

Mid-Atlantic Recreation and Parks' Sports Alliance By-Laws

Approved Revision - 4/29/2015

Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be the Mid-Atlantic Recreation and Parks' Sports Alliance (referred to as “Alliance”).

Article II - Purpose

The purpose of the “Alliance” is to develop and communicate GoodSports message so that organizations and their players, coaches and spectators will be held accountable to a code of conduct that promotes a GoodSports environment that keeps recreational competitive and non-competitive sporting activities in proper perspective.

Article III – Membership

Any organization, agency or corporation that is in compliance with one (1) requirement as described in Sections 1,2,3 or 4 of this Article and has been voted in by a majority of the members.

Section 1. Be a governmental agency, which provides recreational opportunities (i.e. Recreation and Parks Departments).

Section 2. Officials' organizations, which provide services to a member agency or organization.

Section 3. Any regional, state or national sports association that meets all of the following criteria;

- a) The association must be an umbrella organization that serves as a governing body relative to an athletic activity;
- b) The association must have an established board of directors;
- c) The association has organizational by-laws;
- d) The association has a written code of conduct for board members, players, coaches and guardians;

- e) Non-profit organizations must have a 501c 3 certification. For profit organizations must be incorporated.

Section 4. An affiliate member must be any professional or technical non-profit organization sharing the goals and objectives of the Mid-Atlantic Recreation and Parks' Sports Alliance (MARPSA). The MARPSA officers may assess a fee for MARPSA affiliates. Affiliate members will not have voting rights.

Section 5. Support the "Alliance" goals, mission statement and ideals of good sportsmanship.

Section 6. Share information regarding disciplinary actions in keeping with the established methods.

Section 7. (Youth Sports only) – Coaches' certification and background check are encouraged.

Article IV – Officers and Elections

Section 1. The officers of the "Alliance" shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 2. The officers shall be elected at the April meeting by a majority vote of the members organizations present. Upon conclusion of the elections, Officers shall be immediately installed into office. Secret written ballots shall be used if more than one candidate is running for the same office.

Section 3. The term of office shall be two years from the time of installation.

- a) No individual can serve as President for more than two consecutive (two-year) terms.
- b) There are no term limits for the offices of Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- c) The term of office of Past President is concurrent with the term(s) of the succeeding MARPSA

President. Vacancy and Succession In the event of a vacancy, this office shall remain vacant until current MARPSA President succeeds into this position.

Article V – Duties of Officers

- Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the “Alliance”; shall be an ad hoc member of all committees, except the nominating committee; and shall perform all other duties usually pertaining to that office.
- Section 2. The Vice President shall act as an aide to the President, and shall perform all the duties of the President in the absence of that officer until such time as the President can resume normal duties. In the event of a vacancy to the President, the Vice President will assume the office of President. An election shall be held within the next two meetings to fill the vacant office of Vice President.
- Section 3. The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the “Alliance”, shall give the notice of the time and place of all regular and special meetings; shall perform all duties as delegated by the President.
- Section 4. The Treasurer shall fulfill the duties normally associated with this office. The primary duty is to be in charge of budget planning, monitoring and paying invoices. These duties include keeping the records of the “Alliance”, providing a Treasurer’s Report for the quarterly meetings, preparing the annual budget for the “Alliance”, with the discretion of the President and approved by the “Alliance” Officers.
- Section 5. The Past President shall serve as advisor and may assist the President/Officers as requested with duties and matters pertaining to MARPSA, and will be available for assistance and counsel on MARPSA business. She/he shall make their knowledge and skills gained in the MARPSA highest office available to the association.

Section 6. If the Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer positions become vacant, an election shall be held within the next two meetings to fill any vacancies.

Article VI – Meetings

Section 1. Regular meetings of the “Alliance” shall be held in January, April, August and November of each year.

Section 2. Meetings will be run in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order.

Section 3. Special meetings may be called by the President or shall be called by the Secretary upon written application of five member organizations. The Secretary shall mail (or email) a notice to each member of the “Alliance” at least five (5) days before the date set for the Special Meeting stating for the purpose or purposes for which the Special Meeting has been called. At any Special Meeting, only such business as is specified in the call shall be considered.

Article VII – Quorum and Voting

Section 1. Members present at a duly called meeting shall constitute a quorum, providing that written (or electronic) notice shall have been sent to members at least 15 days prior to the date of the meeting.

Section 2. Each member organization shall have one (1) vote on each item presented for consideration. Member must be present to vote. A simple majority will carry the vote.

Section 3. The President shall cast a vote only in the event of a tie.

Article VIII – Sub-Committees

Section 1. The Nominating Committee shall recruit and prepare a slate of officers from among the members of the

“Alliance”, and shall present the slate to the membership at the January meeting. Nominations from the floor would be permitted on the day of the vote in April.

a) The President shall preside over all elections.

Section 2. The GoodSports Committee shall recommend and develop ideas for the recognition of good sports among member organizations.

Section 3. The President shall have the authority to create and appoint any such committee that is deemed appropriate by an affirmative vote of members present at a regular meeting of the “Alliance”.

Article IX – Amendments

Section 1. The bylaws of the “Alliance” may be altered or amended by the affirmative majority vote of 2/3 of members in attendance at a regular meeting, providing there is a 30-day notice to the membership of the proposed changes.

Article X – Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. Roberts Rules of Order, newly revised, shall be the authority on all questions of procedures not otherwise covered by the by-laws.