



# USA SANGAM

Registered 501(c) (3) A Non-Profit Organization

EIN # 27-1816018

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## USA Sangam Convention Bylaws

*Note: Every detail of the convention requires the national Board's approval; the final program, with more information, will need to be signed by the National President.*

### **1. Opening Program Guideline**

*All the district TIV and Maathar Sangam representatives, together with TISI representatives, assemble at the main gate, forming a two-line pathway. The chief guests arrive and are escorted to the central dais by the organizing chairman, led by the shehnai, Daphla, and dance party. The National President, TIM's National President, TIV National President, and other dignitaries meet and greet the chief guest at the central dais. The TIV, Maathar Sangam, and TISI members assemble in their district groups at their designated areas in front of the main dais.*

*A. Chief Guest and any honorable guests will be escorted to the main dais by the Organizing Chairperson, where they will be received by the National President of USA Sangam and National Maathar Sangam President with other dignitaries.*

### **2. Welcome**

*The arti and tika ceremony will be performed by the Maathar Sangam reps of the hosting district.*

*3. The chief guest is then guided to his seat by the Organizing chairman. The MC (Master of Ceremonies) then calls everyone to order and calls upon the priests to perform the pooja ceremony. (Note: The South Indian priest performs this pooja ceremony and can be accompanied by the Sanatan priests.) After this pooja, the diya lighting ceremony ("Kuthuvilakku") is performed by the chief guest, the National*

President, and the National Maathar Sangam President, assisted by the host Maathar Sangam.

#### **4. Interfaith Prayers**

The MC then calls upon the Christian priest to say his prayers, followed by the Maulana/imam to say the Muslim prayer.

#### **5. National Anthem and Flag Raising Ceremony**

The group organized by the host district will perform the U.S. national anthem, followed by Fiji's national anthem.

The flag-raising ceremony is then performed by the National President, who invites the chief guest and others to join him.

- The chief guest will honor and hoist the TISI Sangam flag.
- The National president will honor and hoist the United States flag.
- The hosting district president will honor and hoist the Republic of Fiji flag.
- After the flag-raising ceremony, the Raghupati Raghav bhajan is sung by all present, led by a designated person.

6. The MC then introduces the Organizing Chairman or Host District President, who delivers his welcome speech. After his speech, the Organizing Chairman introduces the National President and invites him to speak.

7. The National President, after giving his speech, introduces the chief guest and asks him to deliver his speech and honor us by officially opening our convention ceremonies.

*Official opening by the Chief Guest*

8. Welcome dance performance by the host district

9. The MC calls the **National Secretary** to introduce the program for the day, followed by a Vote of thanks.

10. The MC then calls for tea and refreshments (distribution of prasadam)

**Soccer tournament: Kickoff- the start of the first match**

**Sunday- soccer resumes, followed by TIMS Netball & Volleyball**

### **Cultural Night**

1. *MC – Call to Order*
2. *Prayer*
3. *Diya lighting ceremony by the Chief Guest*
4. *Opening /Welcome Cultural dance (Bharatnatyam)*
5. *Address by National President TIMS and introduce/invite the Chief Guest*
6. *Keynote Address by Chief Guest*
7. *District Cultural Programs (2 items per district, mandatory or \$300 penalty), along with dances and musical performances by participating districts.*
8. *Announcement of Scholarship Award - by the Education Board Chairman*
9. *Vote of Thanks by – TIMS Secretary*

### ***The host district is responsible for providing the following:***

1. *AGM venues for both TISI and TIMS (National to pay \$500 for the AGM)*
2. *Breakfast/refreshments at the AGM*
3. *Vegetarian meals for Saturday at the grounds and Cultural Night*
4. *Non-veg and veg for Sunday at the grounds and Presentation Night*
5. *An effective sound system at the AGM, grounds, and cultural night.*
6. *Venue for all sporting activities*
  - a. *Reasonable sound system/day-long music system*
  - b. *Soccer field with a small stadium (field condition must be approved) by the sports committee.*
  - c. *Netball pitches-1 or 2*
  - d. *Volleyball pitches -2 (for TIV & TIMS)*
  - e. *Golf -venue to be organized*
  - f. *Area designated for children's activities.*

- g. Arrange Certified referees for Soccer, Netball, and Volleyball*
  - h. Enough Tents for the opening ceremony*
  - i. At least one tent for participating in districts*
  - j. At least 100 chairs must be set up for the opening ceremony*
- 7. USA Sangam reserves the right to sell food, snacks, and beverages on the field.*
  - 8. All equipment is required for the games of soccer, netball, and volleyball.*
  - 9. Two Portable toilets within 100 feet of the central dais if there are no permanent toilets within 200 feet of the central dais.*
  - 10. Two security guards on the field and at the party venue. (Reimbursed by the national Board)*
  - 11. Presentation and Cultural night venue (minimum capacity of 400)*

**12. Presentation Night Complimentary Tickets –**

- o Each participating district will receive 20 tickets (TISI/TIV)*
  - o TIMS -10 tickets to districts that participate in both cultural and sports*
  - o National Board – The National President and Executive Board Members will each receive one ticket, including the National President's TIV and TIMS.*
  - o National Trustees one each (3)*
  - o Chief Guest/Spouse (2)*
  - o Special Invited Guest/Spouse (if applicable)*
- 13. The host district may print the magazine, with specific approval from the Board.*
  - 14. Sunday timelines for all sports activities will be addressed in the sports bylaws.*
  - 15. Program advertisements should be posted in at least five local grocery stores, on the Main Dais bulletin Board, grounds, Sangam website, Sangam newsletter, other news outlets, and social media channels.*
  - 16. A bulletin Board with program details must be posted at the events*
  - 17. Required Trophies should be provided by the hosting districts for all the sporting events.*
  - 18. Fixtures and Results of all sporting activities with their running points – posted at a convenient location in the grounds during the two days*

Dated 15th day of November 2025

Signed and approved on behalf of the TISI/TIMS/TIV Board MEMBERS

(National President- TISI) Bob Paul

(National Secretary TISI) P. K. Land

(National President TIMS) \_\_\_\_\_

(National President TIV) W. A. ...

(National Executive VP) \_\_\_\_\_

(National Treasurer) R. ...

(National Asst Treasurer) \_\_\_\_\_

(National Asst Secretary) R. ...

Seattle R. ...

Sacramento P. K. Land

Stockton W. ...

Golden Gate J. ...

Hayward \_\_\_\_\_