

**CAPITAL AREA SOCCER REFEREE ASSOCIATION
CONSTITUTION**

Proposed: 12/1/2003

Ratified: 3/1/2004

ARTICLE I: NAME

Section 1. Name: The name of this organization shall be The Capital Area Soccer Referee Association (CASRA), a non-profit organization, hereinafter referred to as the "Association".

Section 2. Office: The headquarters of this Association shall be in Austin, Texas.

ARTICLE II: DURATION

The period of the Association is perpetual unless dissolved by actions as specified by Article XI of this Constitution.

ARTICLE III: AFFILIATIONS

The Association shall be associated and work with the South Texas Soccer Referees Inc. (STSR), the United States Soccer Federation (USSF) and the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA). The Association may affiliate with other sanctioned organizations as the membership deems appropriate.

ARTICLE IV: PURPOSE

The purpose of the Association shall be to foster and advance the "Spirit of the Game", by the development of an active membership of experienced and capable soccer officials, to promote, teach and provide on-going training of soccer officials as promulgated by the International Federation of Football Associations (FIFA) and its representative governing body in the United States, the United States Soccer Federation (USSF); and to promote professionalism and guard the interest of its members.

ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP

The Association shall not discriminate in membership, hiring or provision of services or in any other manner against any person on account of race, color, religion, sex, national origin or age.

The Association shall be comprised of the following membership classes:

1. **Active:** Individuals who are registered with the USSF as soccer officials (referee, instructor, assessor, assignor), who have complied with the Association's membership requirements, who are in good standing and active in their roles as soccer officials.

2. **Youth:** Individuals under the age of 18 who are registered with the USSF or seeking to become registered as soccer officials who have complied with the Association's membership requirements and who are in good standing and active in their roles as soccer officials.
3. **Inactive:** Individuals who were formerly Active members and who were in good standing when they ceased to be Active members because they no longer participate in an active capacity, but are otherwise qualified to do so.
4. **Honorary:** Individuals who were formerly Active members that have retired from their soccer official roles, or who have never been Active members, but whom provide a value to the Association in furthering its purpose and upon whom the Association wishes to confer honorary status.

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS

Section 1: Elected Officers: The elected officers of the Association shall be the President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, herein to be known as the Executive Committee. Thereafter, the Executive committee shall consist of additional members as specified in the By Laws. An unlimited number of advisory members may be appointed by the President and approved by the Executive Committee as provided in the By Laws.

Section 2: Elected Officer Eligibility. Only active members of the Association are eligible to be elected officers.

Section 3: Elected Officer Term. The term of office shall be two years, beginning and ending as specified in the By Laws. Officers may succeed themselves in office. Officers cannot hold the same office for more than two (2) successive terms without at least one (1) intervening term with someone else filling the office.

Section 4: Balloting and Elections. Active members of the Association in good standing shall elect officers of the Executive Committee by simple majority vote using secret ballot at the annual business meeting as specified in the By Laws. If a tie vote occurs, there shall be another secret ballot. If there are more than two candidates with no majority vote, a runoff between the two candidates with the most votes will held by secret ballot. If a tie vote results from the second ballot, the current Executive committee officers shall decide upon the position. Newly elected officers shall assume office at the start of the next fiscal year.

Section 5: Removal. A 66% majority vote of the Executive Committee officers and a 2/3 majority vote of all active members at any duly constituted meeting shall be required to remove any officer. The intent to remove an officer must be sent to each member 14 days prior to the meeting so the officer and members know ahead of time that this is occurring and that it will be covered at the meeting.

Section 6: Resignations. Any Executive Board officer may resign at any time by providing written notice to the Executive Board. Such resignation shall become effective at the time specified in the notice. The acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to be effective.

Section 7: Vacancies. Any vacancy occurring in the Executive Board shall be filled by a simple majority vote of the eligible membership present at the next duly called meeting, who must constitute a minimum of 30% of active membership. Each officer appointed in this manner shall hold office for the current unexpired term, unless vacated by death, resignation or removal.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1: Regular Meetings. The regular meetings of CASRA shall be held once a month with exceptions as specified in the By Laws. There shall be one annual business meeting as specified in the By Laws. Regular meetings are to be held as specified in the By Laws.

Section 2: Special Meetings. A Special meeting may be called by the President or one half (1/2) of the Executive Committee by providing a written (or emailed) request to the CASRA Secretary seven (7) days prior to such a meeting.

Section 3: Place of Meetings. The CASRA President may designate any place within the boundaries of CASRA, as the place for any regular or special meeting. The President should attempt to select a central location which takes into consideration the distance and convenience of the members who can attend.

Section 4: Voting Quorum. The Association shall be governed by the membership. The presence of at least 30% of active membership constitutes a quorum.

Section 5: Rules of Procedure. Unless specifically provided for in the By Laws, all meetings of CASRA shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, current edition.

ARTICLE VIII: DUES

Initiation fees (if any) or annual dues payable by the members of the Association will be determined by the members of CASRA including dates upon which payment is due and penalties for nonpayment or failure to pay in a timely manner.

ARTICLE IX: RATIFICATION

The constitution may be ratified at any duly constituted meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the total active membership..

ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS

Any proposals or motions to amend this Constitution must be made in writing to the Secretary for distribution to CASRA general membership. In addition, at least fifteen (15) days written notice of a meeting to amend this Constitution shall be given to each Executive Committee member. Such notice shall contain the amendments proposed, as well as the date, time and place of the meeting. Amendments to this Constitution may be approved at any duly constituted meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the total active membership.

ARTICLE XI: DISSOLUTION

This Association may be dissolved by action of a 2/3 majority of all active members present at a duly called general membership meeting, if a minimum of 66% of the active membership is present. Such action shall bring about automatic cancellation and dissolution of CASRA. Upon the dissolution of the Association, the Executive Committee shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all liabilities of the Association, dispose of all assets of the Association exclusively for the purposes of the Association in such manner, or to such successor organizations having similar purposes as specified in this Constitution provided however, such successor organization qualifies under Section 501 c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or any corresponding provision of any future Federal Tax code).

ARTICLE XII: MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Section 1: Member Status. All members of the Association (CASRA) are independent contractors in their officiating capacities and are not employees of the Association. All members of the Association recognize this status and understand that the Association and its officers are not employers, and therefore, the members may not collect worker's compensation from the Association for injuries sustained while officiating.

Section 2: Non-Profit and Tax Exempt Status. The Association shall obtain and maintain a not-for-profit status and tax exempt status from the appropriate government agencies.

END OF DOCUMENT