4) of the total voting power of the Board (excluding the voting power of the director in question). The Secretary or Assistant Secretary, if any, may be removed by the Chair, with or without cause.

Any vacancy occurring in the Chair shall be filled by the Board, by majority vote. A Chair elected to fill a vacancy shall be elected for the unexpired term of such Chair's predecessor in office. A vacancy in the office of Secretary, or Assistant Secretary, if any, shall be filled by the Chair of the Board as provided above.

### Section 8.8. Compensation.

The Chair of the Board shall not receive compensation for his or her service as Chair, although the reasonable expenses of the Chair may be paid or reimbursed in accordance with USAB's policies. The Chair is disqualified from receiving compensation for services rendered to or for the benefit of USAB in any other capacity, unless the rendering of such services and such compensation are approved by the Ethics/Judicial Committee.

**SECTION 9.**  
**COMMITTEES**

Section 9.1. Designation.

USAB shall have the following standing committees: an Audit Committee, an Ethics/Judicial Committee, and a Nominating and Governance Committee. The Board of Directors or the Chief Executive Officer may appoint such other committees and task forces as the Board or Chief Executive Officer deem to be necessary and appropriate. The delegation of authority to any committee or task force shall not operate to relieve the Board or any director of the Board from any responsibility or standard of conduct imposed by law or these Bylaws and if any such committee or task force has one (1) or more members who are entitled to vote and who are not then also directors, such committee or task force may not exercise any power or authority reserved to the Board. Any committee appointed pursuant to this paragraph will be responsible only to the appointing authority.

Section 9.2. Qualifications.

Each committee or task force member must be a member in good standing in USAB and be at least 18 years of age.

Section 9.3. Number.

Membership on standing committees shall not exceed six (6) individuals. Membership on other committees and task forces shall only exceed five (5) individuals if necessary and appropriate and if approved by a majority of the Board of Directors. Each non-standing committee shall elect its own chair.

Section 9.4. Athlete Representation.

All committees and task forces shall have at least thirty-three and three tenths percent (33.3%) elite athlete representation. The USAB Athletes' Representative Council (USAB ARC, as defined in Section 7.6) shall appoint and approve all athlete representatives on all committees and task forces.

Section 9.5. Tenure.

The term for all standing and other committee members shall be two (2) years. A committee member shall remain on the committee until the committee member's successor is appointed, or until the committee member's earlier resignation, removal, incapacity, disability or death.

The term for all task force members shall be until their assignment is concluded, but in any event shall not exceed a period of two (2) years.



#### Section 9.6. Term Limits.

No committee member shall serve for more than four (4) consecutive terms.

#### Section 9.7. Committee Member Attendance.

Committee and task force members are expected to attend/participate in all regularly scheduled committee and task force meetings of which they are a member. Each committee or task force member must attend/participate in a minimum of at least one-half (1/2) of the committee or task force meetings of which they are a member during any twelve-month (12) period.

#### Section 9.8. Resignation, Removal and Vacancies.

A committee or task force member's position on a committee or task force may be declared vacant upon the committee member's resignation, removal, incapacity, disability or death. A committee member may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Board of Directors, if appointed by the Board or to the Chief Executive Officer, if appointed by the Chief Executive Officer. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein, and unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

Committee or task force members may be removed by the Board if they fail to attend/participate in at least one-half (1/2) of the regular committee or task force meetings during any twelve-month (12) period, unless they are able to demonstrate to the directors of the Board, or to the Chief Executive Officer, if appointed by the Chief Executive Officer, that the presence of exigent circumstances caused and excused the absences. In such circumstances, the absent committee or task force member can be removed upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting power of the Board (not including the voting power of the absent committee member in question, if also a director), or upon the determination of the Chief Executive Officer, if appointed by the Chief Executive Officer. Committee members may also be removed for cause upon the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the total voting power of the Board (excluding the voting power of the committee member in question, if also a director), or upon the determination of the Chief Executive Officer, if appointed by the Chief Executive Officer. Committee members may also be removed not for cause upon the affirmative vote of at least three-fourths (3/4) of the total voting power of the Board (excluding the voting power of the director in question, if also a director), or upon the determination of the Chief Executive Officer, if appointed by the Chief Executive Officer.

Any vacancy occurring in a committee or task force shall be filled as set forth for the appointment of that committee or task force member. A committee or task force member appointed to fill a vacancy shall be appointed for the unexpired term of such committee or task force member's predecessor in office.

#### Section 9.9. Open and Executive Meeting Sessions.

Ordinarily, all committee and task force meetings shall be open to USAB members. In the event the committee or task force chair, with the consent of a majority of the committee or task force members in attendance, deems it appropriate: (i) to exclude USAB members at an open meeting

for any reason, then the chair may declare that the meeting is closed, or (ii) to convene an executive session to consider and discuss matters relating to personnel, nominations, discipline, budget, salary, litigation or other sensitive matter, then the chair may specifically designate and call an executive session. Further, the chair may open a meeting of the committee or task force to non-USAB members, with the consent of a majority of the members of the committee or task force in attendance.

#### Section 9.10. Minutes of Meetings.

Each committee and task force shall take minutes of its meetings.

#### Section 9.11. Compensation.

Committee and task force members shall not receive compensation for their services as committee or task force members, although the reasonable expenses of committee and task force members may be paid or reimbursed in accordance with USAB's policies. Committee and task force members who are not directors of the Board may receive compensation for services rendered to or for the benefit of USAB in any other capacity, provided that the rendering of such services and such compensation are approved by the Ethics/Judicial Committee.

#### Section 9.12. Audit Committee.

The Audit Committee shall be appointed and have the responsibilities as follows:

- a. All six Audit Committee members shall be Directors of the Board. In accordance with Section 9.4, the Athlete Director(s) shall be appointed by the USAB ARC. The Board of Directors shall appoint all other members of the Audit Committee and its Chair.
- b. The Audit Committee shall –
  1. Recommend the independent auditors of USAB, meet with the auditors pre and post audit (with and without management), review the report of the independent auditors and management letter, and recommend action as needed;
  2. Conduct quarterly reviews of USAB's financials;
  3. Serve as an independent and objective party to review and monitor the organization's financial reports and internal control processes;
  4. Recommend policies and procedures as needed to ensure appropriate financial controls, which shall be approved by the Board;
  5. Investigate matters of fiscal controls and disclosure and such other matter as directed by the Board;
  6. Perform such other duties as assigned by the Board.

Section 9.13. Ethics/Judicial Committee.

The Ethics/Judicial Committee shall be appointed and have the responsibilities as follows:

- a. No director of the Board shall be appointed to the Ethics/Judicial Committee.
- b. The committee shall consist of five (5) members to ensure, at any one time, a proper participation in the decision-making process with regard to athlete, disciplines and independent members of the Committee.

- c. The Board of Directors shall appoint the Chair of the Ethics/Judicial Committee. In accordance with Section 9.4, the athlete representatives shall be appointed by the USAB ARC, one of whom must be an Elite Ten Year Athlete. The Chair shall appoint the remaining two (2) committee members.
  
- d. The Ethics/Judicial Committee shall –
  - 1. Develop, and review on an annual basis, a Code of Ethics for the Board, officers, committee and task force members, volunteers, staff and member organizations for adoption by the Board;
  - 2. Generally administer and oversee compliance with the Code of Ethics;
  - 3. Review and investigate matters of ethical impropriety and make recommendations on such matters to the Board;
  - 4. Review and provide guidance on ethical questions presented to it by the Board, officers, committee and task force members, volunteers, staff and USAB members;
  - 5. Generally administer and oversee all administrative grievances and right to participate matters filed with USAB;
  - 6. Identify individuals who would be fair and impartial and who would have the qualifications and ability to serve on hearing panels;
  - 7. Hear and render a decision, or appoint a panel to hear and render a decision, on grievances and disciplinary matters;
  - 8. Perform such other duties as assigned by the Board.

Section 9.14. Nominating and Governance Committee.

The Nominating and Governance Committee shall be appointed and have the responsibilities as follows:

- a. The Nominating and Governance Committee will be formed as follows:
  - 1. The Chair of the Nominating and Governance Committee is appointed by the Board of Directors
  - 2. One (1) individual, who is elected by the previous Nominating and Governance Committee
  - 3. One (1) individual who is independent as defined in these Bylaws, who is elected by the Board of Directors.

4. Two (2) athletes, who are appointed by the USAB ARC, in accordance with Section 9.4, one of whom must be an Elite Ten Year Athlete.

b. The Nominating and Governance Committee shall:

1. Identify and evaluate prospective candidates for the Board;
2. Select individuals to serve on the Board as provided in these Bylaws;
3. Recommend as requested by the Board individuals to serve on various committees and task forces;
4. Consult with the Ethics/Judicial Committee with respect to vetting all nominations for potential conflict of interest or other problematic background issues;
5. Develop and recommend to the Board for its consideration an annual self-evaluation process of the Board and its committees and task forces;
6. Perform such other duties as assigned by the Board.

c. In considering a candidate for nomination to the Board, the Nominating and Governance Committee takes into consideration:

1. The candidate's contribution to the effective functioning of USAB;
2. Any potential or impending change in the candidate's principal area of responsibility with his or her company or in his or her employment;
3. Whether the candidate continues to bring relevant experience to the Board;
4. Whether the candidate has the ability to attend meetings and fully participate in the activities of the Board;
5. The candidate's reputation for personal integrity and commitment to ethical conduct;
6. Whether the candidate has developed any relationships with another organization, or other circumstances have arisen, that might make it inappropriate for the director to continue serving on the Board; and
7. Any other qualification the Nominating and Governance Committee deems appropriate to select a qualified and capable director.

## **SECTION 10.**

### **ANNUAL BADMINTON ASSEMBLY**

#### Section 10.1. Purpose.

There shall be an annual Badminton Assembly at which all individual and organization members and other Badminton constituencies shall gather and provide input to the Board of Directors on important issues confronting the organization. The Board and the Chief Executive Officer shall provide a report on the “State of USA Badminton” addressing issues of concern and importance to USAB. Individual and organization members and other Badminton constituencies may pose questions to the Board and Chief Executive Officer for response. The annual Badminton Assembly shall be purely advisory and shall have no rulemaking, budgetary, legislative, or other authority. The Board shall determine the agenda of the annual Badminton Assembly. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an annual meeting of the voting members is not required.

#### Section 10.2. Place.

The annual Badminton Assembly may be held either in person or by conference call. If it is in person it should be held in conjunction with either a meeting of the Board of Directors or a major USAB competition.

#### Section 10.3. Notice.

Notice of the annual Badminton Assembly stating the method and details of the Assembly shall be posted on the website of USAB no fewer than thirty (30) days before the date of the meeting.

## **SECTION 11.**

### **USAB ATHLETES' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL**

#### Section 11.1. Designation.

USAB shall have an NGB Athletes' Advisory Council, see Section 7.6b, which shall be referred to internally as the Athlete's Representative Council (ARC). This change is to eliminate confusion between the USOPC AAC and the internal USAB athlete representative body.

#### Section 11.2. Qualifications.

See Section 7.6.

#### Section 11.3. Election/Selection.

See Section 7.6.

#### Section 11.4. Tenure.

The term for members of the USAB ARC shall be for four (4) years. A member shall remain on the USAB ARC until the member's successor is elected and qualified, or until the member's earlier resignation, removal, incapacity, disability or death.

#### Section 11.5. Term Limits.

No USAB ARC member shall serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms.

#### Section 11.6. Chair.

The USAB ARC shall elect from among its members, by majority vote, a chair. The term of office of the chair shall be four (4) years. The newly elected chair shall take office immediately. The chair shall hold office until the chair's successor is elected and qualified, or until the chair's earlier resignation, removal, incapacity, disability or death.

#### Section 11.7. Board of Directors.

See Section 7.6.

#### Section 11.8. Procedures.

The USAB ARC shall establish procedures for conducting its business and affairs. Such procedures shall be published and available on USAB's website.

#### Section 11.9. Open and Executive Meeting Sessions.

Ordinarily, all meetings of the USAB ARC shall be open to USAB members. In the event the USAB ARC chair, with the consent of a majority of the USAB ARC members in attendance, deems it appropriate: (i) to exclude USAB members at an open meeting for any reason, then the chair may declare that the meeting is closed, or (ii) to convene an executive session to consider and discuss matters relating to personnel, nominations, discipline, budget, salary, litigation or other sensitive matter, then the chair may specifically designate and call an executive session. Further, the chair may open a meeting of the USAB ARC to non-USAB members, with the consent of a majority of the members of the Council in attendance.

Section 11.10. Compensation.

USAB ARC members shall not receive compensation for their services as USAB ARC members. USAB may pay for the reasonable expenses of all members of the USAB ARC to attend USAB ARC meetings. In addition, USAB may pay for the reasonable expenses of the athlete Board directors to attend USAB Board meetings.



## **SECTION 12.**

### **USOPC ATHLETES' ADVISORY COUNCIL**

#### Section 12.1. Designation.

USAB shall have a representative and an alternate representative to the USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council (USOPC AAC).

#### Section 12.2. Qualifications.

Those individuals who have represented the United States as athletes in the Olympic or Paralympic Games, the Pan American Games, Para Pan American Games/ Continental Qualifying Championships, World or Para World Championships, or a USOPC-designated Operation Gold badminton event within the ten (10) year period prior to December 31 of the year in which the election is held shall be eligible to run for election to the USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council. Additionally, in order to be eligible to run for election, an individual shall be a citizen of the United States and eighteen (18) years of age or older by December 31 of the year in which the election is held. Athletes cannot be paid employees of the USOPC or USA Badminton or participate in national selection tournaments while simultaneously serving on the USOPC AAC. For clarification, the elected USOPC athlete representative cannot participate in national team trials event during their term of service.

#### Section 12.3. Election/Selection.

Those individuals who have represented the United States as athletes in the Olympic Games, the Pan American Games, World Championships, or a USOPC-designated Operation Gold badminton event within the ten (10) year period prior to December 31 of the year in which the election is held shall be eligible to vote in the election. The term "other major international competition" as used herein means only a competition designated by the USOPC as an Operation Gold competition. Additionally, in order to be eligible to vote in the election, an individual shall be a citizen of the United States and eighteen (18) years of age or older by December 31 of the year in which the election is held. The election shall take place after the conclusion of the Summer Olympic Games, but prior to January 1 of the year following the Summer Olympic Games. The individual with the highest vote total is elected as athlete representative to the USOPC AAC and shall serve in that capacity on the Board of Directors of USAB. The individual with the second highest vote total shall serve as alternate USOPC representative to the USOPC AAC. In the event that it is necessary to replace the USOPC AAC Representative during the four-year term, the USOPC AAC Alternate automatically takes the place of the USOPC AAC Representative and an election shall be held to select a new USOPC AAC Alternate using the above procedure and requirements including the gender restriction for the remainder of the term.

Section 12.4. Tenure.

The term for all representatives to the USOPC AAC shall be for four (4) years. A representative shall remain on the USOPC AAC until the representative's successor is elected and qualified, or until the representative's earlier resignation, removal, incapacity, disability or death.

Section 12.5. Term Limits.

No representative to the USOPC AAC shall serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms. There is no term limit restriction for the position of alternate representative.

## **SECTION 13.**

### **USOPC NATIONAL GOVERNING BODIES' COUNCIL**

#### Section 13.1. Designation.

USAB shall have a representative and an alternate representative to the USOPC National Governing Bodies' Council.

#### Section 13.2. Election/Selection.

The Chief Executive Officer shall be USAB's representative to the USOPC National Governing Bodies' Council. The Chair of the Board shall be USAB's alternate representative to the USOPC National Governing Bodies' Council.

## **SECTION 14.**

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

#### Section 14.1. Designation.

USAB shall have a Chief Executive Officer.

#### Section 14.2. Tenure.

The Chief Executive Officer shall be employed by the Board of Directors for whatever term the Board deems appropriate. The Chief Executive Officer may be removed by the Board at any time, with or without cause, but removal shall not affect the contract rights, if any, of the Chief Executive Officer. If the Chief Executive Officer has a contract of employment with USAB, the contract shall provide that the Chief Executive Officer's employment may be terminated by the Board with or without cause. The Chief Executive Officer shall be responsible to the Chair of the Board.

#### Section 14.3. Secretary General.

The Chief Executive Officer shall serve as Secretary General of USAB, and in that capacity, along with the Board International Federation Delegate (IFD) pursuant to Section 7.25, shall represent USAB in relations with the international sports federation for the sport of Badminton recognized by the International Olympic Committee (currently the Badminton World Federation (BWF)), the Pan American Badminton Confederation (PABC) and at international badminton functions and events. The Chair of the Board shall be USAB's alternate Secretary General and representative in relations with the BWF and PABC, and at international badminton functions and events.

#### Section 14.4. Responsibilities.

The Chief Executive Officer shall:

- a. Develop a strategy for achieving USAB's mission, goals and objectives and present the strategy to the Board of Directors for approval.
- b. Prepare and submit quadrennial and annual budgets to the Board for approval.
- c. Determine the staff needed to effectively carry out USAB's mission, goals and objectives, within USAB's budget.
- d. Oversee the hiring and termination of all staff.
- e. Either directly or by delegation manage all staff functions.
- f. Be responsible for resource generation and allocation of resources.
- g. Coordinate USAB's international activities with the Chair of the Board, and act as USAB's spokesperson.

- h. Perform all functions as usually pertain to the office of Chief Executive Officer.

## **SECTION 15.**

### **COMPLAINT PROCEDURES**

#### Section 15.1. Designation of Complaints.

The following kinds of complaints, in addition to those falling under the purview of the Safe Sports Policies and Procedures which are handled and administered according to the policies and procedures set forth therein, may be filed with USAB:

- a. **Administrative Grievance.** USAB or any member of USAB may file a complaint pertaining to any matter within the cognizance of USAB, including but not limited to any alleged violation of or grievance concerning: (i) any USAB rule or regulation, (ii) any provision of USAB's Bylaws, or (iii) any provision of the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act relating to USAB's recognition as a National Governing Body;
- b. **Right to Compete.** Any athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official may file a complaint pertaining to any alleged denial, or alleged threat to deny, of that individual's opportunity to compete or participate in a USAB sanctioned competition.

#### Section 15.2. Jurisdiction.

Any member of USAB, by reason of membership, agrees to be subject to these complaint procedures and agrees to be bound by any decision rendered pursuant to these complaint procedures.

#### Section 15.3. Manner of Filing.

The complainant shall file the complaint with the CEO of the corporation who shall distribute copies to the Ethics/Judicial Committee members within 10 business days of receipt of complaint. Complainant shall also provide proof of service on the respondent. The complaint shall set forth in clear and concise language, preferably in numbered paragraphs: (i) the alleged violation, grievance, denial or threat to deny, and (ii) the remedy requested. The complainant shall sign the complaint and attest to the validity of all statements, provide, at his or her own expense, all necessary supporting materials, and provide proof of USAB membership.

#### Section 15.4. Filing Fee.

A complaint filed by an individual shall be accompanied with a \$100.00 filing fee. A complaint filed by an organization shall be accompanied with a \$250.00 filing fee, except that USAB is not required to pay a filing fee. The complainant may request that the filing fee be reduced or waived for reasons of significant financial hardship. If such a request is made, the Board of Directors shall determine whether or not to reduce or waive the filing fee.

#### Section 15.5. Statute of Limitations.

A complaint filed under these Bylaws shall be filed within ninety (90) days of the occurrence of the alleged violation, grievance, denial or threat to deny.

#### Section 15.6. Doping Decisions.

A decision concerning a doping violation adjudicated by the independent anti-doping organization designated by the USOPC to conduct drug testing (currently the United States Anti-Doping Agency) shall not be reviewable through, or the subject of, these complaint procedures.

#### Section 15.7. Field of Play Decisions.

The final decision of a referee during a competition regarding a field of play decision (a matter set forth in the rules of the competition to be within the discretion of the referee) shall not be reviewable through, or the subject of, these complaint procedures unless the decision is: (i) outside the authority of the referee to make, or (ii) the product of fraud, corruption, partiality or other misconduct of the referee. For purposes of this Section, the term “referee” shall include any individual with discretion to make field of play decisions.

#### Section 15.8 Administration.

The Ethics/Judicial Committee shall generally administer and oversee all administrative grievances and right to compete matters filed with USAB. The Ethics/Judicial Committee shall be responsible to ensure that all complaints are heard in a timely, fair and impartial manner. The Ethics/Judicial Committee may promulgate procedures in addition to those set forth in these Bylaws for the effective administration of complaints filed with USAB.

#### Section 15.9 Hearing Panel.

Within 10 business days after receipt of a complaint, the chair of the Ethics/Judicial Committee, after consultation with the other Committee members, shall appoint a hearing panel consisting of three (3) individuals to hear the complaint. The Ethics/Judicial Committee shall also appoint a chair of the hearing panel. Ethics/Judicial Committee members may be appointed to and serve on the hearing panel. Other disinterested individuals identified by the Ethics/Judicial Committee may also be appointed to and serve on the hearing panel. At least one (1) member of the hearing panel shall be an athlete. Members of the panel need not be members of USAB or involved in the sport of Badminton.

#### Section 15.10. Conduct of the Proceeding.

The Hearing Panel shall rule on all motions and other matters raised in the proceeding. If the complaint is not dismissed, the hearing panel shall hold a hearing on the complaint. The hearing panel shall set such timelines and other rules regarding the proceeding and the conduct of the hearing as it deems necessary. The hearing shall be informal, except that testimony shall be taken under oath.

The hearing may be conducted by teleconference, if necessary or convenient to the parties. Each party shall have the right to appear personally or through a legal representative. All parties shall be given a reasonable opportunity to present and examine evidence, cross-examine witnesses and to present arguments. Members of the hearing panel shall have the right to question witnesses or the parties to the proceeding at any time.

Any party may have a record made of the hearing. A court reporter may be present at the hearing at the request of a party. The court reporter shall be paid for by the party requesting the court reporter, or if mutually agreed, the cost may be equally divided. Any transcript shall be paid for by the party requesting the transcript. Unless a delay has been agreed upon by all parties involved, all complaints should be resolved within 180 days of receipt of a valid complaint.

#### Section 15.11. Expedited Procedures.

Upon the request of a party, and provided that it is necessary to expedite the proceeding in order to resolve a matter relating to a competition that is so scheduled that compliance with regular procedures would not be likely to produce a sufficiently early decision to do justice to the affected parties, the Ethics/Judicial Committee is authorized to order that the complaint be heard and decided within forty-eight (48) hours of the filing of the complaint. In such a case, the hearing panel is authorized to hear and decide the complaint pursuant to such procedures as are necessary, but fair to the parties involved.

#### Section 15.12. Complaints Involving Selection to Participate in a Competition.

Where a complaint is filed involving selection of an individual to participate in a competition, the complainant shall include with the complaint a list of all other individuals, together with their contact information, that may be adversely affected by a decision rendered on the complaint. The adverse party to the complaint shall also submit a list of individuals, together with their contact information, that may be adversely affected by a decision rendered on the complaint. The hearing panel shall determine those individuals who must receive notice of the complaint. The complainant shall then be responsible for providing appropriate notice to these individuals. Any individual so notified then shall have the option to participate in the proceeding as a party. If an individual is notified of the complaint, then that individual shall be bound by the decision of the hearing panel even though the individual chose not to participate as a party.

#### Section 15.13. Decision.

A decision shall be determined by a majority of the hearing panel. The hearing panel's decision shall be in writing and distributed to the parties within 10 business days of the hearing.

#### Section 15.14. Arbitration.

Any party may appeal a decision of the hearing panel to the American Arbitration Association. The arbitrator appointed by the American Arbitration Association shall have the authority to hear the matter anew or if requested by a party to render a decision on a more limited review. Either



party may submit the decision of the hearing panel to the arbitrator for the arbitrator's consideration. The arbitrator may give whatever weight or authority to the hearing panel's decision as the arbitrator deems appropriate.

## SECTION 16.

### SANCTIONING EVENTS

#### Section 16.1. Prompt Review of Request.

USAB shall promptly review every request submitted by an amateur sports organization or person for a sanction and make a determination on such request: (i) to hold an international, national, regional or local amateur athletic competition in the United States, or (ii) to sponsor U.S. Badminton athletes to compete in an international athletic competition held outside the United States.

#### Section 16.2. Standard for Review.

If USAB, as a result of its review: (i) does not determine by clear and convincing evidence that holding or sponsoring an international, national, regional or local amateur athletic competition would be detrimental to the best interest of Badminton, and (ii) confirms that the amateur sports organization or person meets the requirements for obtaining a sanction as set forth in these Bylaws, then USAB shall grant the sanction requested by the amateur sports organization or person.

#### Section 16.3. Requirements for Holding an International, National, Local or Regional Amateur Athletic Competition in the United States.

An amateur sports organization or person requesting a sanction to hold an international, national, regional or local amateur athletic competition in the United States shall comply with the following requirements:

- a. Submits, in the form required by USAB, an application to hold such competition;
- b. Pays to USAB the required sanctioning fee, provided that such fee shall be reasonable and nondiscriminatory; and
- c. Demonstrates that –
  1. Appropriate measures have been taken to protect the amateur status of athletes who will take part in the competition and to protect their eligibility to compete in amateur competition;
  2. Appropriate provision has been made for validation of records which may be established during the competition;
  3. Due regard has been given to any international amateur athletic requirements specifically applicable to the competition;
  4. The competition will be conducted by qualified officials;

5. Proper medical supervision will be provided for athletes who will participate in the competition; and
6. Proper safety precautions have been taken to protect the personal welfare of the athletes and spectators at the competition.

Section 16.4. Requirements for Sponsoring U.S. Badminton Athletes to Compete in an International Athletic Competition Held Outside the United States.

An amateur sports organization or person requesting a sanction to sponsor U.S. Badminton athletes to compete in an international athletic competition held outside the United States shall comply with the following requirements:

- a. Submit, in the form required by USAB, an application to sponsor an athlete in such competition;
- b. Pays to USAB any required sponsorship fee, provided that such fee shall be reasonable and nondiscriminatory;
- c. Submits a report of the most recent trip to a foreign country, if any, that the amateur sports organization or person sponsored for the purpose of having United States amateur athletes compete in international amateur athletic competition, and
- d. Submits a letter from the appropriate entity that will hold the international amateur athletic competition certifying that –
  1. Appropriate measures have been taken to protect the amateur status of athletes who will take part in the competition and to protect their eligibility to compete in amateur competition;
  2. Appropriate provision has been made for validation of records which may be established during the competition;
  3. Due regard has been given to any international amateur athletic requirements specifically applicable to the competition;
  4. The competition will be conducted by qualified officials;
  5. Proper medical supervision will be provided for athletes who will participate in the competition; and
  6. Proper safety precautions have been taken to protect the personal welfare of the athletes and spectators at the competition.

## SECTION 17.

### RECORDS OF THE CORPORATION

#### Section 17.1. Minutes.

USAB shall keep as permanent records minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors, a record of all actions taken by the Board without a meeting, and a record of all waivers of notices of meetings of the Board.

#### Section 17.2. Accounting Records.

USAB shall maintain appropriate accounting records.

#### Section 17.3. Membership List.

USAB shall maintain a record of the members in a form that permits preparation of a list of the names and addresses of the members in alphabetical order, by class.

#### Section 17.4. Records in Written Form.

USAB shall maintain its records in written form or in another form capable of conversion into written form within a reasonable time.

#### Section 17.5. Website.

USAB shall maintain a website for dissemination of information to its members. USAB shall post on its website its Bylaws. Additionally, USAB shall post on its website its most recent annual financial statement and its most recent 990 Form filed with the Internal Revenue Service.

#### Section 17.6. Records Maintained at Principal Office.

USAB shall keep a copy of each of the following records at its principal office:

- a. The articles of incorporation;
- b. These Bylaws;
- c. Rules or regulations adopted by the Board of Directors pertaining to the administration of the sport of Badminton;
- d. The minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors, and records of all action taken by the Board without a meeting, for the past three (3) years;
- e. All written communications within the past three (3) years to the members generally as the members;

- f. A list of the names and business or home addresses of the current directors and officers;
- g. A copy of the most recent corporate report delivered to the Colorado secretary of state;
- h. All financial statements prepared for periods ending during the last three (3) years;
- i. USAB's application for recognition of exemption and the tax-exemption determination letter issued by the Internal Revenue Service; and
- j. All other documents or records required to be maintained by USAB at its principal office under applicable law or regulation.

Section 17.7. Inspection of Records by Members.

The following rights and restrictions shall apply to the inspection of records by members:

- a. **Records Maintained at the Principal Office.** A member shall be entitled to inspect and copy, during regular business hours at USAB's principal office, any of the records of USAB described in Section 17.6., except any personal information such as home addresses, telephone numbers etc. of USAB Staff and Board Members provided that the member gives USAB written demand at least five (5) business days before the date on which the member wishes to inspect and copy such records.
- b. **Financial Statements.** Upon the written request of any member, USAB shall mail to such member its most recent annual financial statements showing in reasonable detail its assets and liabilities and results of its operations.
- c. **Membership List.**
  - 1. **Preparation of Membership Voting List.** After determining the members entitled to vote in an election USAB shall prepare, by class, an alphabetical list of the names of all members who are entitled to vote. The list shall show for each member entitled to vote, that member's name and address, the category they can vote in and the number of votes the member is entitled to cast.
  - 2. **Right of Inspection.** A member shall be entitled to inspect and copy, during regular business hours at USAB's principal office, a list of members who are entitled to vote in an election, provided that (i) the member has been a member for at least three (3) months immediately preceding the demand to inspect or copy, (ii) the demand is made in good faith and for a proper purpose reasonably related to the member's interest as a member, (iii) the member gives USAB written demand at least five (5) business days before the date on which the member wishes to inspect and copy such voting list, (iv) the member describes with reasonable particularity the purpose for the inspection, and (v) the inspection of the list of members is directly connected with the described purpose. Any member seeking to inspect and copy a membership list shall, prior to such inspection and copying, execute a signed

agreement in the form as approved by USAB limiting the use of such list in accordance with Section 17.7.c.3.

3. **Limitation on Use of Membership Voting List.** Without consent of the Board of Directors, a membership voting list may not be obtained or used by any person for any purpose unrelated to a member's interest as a member. Without limiting the generality of the previous sentence, without the consent of the Board a membership voting list may not be: (i) used to solicit money or property; (ii) used for any commercial purpose; or (iii) sold to or purchased by any person.
- d. **Scope of Members' Inspection Rights.**
1. **Agent or Attorney.** The member's duly authorized agent or attorney has the same inspection and copying rights as the member.
  2. **Right to Copy.** The right to copy records under these Bylaws includes, if reasonable, the right to receive copies made by photographic, xerographic, electronic or other means.
  3. **Reasonable Charge for Copies.** USAB may impose a reasonable charge, covering the costs of labor and material, for copies of any documents provided to a member. The charge may not exceed the estimated cost of production and reproduction of the records.
  4. **Litigation.** Nothing in these Bylaws shall limit the right of a member to inspect records to the same extent as any other litigant if the member is in litigation with USAB, or the power of a court to compel the production of corporate records for examination.

## **SECTION 18.**

### **CODE OF ETHICS**

#### Section 18.1. Code of Ethics.

The USAB Code of Ethics applies to directors of the Board, officers, committees, task forces, members, employees and others who are associated with USAB. The Code of Ethics shall be approved by the Board. The Ethics/Judicial Committee shall oversee implementation of and compliance with the Code of Ethics.

#### USA Badminton (“USAB”) CODE OF ETHICS

##### Introduction

As the National Governing Body for the Olympic sport of Badminton in the United States, and because we operate in the public spotlight, we are expected to conduct our affairs on a basis consistent with the great trust that has been placed in us. This requires our behavior to conform to the highest ethical principles. For these reasons, USAB requires its volunteers and staff to conduct business with integrity, to maintain a high standard of ethical conduct and to be guided by the knowledge that we are guardians of the Olympic Badminton values, spirit, and ideals. Furthermore, because the appearance of impropriety can be just as damaging as actual impropriety, conduct, which appears to be improper, is also unacceptable. Accordingly, volunteers, staff, and members are required to comply with the following USAB Code of Ethics when representing or participating in USAB activities or events:

- a. Conduct all dealings with honesty and fairness.
- b. Respect the rights of all employees to fair treatment and equal opportunity, free from discrimination or harassment of any type.
- c. Know, understand and comply with the laws, regulations, and codes of conduct governing the conduct of USAB business - both domestic and foreign.
- d. Ensure that all transactions are handled honestly and recorded accurately.
- e. Protect information that belongs to USAB, our donors, sponsors, suppliers and fellow workers.
- f. Avoid conflicts of interest, both real and perceived.
- g. Never use USAB assets or information for personal gain.
- h. Recognize that even the appearance of misconduct or impropriety can be very damaging to the reputation of USAB and act accordingly.

USAB Code of Ethics (con.)  
Conflicts of Interest

These principles provide a framework of integrity for interactions with or on behalf of USAB. However, given the unique makeup of USAB, more in depth questions may arise regarding conflicts of interest. USAB maintains a conflict of interest policy (“Statement of Principles for Ethical Behavior and Conflict of Interest”) which has been approved by the Board of Directors.

On an annual basis, all officers, board members, board committee members, directors and staff of USAB are required to certify their compliance with this conflict of interest policy and disclose any actual or potential conflicts of interest.

Enforcement

Any person or member organization that violates or condones the violation of the Code of Ethics is subject to disciplinary measures, which may include termination of membership, employment, and expulsion from the board, committee, or task force. The Ethics/Judicial Committee shall review and conduct an appropriate hearing for all violations of the Code of Ethics and, if appropriate, recommend sanctions to the Board of Directors (as to volunteers) or the Chief Executive Officer (as to staff).

This code serves as a framework for ethical conduct but does not cover every situation. If you are unclear about the requirements of this code, please consult your supervisor or contact the Chair of the Ethics/Judicial Committee as follows:

Chair of the Ethics/Judicial Committee  
USA Badminton  
1 Olympic Plaza  
Colorado Springs, CO 80909  
Telephone: 442-500-4787



## SECTION 19.

### FIDUCIARY MATTERS

#### Section 19.1. Indemnification.

USAB shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless each director of the Board and each officer from and against all claims, charges and expenses which he or she incurs as a result of any action or lawsuit brought against such director or officer arising out of the latter's performance of his or her duties in USAB, unless such claims, charges and expenses were caused by fraud or willful misconduct on the part of said officer or director.

#### Section 19.2. Discharge of Duties.

Each director of the Board and officer shall discharge his or her duties: (i) in good faith, (ii) with the care an ordinarily prudent individual in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances, and (iii) in a manner the director or officer reasonably believes to be in the best interests of USAB.

#### Section 19.3. Conflicts of Interest.

If any director of the Board, officer, committee or task force member has a financial interest in any contract or transaction involving USAB, or has an interest adverse to USAB's business affairs, and that individual is in a position to influence a determination with regard to the contract, transaction or business affair, such individual shall: (i) disclose the conflict of interest, (ii) not participate in the evaluation of the contract, transaction or business affair and (iii) not vote on the contract, transaction or business affair.

Per Section 18 (Code of Ethics), all officers, board members, board committee members, directors and staff of USAB are required to comply with the USAB conflict of interest policy and disclose any actual or potential conflicts of interest.

#### Section 19.4. Prohibited Loans.

No loans shall be made by USAB to the Chair of the Board, to any director of the Board, or to any committee or task force member or to any USAB employee. Any Chair, director, committee or task force member or USAB employee, who assents to or participates in the making of any such loan, shall be liable to USAB for the amount of such loan until it is repaid.

**SECTION 20.**  
**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Section 20.1. Fiscal Year.

The fiscal year of USAB shall commence January 1 and end on December 31 each year.

Section 20.2. Budget.

USAB shall have an annual budget.

Section 20.3. Audit

Each year USAB shall have an annual audit of its books and accounts prepared by an independent certified public accountant as recommended by the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee shall provide the auditors report to the Board of Directors upon completion.

Section 20.4. Individual Liability.

No individual director of the Board or officer shall be personally liable in respect of any debt or other obligation incurred in the name of USAB pursuant to the authority granted directly or indirectly by the Board of Directors.

Section 20.5. Irrevocable Dedication and Dissolution.

The property of USAB is irrevocably dedicated to charitable purposes, and no part of the net income or assets of USAB shall be used to the benefit of private persons. Upon the dissolution or winding up of USAB, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of USAB, shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, foundation, or corporation which is organized and operated for charitable purposes and which has established its tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended.

## **SECTION 21.**

### **MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

#### Section 21.1. Severability and Headings.

The invalidity of any provision of these Bylaws shall not affect the other provisions of these Bylaws, and in such event these Bylaws shall be construed in all respects as if such invalid provision were omitted.

#### Section 21.2. Saving Clause.

Failure of literal or complete compliance with any provision of these Bylaws in respect of dates and times of notice, or the sending or receipt of the same, or errors in phraseology of notice of proposals, which in the judgment of the directors of the Board do not cause substantial injury to the rights of the directors, shall not invalidate the actions or proceedings of the directors at any meeting.

## **SECTION 22.**

### **AMENDMENTS OF BYLAWS**

#### Section 22.1. Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended, repealed, or altered, in whole or in part, and new Bylaws may be adopted, with a majority of the authorized number of directors pursuant to Section 7.5