



CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

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Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA

www.wasusa.org

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Table of Contents

Constitution	5
ARTICLE I – Name	5
ARTICLE II – Purpose, Fundamental Policy, Functions and Authority	5
Section 1. Purpose.....	5
Section 2. Fundamental Policy.....	5
Section 3. Functions.	5
Section 4. Authority.....	5
ARTICLE III – Principles for the Conduct of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports.....	6
Section 1. Principle of Amateurism.	6
Section 2. Principle of Athlete Classification.	6
ARTICLE IV – Membership.....	6
Section 1. Eligibility of Membership.....	6
Section 2. Admission and Reclassification of Members	6
Section 3. Dues.	7
ARTICLE V – Criteria, Duties and Authority of a National Governing Body.....	7
Section 1. Criteria for Recognition.....	7
Section 2. Duties and Authority.	7
Section 3. National Governing Body (NGB) Council.....	8
ARTICLE VI – Criteria, Duties and Authority of a Sport Technical Committee.....	8
Section 1. Criteria for Recognition.....	8
Section 2. Duties and Authority.	8
ARTICLE VII – Criteria, Duties and Authority of a Regional Sports Organization	8
Section 1. Criteria for Recognition.....	8
Section 2. Duties and Authority.....	9
Section 3. Regional Sports Organization (RSO) Council.....	9
ARTICLE VIII – National Delegate Assembly.....	9
Section 1. Authority.....	9
Section 2. Meetings.	9
Section 3. Composition and Representation.	9
ARTICLE IX – Board of Directors.....	10
Section 1. General Powers and Duties.....	10
Section 2. Number and Tenure.	10
Section 3. Meetings.	11
Section 4. Quorum, Proxy and Manner of Acting.	11
Section 5. Officers.....	11
Section 6. Duties of Officers.....	11
Section 7. Terms of Officers.....	11

Section 8. Vacancies.	11
ARTICLE X – Executive Committee.....	11
Section 1. Composition.	11
Section 2. Duties.....	11
Section 3. Review by Board of Directors.	12
Section 4. Meetings.	12
Section 4. Chairperson.	12
ARTICLE XI – Standing Committees	12
Section 1. Composition.	12
ARTICLE XII – Bylaws and Interpretations.....	12
Section 1. Bylaws.	12
Section 2. Notice.....	12
Bylaws.....	13
ARTICLE I – Registration of athletes	13
Section 1. Registration of Athletes.	13
ARTICLE II – National Delegate Assembly	13
Section 1. Composition.	13
Section 2. Voting Strength of Member Organizations.....	13
Section 3. Procedures.....	14
Section 4. Majority voting.....	14
Section 5. Meetings.	14
Section 6. Quorum.....	14
Section 7. Order of Business.	14
ARTICLE III – Clubs	14
Section 1. Criteria.	14
Section 2. Duties.....	14
ARTICLE IV – Sanctioned Meets, Tournaments, and Games.....	15
Section 1. Definition.....	15
Section 2. Petitions to Sanction Meets, Tournaments and Games	15
Section 3. Administration.	15
ARTICLE V – National and International Games: Adult and Junior	15
Section 1. International Sanctioning.....	15
Section 2. Multi-Sport Events.....	15
Section 3. Bid Award.....	15
Section 4. Policies and Procedures.....	15
Section 5. Rights of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA	15
ARTICLE VI – Operating Policies and Procedures.....	16
Section 1. Authority.....	16

ARTICLE VII – Amending the Bylaws 16
Section 1. Proposed Amendments..... 16
Section 2. Notice..... 16

Constitution

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be "Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA," (WASUSA) hereinafter referred to as the Corporation.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE, FUNDAMENTAL POLICY, FUNCTIONS AND AUTHORITY

Section 1. Purpose.

The purpose of the corporation is to promote those individuals with impaired mobility as a result of a disability to compete in team and individual sports which possess all of the following characteristics:

- (A) ability to compete in the non-disabled version of the sport is impacted by disability;
- (B) the adapted version of the sport requires the use of a wheelchair, prosthesis/orthosis or similar equipment, or is performed in a medium such as water, which equipment or medium relieves the body of support and mobility functions;
- (C) the adapted version of the sport emanates from a generally accepted sport within the United States of America; or possess a historical or international basis within disabled sports; or, lacking both of the above, embodies exceptional qualities as a legitimate sport in its own right; and
- (D) a need for development and national direction for the adapted version for the sport is indicated by demonstrated interest in the sport;

Section 2. Fundamental Policy.

Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA is founded on the fundamental philosophy that:

- (A) a person's athletic achievement or pursuit of physical fitness need not be limited by a disability;
- (B) people with disabilities have the same need and capability for attaining athletic excellence, physical fitness, and involvement in active recreation as non-disabled persons; and
- (C) these needs are best met through an organized program of competitive sports and recreation and training which provides opportunities for persons with disabilities commensurate with those available to the non-disabled;

Section 3. Functions.

The functions of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA are:

- (A) to initiate, stimulate, provide, and promote the growth and development of disabled sports in the United States of America;
- (B) to provide organized competitive sports opportunities for individuals with disabilities, from the local through national and international level, comparable to opportunities available to persons without disabilities;
- (C) to promote the concept of health and lifetime fitness for persons with disabilities through the vehicle of organized disabled sports; and
- (D) provide for organized junior competitions and sports

Section 4. Authority.

Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA shall have authority to:

- (A) represent all member organizations in the U.S. Olympic Committee, International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS), Pan-American Wheelchair Sports Federation, and other multi-sport national and international corporations;
- (B) organize, finance and control the representation of Wheelchair & Ambulatory Sports, USA in any international competition involving two or more sports governed by member organizations; except Paralympic Games;
- (C) approve the hosting of IWAS Championships or other international competitions involving two or more sports governed by member organizations;
- (D) recognize eligible member organizations;
- (E) facilitate resolution of conflicts between athletes and member organizations according to Policy and Procedure manual;
- (F) serve as the coordinating body for national competitions involving two or more member national governing bodies;
- (G) establish policies and procedures for the conduct of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA business which shall supersede those of any member organization; and,
- (H) do any and all things necessary and proper to carry out the purposes, fundamental policy, and functions of the organization;

ARTICLE III – PRINCIPLES FOR THE CONDUCT OF WHEELCHAIR AND AMBULATORY SPORTS

Section 1. Principle of Amateurism.

An amateur athlete is one who engages in sports for the physical, mental and/or social benefits derived there from and for whom participation in sports is an avocation.

- (A) An athlete shall cease to be an amateur for engaging in:
 - (1) gambling, wagering or betting on any competition, exhibition, or activity; and/or,
 - (2) receiving financial payments and not handling said payments in accordance with the terms of Article III Section, I, (B) (3), below;
- (B) The amateur status of an athlete shall not be endangered for the following:
 - (1) teaching or working in disabled sports activities;
 - (2) accepting monetary assistance during periods of competition, training, exhibitions or activities for food, board, travel, sports equipment, coaching, medical care, insurance, financial loss resulting from work or basic occupation and petty expenses; or,
 - (3) receiving financial payments to an athlete beneficiary as a result of athletic activity, competition, endorsements, appearances, writing, etc. provided such money is deposited in either ADF or a private trust and follows the guidelines set down by the National Governing Body or Sport Technical Committee of the sport.

Section 2. Principle of Athlete Classification.

"Athlete Classification" is a term applied to the special examination of an athlete for the purpose of determining his or her level of muscular function in a way that will allow fair competition against those with similar degrees of disability. Each participating athlete shall be required to have an athlete classification as prescribed in Policy and Procedure Manual before competing in any sport under the jurisdiction of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility of Membership.

The membership of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA shall be open to organizations and individuals interested in the promotion and advancement of disabled sports as hereinafter provided.

- (A) Organizations eligible for membership shall be those which take an active part in the administration of one or more sports or competitions as described in Article II of this Constitution and such other organizations as are engaged in efforts to promote the participation in or preparation for appropriate amateur athletic competition.
- (B) Wheelchair & Ambulatory Sports, USA shall recognize two primary types of such organizations:
 - (1) National Governing Bodies shall be those organizations recognized by Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA as meeting the criteria for recognition and capable of fulfilling the duties and exercising the authority of a National Governing Body as set forth in Article V of this Constitution; and,
 - (2) Regional Sports Organizations shall be those organizations recognized by Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA as meeting the criteria for recognition and capable of fulfilling the duties and exercising the authority of a Regional Sports Organization as set forth in Article VI of this Constitution.
- (C) Wheelchair & Ambulatory Sports, USA shall recognize the following types of individuals as non-voting members provided they are active members of the organization:
 - (1) Athletes
 - (2) Coaches
 - (3) Officials
 - (4) Patrons
 - (5) Volunteers

Section 2. Admission and Reclassification of Members

The National Delegate Assembly by a majority vote, and upon the report of the Membership Committee and recommendation of the Board of Directors, shall have the authority to recognize properly qualified members, to transfer an organization from one membership type to another, to approve continued recognition as a member, or to suspend, terminate, or place restrictive conditions on such membership, as circumstances may require as in the case of misconduct or illegal activity.

Section 3. Dues.

All members of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA shall pay annual dues as specified by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V – CRITERIA, DUTIES AND AUTHORITY OF A NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY

Section 1. Criteria for Recognition.

No organization is eligible to be recognized as a National Governing Body unless it meets the following criteria:

- (A) governs a single sport, which possesses all the characteristics shown in Constitution, Article II, Section 1;
- (B) is incorporated as a nonprofit organization under the laws of any of the states or the District of Columbia and is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as having attained status as a 501(c)(3) corporation, or has made application to attain such status and can reasonably be expected to be accorded such status within three years from the date of application for recognition by Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA;
- (C) submits an application for recognition as a National Governing Body in such form and with such supporting documentation as Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA may require;
- (D) is autonomous in the governance of its sport in that it independently determines all matters central to the governance of its sport, except to the extent that the general policies of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA shall control such matters;
- (E) is a membership organization open minimally to any team, club, organization and any individual who is an amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator, or official active in the sport for which recognition is sought and which has a minimum number of fifty individual members;
- (F) provides an equal opportunity for amateur athletes, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators and officials to participate in its affairs and programs, without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, or national origin;
- (G) provides for the selection of its Board of Directors or other such governing board in a democratic manner;
- (H) possesses the financial and managerial capability to carry out the duties and authority described herein; and,
- (I) agrees to submit to binding arbitration conducted in accordance with the commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association in any controversy involving its recognition as a National Governing Body as provided for in the Policy and Procedure Manual or involving the opportunity of any athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator, or official to participate in athletic competition as provided for in the Policy and Procedure Manual.

Section 2. Duties and Authority.

For the sport which it governs, a National Governing Body is under a duty to:

- (A) develop interest and participation throughout the United States of America and be responsible to the individuals and groups it represents;
- (B) minimize conflicts in the scheduling of its programs;
- (C) keep its members informed of policy matters and reasonably reflects the views of such members in its policy decisions;
- (D) provide and coordinate technical information related to the sport, including information on applicable sports medicine;
- (E) generate revenue for its programs and services;
- (F) arrange for and conduct its national championship competitions;
- (G) provide a system to sanction competitions and otherwise provide technical support for the development of local programs in the sport;
- (H) adhere to all policies and procedures established by Wheelchair & Ambulatory Sports, USA;
- (I) to select its representative to the NGB council for the purposes of electing representatives to the WASUSA Board of Directors;
- (J) represent the United States of America in the appropriate international sport federation and the appropriate Sport Section of IWAS;
- (K) establish national goals and coordinate programs to attain those goals;
- (L) serve as the coordinating body for amateur disabled athletic activity in the USA;
- (M) exercise jurisdiction over international amateur disabled athletic activities and sanction international amateur adaptive athletic competition held in the United States of America;
- (N) conduct amateur disabled athletic competition, including national championships, and international amateur disabled athletic competition held in the United States of America, and determine eligibility standards for participation in such competitions;

- (O) designate individuals and teams to represent the United States of America in international competitions for IWAS events;
- (P) establish the rules of the sport, certify and evaluate officials, certify and recognize national records, establish or adopt a classification system for its competitions, and sanction all competition in the United States of America; and,
- (Q) select its representatives to the National Delegate Assembly, and exercise voting powers as described in Bylaw Article II.

Section 3. National Governing Body (NGB) Council.

A representative of each National Governing Body shall serve as a member of the NGB Council. The NGB Council will elect a chairperson and vice chairperson from among its members. The NGB Council shall elect one (1) member to serve on the Board of Directors of WASUSA to serve a four (4) year term.

- (A) The NGB Council shall meet at least annually and shall be responsible for addressing issues and concerns related to NGBs and reporting on same to the board and delegate assembly;
- (B) Each recognized NGB shall have one (1) vote in the NGB Council;

ARTICLE VI – CRITERIA, DUTIES AND AUTHORITY OF A SPORT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Section 1. Criteria for Recognition.

No organization is eligible to be recognized as a Sport Technical Committee unless it meets the following criteria:

- (A) A Sport Technical Committee shall be a permanent body established with Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA under the jurisdiction of the Board of Directors.
- (B) The Chairperson of the Committee shall appoint members to the specific Sports Technical Committee based on their qualifications, experience and demonstrated interest and commitment to disabled sports and the specific sports.

Section 2. Duties and Authority.

For the sport which it governs, a Sport Technical Committee is under a duty to:

- (A) Develop interest and participation throughout the United States of America for the sport.
- (B) Provide, coordinate, and update technical information related to the sport, including updating rules based upon the respective national or international governing body and information on applicable sports medicine.
- (C) Facilitate local, regional and national competitions.
- (D) Review bid packets and make recommendations to WSUSA BOD for approval for sanctioning of single sport national championships.
- (E) Establish goals and coordinate programs to attain those goals.
- (F) Certify and recognize national records, where applicable certify and evaluate officials, and adopt a classification system for its competitions;
- (G) Adhere to all policies and procedures established by Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA

ARTICLE VII – CRITERIA, DUTIES AND AUTHORITY OF A REGIONAL SPORTS ORGANIZATION

Section 1. Criteria for Recognition.

No organization is eligible to be recognized as a Regional Sports Organization unless it meets the following criteria:

- (A) is incorporated as a nonprofit organization under the laws of one of the states within its geographic area of service and is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as having attained status as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, or has made application to attain such status and can reasonably be expected to be accorded such status within three years from the date of application for recognition by Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA;
- (B) is a membership organization minimally open to any team, club, organization and any individual who is an amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official active in any sport governed by a National Governing Body or Sport Technical Committee
- (C) provides an equal opportunity to amateur athletes, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, an officials to participate in its affairs and programs, without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, or national origin;
- (D) provides for the selection of its Board of Directors or other such governing board in a democratic manner;
- (E) is defined by geographic boundaries which are mutually exclusive from boundaries of any other Regional Sports

Organization recognized by Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA.

- (F) provides for the development of clubs within its boundaries with a club being defined as an organization which provides local programmatic services to the individual members of WSAUSA
- (G) possesses the financial and managerial capability and has a demonstrated ability to perform the duties and to exercise the authority as described herein; and,

Section 2. Duties and Authority.

its geographic area of service, a Regional Sports Organization is under a duty to:

- (A) assist with the development of programs and opportunities in disabled sports, especially those sports governed by a National Governing Body or Sport Technical Committee
- (B) assist local organizing committees/clubs in the conduct of competitions sanctioned by a National Governing Body or Sport Technical Committee
- (C) promote an enhanced awareness of disabled sports by the general public and potential new athletes, including but not limited to new athlete outreach efforts, public education and communications, production of training clinics and workshops, and acting as an information and referral source;
- (D) assist when possible with the development of clubs to perform local development of disabled sports;
- (E) assist with the scheduling and coordination of disabled sports programs within its geographic area of service; and,
- (F) adhere to all policies and procedures established by Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA.
- (G) select its representative to the RSO Council for the purposes of electing representatives to the WASUSA Board of Directors.
- (H) select its representatives to the National Delegate Assembly and exercise voting powers as described in Bylaw Article II.
- (I) adhere to all policies and procedures established by Wheelchair Sports, USA including:
 - (1) Display WASUSA Banner prominently at its events.
 - (2) Display the WASUSA Logo prominently in literature, brochures, promotions, etc.
 - (3) Follow sanctioned meet reporting requirements.
 - (4) Provide an annual event calendar to the WASUSA office.
 - (5) Ensure completion of the WASUSA Event Waiver Form by all participants (athletes and volunteers) involved in a local event.

Section 3. Regional Sports Organization (RSO) Council.

A representative of each regional sports organization shall serve as a member of the RSO Council. The RSO Council will elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson from among its members. The RSO Council shall elect three (3) members to serve on the Board of Directors of WASUSA to serve a four (4) year term. These terms shall be staggered to rotate off at a rate of not more than one term per year

- (A) The RSO council shall meet at least annually and shall be responsible for addressing issues and concerns related to RSOs and reporting on same to the board and delegate assembly.
- (B) Each full status RSO shall have one (1) vote in the RSO Council.

ARTICLE VIII – NATIONAL DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

Section 1. Authority.

The National Delegate Assembly shall have the authority to:

- (A) Elect the Officers of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA as such vacancies occur and to remove the same for cause;
- (B) Election of members to serve on the Board of Directors as such vacancies occur and to remove the same for cause;
- (C) Receive and review the reports of the Board of Directors, officers, staff and committees;
- (D) Act on all matters related to the membership of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA in accordance with provisions of its Constitution and Bylaws; and,
- (E) Act on all proposals to change its Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 2. Meetings.

The National Delegate Assembly shall meet once annually at a time and place as determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Composition and Representation.

Each member organization of Wheelchair & Ambulatory Sports, USA shall be entitled to representation at any meeting of

the National Delegate Assembly according to the number of delegates and voting strength as specified in Bylaw, Article II, and a like number of alternates to act in place of such delegates.

ARTICLE IX – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. General Powers and Duties.

The affairs of the corporation shall be managed by its Board of Directors, and all of the rights, powers, duties and responsibilities relative to the management and control of the corporation's property and affairs are vested with the Board of Directors. These powers exist in the directors meeting as a group and not in the individual directors except as delegated by the Board. The Directors have a duty to exercise care and prudence in the administration of the affairs of the corporation and are responsible to disburse funds or property received by the corporation only for the purposes for which it was received. The Organization shall provide Directors and Officers Insurance for all Board members. The Board shall:

- (A) Require a regular accounting of all funds disbursed by the Corporation;
- (B) Transact the business and administer the affairs of the Corporation in accordance with the policies of the Corporation;
- (C) Require all income from activities of the Corporation and all income from other sources, except as may be provided in the Constitution and Bylaws, and Policy and Procedure Manual to be deposited in the general fund;
- (D) Solicit, collect, receive, and administer the expenditure of funds to support the participation of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA athletes in approved international multi-sport competition;
- (E) Adopt a budget for the ensuing fiscal year prior to the end of any current fiscal year;
- (F) Adopt regulations providing for the expenditure of corporation funds, the conduct of all Corporation-sanctioned meets and tournaments, and the distribution of the income of the corporation;
- (G) Arrange for the background check of the Board of Directors of the Corporation.
- (H) Provide for the various accounts and arrange for the accounting of them;
- (I) Designate the individual who shall represent the Corporation in any national or international corporation with which it affiliates; and
- (J) Sanction the participation of any national team or individual to represent the United States of America in IWAS and Junior multi-sport international competition.

Section 2. Number and Tenure.

- (A) The Board of Directors shall consist of an odd number of members with a minimum of nine (9) active members. All members shall be elected at the National Delegate Assembly and consist of the following:
 - One Athlete Representative who shall have competed within the previous 10 years, nominated by the Athlete Advisory Committee
 - One Immediate Past Chair
 - One Junior Sports Representative
 - Three RSO representatives, nominated by the RSO Council,
 - One Member-at-Large
 - One NGB Member,
 - One Sports Technical Committee member,
 - Four officers consisting of one Chair, one Vice-Chair, one Secretary, and one Treasurer.
- (B) Each director shall serve a four-year term except that the initial term may be staggered so that one-fourth of the Directors' terms expire each year. Directors' terms shall commence immediately upon the adjournment of the National Delegate Assembly meeting at which they were elected, and shall terminate at the adjournment of the National Delegate Assembly annual meeting held at the conclusion of their term.
- (C) In the event that an individual is elected to two or more positions on the Board of Directors, he or she shall choose one position and other position(s) shall be declared vacant.
- (D) The representatives of the RSO Council may be changed with proper notification to the Chairperson of the Board of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA. The new Directors' term, fulfilling the unexpired term, shall commence immediately upon the receipt of the notification to the Chairperson of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA.
- (E) The Junior Representative to the Board of Director shall be elected by majority vote of the Delegate Assembly. This representative needs to be over the age of 18 and is actively participating in a Junior Sports program as an athlete, coach or administrator.
- (F) The At-large member to the Board of Director shall be elected by majority vote of the Delegate Assembly.

Section 3. Meetings.

The Board of Directors shall meet twice a year and at other such times as two-thirds of the Directors agree in writing to the need for a special meeting.

Section 4. Quorum, Proxy and Manner of Acting.

For the transaction of business a quorum shall consist of a majority of the Directors. The act of a majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors, unless the act of a greater number is required by law or by the Constitution or Bylaws. Voting by proxy shall not be allowed in any meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Officers.

The officers of the Board shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer. The officers of the Board shall also serve as the officers of the Corporation.

Section 6. Duties of Officers.

- (A) The Chairperson shall preside at meetings of the Board.
- (B) The Vice-Chairperson shall preside at all meetings in the absence of the Chairperson, and shall carry out all duties and responsibilities assigned to him or her by the Chairperson
- (C) The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping the minutes of the meetings of the Board
- (D) The Treasurer shall oversee all financial procedures of the corporation and shall submit, at the annual meeting, a detailed report of all receipts and disbursements during the preceding fiscal year.

Section 7. Terms of Officers.

- (A) Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the National Delegate Assembly and shall serve staggered terms of four years.
- (B) The Chairperson shall be elected at the first annual meeting of the National Delegate Assembly following the conclusion of the Paralympic quadrennium.
- (C) The Vice-Chairperson shall be elected at the second annual meeting of the National Delegate Assembly following the conclusion of the Paralympic quadrennium.
- (D) The Secretary shall be elected at the third annual meeting of the National Delegate Assembly following the conclusion of the Paralympic quadrennium.
- (E) The Treasurer shall be elected at the fourth annual meeting of the National Delegate Assembly following the conclusion of the Paralympic quadrennium.

Section 8. Vacancies.

Vacancies on the Board or in Officer positions which occur prior to the end of the normal term of office for the subject member, shall be filled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors and be ratified by the National Delegate Assembly at its first meeting following the declaration of the vacancy. The newly elected member shall serve the unexpired portion of the term of the original member.

ARTICLE X – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. Composition.

The Executive Committee shall consist of the Officers of the Corporation and the athlete representative member of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Duties.

The Executive Committee shall function between meetings of the Board of Directors to act on those emergency matters which are ordinarily within the purview of the Board of Directors and which require resolution prior to the next regularly scheduled Board of Directors Meeting. In addition to such matters, the Executive Committee shall be authorized to:

- (A) Approve variations in expenditures within the annual budget;
- (B) Approve expenditure of budgeted contingency funds.
- (C) Approve personnel policies and procedures.
- (D) Approve submission of grant applications and other solicitation of funds;
- (E) Approve the agenda for all meetings of the National Delegate Assembly and Board of Directors, notwithstanding provisions of the Corporation's Constitution and Bylaws and Policy and Procedure Manual;

- (F) Appoint and supervise office staff as appropriate
- (G) Perform other duties as may be assigned by the Corporation's Constitution and Bylaws or by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Review by Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors shall review actions of the Executive Committee at a regular meeting. The Board of Directors may amend any decision of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Meetings.

The Executive Committee shall meet at a time and place as determined by the Chairperson, with the approval of a simple majority of the members of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may meet via teleconference.

Section 4. Chairperson.

The Chairperson of the Board of Directors shall act as Chairperson of the Executive Committee, and other Officers shall act in their respective capacities.

ARTICLE XI – STANDING COMMITTEES

The Bylaws shall provide for such standing committees as the Board may consider necessary and may establish the number of members and tenure of all committees. Committees include but will not be limited to the Junior Committee, the National Selection Committee, and Sport Technical Committees.

Section 1. Composition.

- (A) The Board Chair shall nominate Committee Chairpersons with approval by the BOD
- (B) The Board Chair may recommend removal of committee chairpersons with valid due cause with final approval by the BOD.
- (C) The Board Chair shall be a non-voting ex-officio member of all standing committees.
- (D) Term limits will be established by the BOD.

ARTICLE XII – BYLAWS AND INTERPRETATIONS

Section 1. Bylaws.

Except as otherwise specifically set forth in the Constitution, the Bylaws may provide rules and regulations governing:

- (A) The administration of disabled sports by the Board of Directors; and,
- (B) The establishment and administration of meets, tournaments, games, and other events sponsored or sanctioned by the Corporation.

Section 2. Notice.

A copy of the proposed amendment shall be given to each member of the Board of Directors and to the Representative of each member organization of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA at the National Delegate Assembly meeting at which the proposed amendment shall be considered.

Bylaws

ARTICLE I – REGISTRATION OF ATHLETES

Section 1. Registration of Athletes.

Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA shall maintain an annual registry of athletes and other non-athletes who are current members of recognized National Governing Bodies, Regional Sports Organizations, and

- (A) The Board of Directors shall, from time to time, establish fees, policies, and procedures for the registration of athletes and others that are eligible to receive benefits and services from Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA.
- (B) The Board of Directors shall, from time to time, establish services and/or other benefits to be provided by Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA to athletes, and others that are currently registered with Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA.

ARTICLE II – NATIONAL DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

Section 1. Composition.

The National Delegate Assembly shall be composed of delegates from recognized National Governing Bodies, Regional Sports Organizations, the Juniors Committee as well as Officers and members of the Board of Directors.

- (A) The Representative of each member organization of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA must submit the names of all delegates and alternates representing the organization to the office staff at least fourteen days in advance of any meeting of the National Delegate Assembly.
- (B) No delegate and no alternate shall be entitled to represent more than one member organization of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA.

Section 2. Voting Strength of Member Organizations.

The maximum number of delegates authorized to represent each member organization shall be determined by the total number of athletes who are currently registered members of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA.

- (A) Each National Governing Body, Regional Sports Organization, and Sports Technical Committee with two hundred fifty or fewer registered members shall be accorded five delegates and a like number of alternates.
- (B) Each National Governing Body, Sport Technical Committee, and Regional Sports Organization with more than two hundred fifty registered members shall be accorded ten delegates and like number of alternates.
- (C) Each National Governing Body or Regional Sports Organization shall be accorded ten votes per delegate.
- (D) Each Sports Technical Committee shall be accorded five votes per delegate.
- (E) Junior Committee may select one delegate and one alternate. The delegate will have one vote.
- (F) Alternates shall have a voice in the deliberations of the National Delegate Assembly but not a vote. An alternate may replace a delegate at any time, provided that the affected delegate shall notify the chair of said action prior to any vote by the alternate in replacement of the delegate. At this time the alternate becomes a voting delegate.
- (G) In addition to delegates and alternates representing member organizations of Wheelchair & Ambulatory Sports, USA, the officers and the members of the Board of Directors of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA shall have a voice in the deliberations of the National Delegate Assembly as well as one vote per individual.

Section 3. Procedures.

- (A) Unless replaced by a duly recognized alternate, a delegate must be present to cast his/her vote.
- (B) A delegation representing any member organization may split its votes, pro or con, on any question. However, an individual delegate may not split his/her votes on any question.
- (C) Voting by proxy shall not be allowed.

Section 4. Majority voting.

- (A) Unless otherwise specified in the Constitution and Bylaws, all deliberations of the National Delegate Assembly shall be decided by a majority of those votes cast on any given issue.
- (B) Elections shall be determined by written ballot for positions contested by more than one nominee. Uncontested elections may be determined by voice vote.
- (C) Elections contested by more than two nominees shall be determined by written ballots. If one candidate does not achieve a majority on the first ballot, a second ballot shall be held between the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes on the first ballot.

Section 5. Meetings.

National Delegate Assembly shall meet once annually. No less than sixty days, notice of the annual meeting shall be given to member organizations.

Section 6. Quorum.

A quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting shall consist of at least twenty percent (20%) of the total eligible vote of the National Delegate Assembly.

Section 7. Order of Business.

- (A) The National Delegate Assembly shall consider elections as the next to last order of business on the agenda of any National Delegate Assembly meeting.

ARTICLE III – CLUBS

Section 1. Criteria.

A club is defined as an organization which provides local programmatic services to the individual members of WSAUSA which meets the following criteria:

- (A) Conducts programs in Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA sports within a geographic area which is entirely within the boundaries of a Regional Sports
- (B) Is an organization minimally open to any team, and/or individual who is an athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official active in any sport governed by a National Governing Body or Sports Technical Committee;
- (C) Has as its purpose the development of programs in disabled sports, especially those sports recognized by Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA;
- (D) Places representatives on the Board of Directors or other governing body of its Regional Sports Organization and has a meaningful participation in the selection of Regional Sports Organization representatives to the National Delegate Assembly; and
- (E) Is recognized as a club by Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports USA and the appropriate Regional Sports Organization.

Section 2. Duties.

A club is under a duty to:

- (A) assist the development of programs and opportunities in disabled sports, especially those sports governed by a National Governing Body/Sports Technical Committee WASUSA obtains appropriate sanctioning for;
- (B) conduct competitions sanctioned by National Governing Bodies/Sport Technical Committee's of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports USA;
- (C) promote an enhanced awareness of disabled sports by the general public and potential new athletes, including but not limited to new athlete outreach efforts, public education and communications, implementation of training clinics and workshops, and as an information and referral source;
- (D) assist the scheduling and coordination of disabled sports programs with the Regional Sports Organization; and,

- (E) adhere to all policies and procedures established by Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA and its parent Regional Sports Organization including:
- (1) Display WASUSA Banner prominently at its events.
 - (2) Display the WASUSA Logo prominently in literature, brochures, promotions, etc.
 - (3) Follow sanctioned meet reporting requirements.
 - (4) Provide an annual event calendar to the WASUSA office.
 - (5) Ensure completion of the WASUSA Event Waiver Form by all participants (athletes and volunteers) involved in a local event.

ARTICLE IV – SANCTIONED MEETS, TOURNAMENTS, AND GAMES

Section 1. Definition.

A sanctioned Meet, Tournament, or Games is defined as a competition in one or more of the sports governed by a Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA National Governing Body or Sport Technical Committee which meets the following criteria:

- (A) The event is approved by Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA National Governing Body/Sport Technical Committee for each sport in which competition is conducted;
- (B) The event is conducted in strict accordance with the rules, regulations, and procedures of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA and of the respective Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA National Governing Bodies/Sport Technical Committee;
- (C) The event accepts as participants those athletes who are members of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA and other CBOs serving athletes with disabilities

Section 2. Petitions to Sanction Meets, Tournaments and Games

A separate petition for sanctioning shall be submitted by the Local Organization Committee to Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA. Such petition shall be accompanied by payment of a sanctioning fee as approved by Board of Directors of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA.

Section 3. Administration.

A sanctioned meet, tournament or games shall have a director. It shall be the Director's responsibility to ensure all satisfactory arrangements for the conduct of the event and to serve as the direct administrative liaison with Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA

ARTICLE V – NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL GAMES: ADULT AND JUNIOR

Section 1. International Sanctioning.

Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA has exclusive authority for sanctioning all international events held in the United States that are represented as IWAS events and involve Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA National Governing Bodies or Sport Technical Committees.

Section 2. Multi-Sport Events.

Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA has sole authority to sanction all national multi-sport events, which include sports governed by Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA National Governing Bodies.

Section 3. Bid Award.

The acceptance of a bid shall be determined by Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA Executive Committee at a regularly scheduled meeting and shall be publicized as soon as possible upon acceptance.

Section 4. Policies and Procedures.

The policies, procedures, and determination of specific events shall be the responsibility of the Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA Executive Committee.

Section 5. Rights of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA

Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA shall reserve for itself exclusive right to all fees and payments received from radio, television and motion picture sources involving national, multi-sport games and meets, unless otherwise indicated

by contract with the Local Organizing Committee.

ARTICLE VI – OPERATING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Section 1. Authority.

The Board of Directors may from time to time adopt operating policies and procedures for the implementation of the Constitution and Bylaws and for the conduct of the business of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA. Member organizations, registered athletes and registered non-athletes shall be obligated to conform to these operating policies and procedures as a condition of continued recognition.

ARTICLE VII – AMENDING THE BYLAWS

Section 1. Proposed Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended at a meeting of the National Delegate Assembly by a majority vote, provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing to the Executive Committee at least sixty days prior to the National Delegate Assembly meeting at which the proposed amendment shall be considered.

Section 2. Notice.

A copy of the proposed amendment shall be given to each member of the Board of Directors and to the Representative of each member organization of Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA at least 10 days prior to the National Delegate Assembly meeting at which the proposed amendment shall be considered.