

BY-LAWS AND CONSTITUTION OF THE EAST COAST BASKETBALL OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION

These By Laws and Constitution shall replace the former By-Laws and
Constitution of ECBOA (*Amended September 2025*)

1.000 NAME

I. 100 This Association shall be known as the East Coast Basketball Officials Association ("ECBOA" or the "Association"). It shall be a high school basketball officials association sanctioned by the Florida High School Activities Association (FHSAA) and incorporated in the State of Florida.

2.000 AIM

2.100 The aim of this organization is to promote, advance, and officiate the game of basketball among the high schools of Palm Beach County, Florida by:

- a) the development and maintenance of a membership consisting of both new and experienced basketball officials of utmost integrity who are actively engaged, physically fit, versed on the rules, and demonstrate competency in officiating high school basketball contests.
- b) fostering high standards of ethics and encouraging fair play, sportsmanship, closer cooperation and better understanding among officials, athletic directors, coaches, players, and fans.
- c) meeting together to conduct the business of this Association including but not limited to training for both new and existing officials in accordance with FHSAA and ECBOA approved training guidelines.
- d) providing contest officials that will adhere to these By Laws and the established mission of this Association.

3. 000AUTHORITY

3.100 Unless stated otherwise, all actions of the ECBOA are subject to approval by the Board of Directors of the ECBOA (commonly referred to herein as the "Board of Directors", or the "Board").

3.200 The Board of Directors of the ECBOA shall exercise legislative and policy-making authority for this Association, provided these actions are not in conflict with the rules, policies, guidelines, and/or procedure of the FHSAA.

4.000 MEMBERSHIP

4.100 Membership in this Association shall be open, upon application, to all basketball officials regardless of race, color, gender, sexual orientation, creed, or religious affiliation. Members must attend general meetings of the Association and abide by its By-Laws to remain in good standing and receive the benefits of the Association including but not limited to game assignments.

No member of this Association shall pursue a course of action which is detrimental to the welfare of this Association or to the schools it serves. Any member who has been found to be in violation of this clause, or of the By-Laws, or of any policy and/or procedure of this Association, as reasonably determined by the President or the Board of Directors (following a grievance proceeding, if requested) shall be a member not in good standing in this Association, Such violations may result in further administrative and/or disciplinary action.

4.200 Members of this Association may also be members of other high school, college and professional basketball officials' associations recognized and approved by the FHSAA; however, an official who designates the ECBOA as his/her "Primary" basketball association must offer prime availability dates to the ECBOA, to the exclusion of other high school basketball officiating associations. Prime days for basketball assignment purposes are Mondays Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. A member with Primary designation shall have all rights and privileges conveyed by the ECBOA as contained in this document, and are bound by all ECBOA rules, policies, procedures, and guidelines.

A member with "Secondary" designation shall have all the same rights and privileges conveyed by the ECBOA to "Primary" members with the following exceptions:

A "Secondary" member:

- I. is excluded from holding any office in the ECBOA.
- II. is excluded from holding the position of Assignor.
- III. is excluded from being on any ECBOA committee.
- IV member's education, training and distributive FHSAA material(s) is the responsibility of the secondary member's primary association designation.
- V. is prohibited from post season FHSAA State Series assignments with the ECBOA
- VI. cannot propose changes to this document or any policy, procedure, or guideline.

A "Secondary" member is bound by all ECBOA rules, policies, procedures, and guidelines set forth in this document and other such documents as so approved by ECBOA with the exceptions listed above.

4.300 Officials who register with the ECBOA do so as Independent Contractors and not as employees of the ECBOA, FHSAA or Palm Beach County Schools (public, private, charter or otherwise as established and recognized). ECBOA Officials are "Person(s) who performs services as a sports official(s)" as defined by Florida Statute 5 440.02(15)(d)(11), as may be modified from time to time:

"A person who performs services as a sports official for an entity sponsoring interscholastic events for a public entity or private, non-profit organization that sponsors an amateur sports event. For purposes of this paragraph, such a person is an independent contractor(s). For the purposes of the subparagraph, the term "sports official" means any person who is a neutral participant in a sports event; including but not limited to basketball umpires and referees. This sub-paragraph does not apply to any person employed by a School District Board who serves as a part of his or her responsibilities during normal school hours."

To extent of legislative definition changes, such change will automatically be incorporated by reference in these bylaws without need for any vote by the Board of Directors.

4.400 Approval of Membership shall be granted:

- a) upon certification of registration with the FHSAA, and the ECBOA, and,
- b) when all fees, fines and dues established and/or approved by the FHSAA and the ECBOA have been paid in full. This includes but is not limited to any fines which are outstanding from previous years.
- c) unless there is a majority vote by the Board of Directors not to accept membership into the Association if so, allowed by the FHSAA.

4.500 Applications for membership must be filed annually using the form(s) and/or method(s) provided or established by the FHSAA and the ECBOA. All memberships expire if an official fails to fully complete the registration process by the prescribed deadlines established annually by both

the FHSAA and ECBOA. By way of example only, if the registration deadline for both the FHSAA and ECBOA is November 30th, any existing Member's membership shall expire on November 30th if they have not satisfied the requirements and conditions of membership as required herein.

4.600 An official is a member in good standing if such official has i) complied with 4.400 (a-b), and ii) is not serving a disciplinary sanction which affects assignments or their standing in the Association, and iii) has not had his/her membership declined by a majority of the Board of Directors as outlined in **4.400(c)** below and iv) has otherwise met all other membership conditions and requirements as called for by the FHSAA guidelines.

4.700 Any official not in good standing will not be eligible to receive game assignments or participate in any Association business until such official is in good standing as determined by the Board of Directors. .

4.800 Physically Fit and Competency: Members are expected to be physically fit to officiate high school basketball contests. The President, after consultation with the Board of Directors, shall have the full authority to prohibit any member from officiating a contest if he/she is determined to be i) physically unfit, ii) unable to keep up with the pace of the game, iii) is determined to be injured such that the member is not able to effectively officiate the contest, or iv) fails to exhibit basic competency to officiate a high school contest. Further, the President, after consultation with and consent from the Board of Directors by majority vote, shall have the authority to require a member provide a note from a medical professional certifying that the member is physically fit to officiate a high school contest.

5.000 FEES AND DUES

5.100 The amount of fees and dues to the ECBOA shall be determined annually by the Board of Directors of the ECBOA.

5.200 On an annual basis the Board of Directors shall determine the method and process by which officials register to become members with the ECBOA (i.e. through Arbiter or some other approved registration site).

5.300 Within the prescribed timeframe membership dues must accompany the ECBOA-approved registration form for membership to be validated.

5.400 If an official remains in good standing and is available for assignments but fails to receive assignments for a contest from the Booking Commissioner or his/her designee, the dues of that official shall be refunded if a request, in writing, is presented to the President not later than thirty (30) days prior to the end of the regular season.

6.000 UNIFORM

The uniform regulations shall comply with the prescribed FHSAA uniform guidelines, with the following additional specifications:

6.100 All ECBOA members shall adhere to the following uniform standards while officiating FHSAA sanctioned contests. The uniform shall be clean, well-kept and worn properly at all times.

- a) Shirt: At all times the shirt must be tucked inside the trousers. If an undershirt is worn no portion of the undershirt may be visible.
- b) Trousers: No belt loops. Pleated pants preferred
- c) Shoes: Predominately solid black, court or designated referee shoes with black laces.
- d) Jacket: Association insignia as may be established from time to time, by the FHSAA or the ECBOA The jacket shall be worn prior to the game until the contest is to begin.

- e) Whistle: Black Fox 40 preferably with black lanyard.

6.110 Exception: ECBOA members who are officiating an FHSAA sanctioned contest in a mixed crew with members of another official's association may make such modifications to the local uniform as necessary to ensure that the mixed crew wears a common uniform. However, no modifications may be made which violate FHSAA guidelines.

6.200 Any changes to the official uniform, other than those mandated by the FHSAA, may not be implemented until July 1st.

6.3000 No visible jewelry (other than a wedding ring) shall be worn during a contest. This includes but is not limited to chains, necklaces, ropes, watches, bracelets, earrings, jewelry worn on the wrist or ankle, or any other such jewelry which would be visible. Further, monitoring/Fitbit-type devices shall not be permitted. Any chain, bracelet, or monitoring item which has medical-alert information may be worn.

7.000 BOARD OF DIRECTORS (commonly referred to as the "Board")

7.100 The affairs of this Association shall be managed by a Board of Directors which shall consist of nine (9) member officials as follows: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and five (5) At Large Board Members. The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall comprise the Executive Board. If permitted by the Board, the Assignor may serve as an ex-officio non-voting participant on the Board.

7.200 All members of the Board present in person (or on the phone if not physical present) at a Board meeting shall have the opportunity to cast one vote on all matters coming before the Board with the following exceptions:

- a) Any Board member who is the subject of potential disciplinary action or who has appealed a grievance to the Board or who stands to benefit financially (directly or indirectly) from the actions of the Board or who otherwise has a conflict of interest in any matter before the Board. Shall recuse him/herself from voting and may not be involved in Board discussions on the matter unless so asked by the Board in the capacity of an aggrieved or interested party.
- b) A Board member shall recuse him/herself from all discussions on any matter which comes before a committee on which the member serves in an ex-officio capacity when such member has a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest.

The President shall have final authority to in determining if there is a conflict of interest or reason why a Board member shall not participate in any discussions or matters of interest involving such Board member.

- c) The President shall cast the final and deciding vote on any matter in which there is a tie vote by the Board of Directors.

7.300 OFFICERS AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES

7.310 The officers of this Association shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. Together they shall comprise the Executive Board.

7.320 The President shall:

- a) Provide leadership and vision to the Association and direct the activities of the Board and the Association.

- b) Chair the meetings of the Board and Executive Board and all regular and extraordinary general meetings of the Association, including in-person meetings and telephonic conference calls.
- c) Nominate for Board approval the Board Liaisons and serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.
- d) Create ad-hoc committees as the need arises and appoint its chairpersons and members.
- e) Investigate matters of improper conduct, inappropriate behavior, misapplication of rules, and/or poor officiating of a member if brought in writing by a school, coach, or player. After adequate investigation the President shall be permitted to take action against an official including i) written warning or reprimand, ii) levy a fine in accordance with these By-Laws, iii) temporary or permanent suspension from officiating future basketball contests, or iv) any such other action as reasonably determined by the President. While not a requirement, it is strongly recommended that the President consult with the Board of Directors before taking any such action against an official.
- f) Ensure the execution of the rules and regulations of the Association.
- g) Rule and enforce all grievance recommendations from the Grievance Committee.
- h) Be a signor on all accounts of the Association.
- i) Enforce any action necessary for the good of the Association which is not covered or by these by-laws.
- j) Rule on matters not specifically covered in these By-Laws.

7.330 The Vice-President shall:

- a) Assist the President in all matters pertaining to the Association.
- b) In the absence of the President assume the duties of President.
- c) Succeed the President and serve the remainder of the unexpired term should the President resign or be unable to continue in office.
- d) Due to the absence or unavailability of the President sign all checks drawn on the Association account.
- e) Such other duties as designated by the Board of Directors

7.340 The Secretary shall:

- a) Keep accurate minutes of all Board meetings and general meetings of the Association. After approval by the Board of Directors, said meeting minutes shall be posted on the Association's website for all to see.
- b) Supervise the taking of attendance at general meetings.
- c) Provide an accurate record of all suspensions, fines, and general disciplinary matters.
- d) Retain the records of the Association in an electronic centralized repository such that the records can be easily accessed by those officers and directors who are so authorized.
- e) Due to the absence or unavailability of the President, and due to the absence or unavailability of the Vice-President sign all checks drawn on the Association account.
- f) File the annual report and renew the corporation with the State of Florida by such deadline as established by the State of Florida such that a late fee or fine shall not be incurred. (f) Such other duties as designated by the Board of Directors

7.350 The Treasurer shall:

- a) Be responsible for the financial affairs of the Association, including but not limited to establishing an annual budget which shall be approved by the Board of Directors prior to September 1 of each year.
- b) Establish and maintain the Association's checking account. .

- c) Collect all dues and fines.
- d) Maintain accurate and up-to-date financial records and provide a financial report at Board meetings and general meetings.
- e) Inform the President of officials who are delinquent in paying fines.
- f) Send completed registration materials and corresponding fees to the ECBOA.
- g) Sign all checks drawn on the Association account.
- h) Maintain the records of the Association in conjunction with and in coordination with the Secretary.
- i) Be responsible for all other financial matters as directed by the Board of Directors.
- j) such other duties as designated by the Board of Directors

7.400 Members of the Board shall attend all regularly scheduled Board meetings and general meetings of the Association except when excused by the President or excused by a ECBOA game assignment. Failure to attend three (3) consecutive Board meetings shall be cause for dismissal. A Board member being unable to attend a regularly scheduled Board meeting must notify the President in writing 24 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting.

7.410 Any cause for dismissal of a Board member shall be brought to the Board for consideration by the President (or Vice-President if the President is the party in question) at a regularly scheduled Board meeting. The item shall be placed on the agenda only after the Board member in question has been notified, in writing, of the pending action against the member in question. The Board member shall have the opportunity to attend the meeting and defend the cause for dismissal agenda item. The Board member may be removed from the Board by a minimum of six (6) votes of the Board members in attendance.

8.000 TERMS OF OFFICE, ELECTIONS AND SUCCESSION TO OFFICE

8.100 Anyone wishing to be elected to the Board shall have completed at least three consecutive years of membership in the ECBOA as a Primary Member before being eligible for the election to those positions, shall be a Member in good standing, and shall have registered as a Primary Member in the basketball season that he/she is seeking election for office.

8.200 TERMS OF OFFICE

8.210 The terms of all officers and Board members shall be two (2) years, which terms shall be staggered such that the President and Secretary are elected during odd numbered years, and the Vice President and Treasurer are elected during even numbered years. At Large Board members shall also be staggered such that two are elected during odd numbered years, and three are elected during even numbered years.

8.220 Any Board member who has not completed a particular term of office and accepts nomination to another Board position shall be permitted to run for the nominated position. In the event of a vacancy being created in this manner, such vacancy shall be filled by election by the Board, with the newly elected member serving the remainder of the unexpired term of that Board position. In the event the Board member is not elected to the nominated position, he/she shall be permitted to serve out his/her term of the position held.

8.230 In the event of a vacancy of an at-large Board position, said vacancy shall be filled by majority vote of the membership by special election, unless there remains fewer than 75 days until the next general election, in which case the vacant position shall be filled by majority vote of the membership in the next general election.

8.240 If more than two persons seek the same office and none of them receives a majority of the votes cast on the first ballot, there shall be a run-off between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes. In the event of a tie vote the President shall cast the deciding vote.

8.250 Elections shall be held in accordance with the ECBOA's election policy which shall be approved by the Board and may be amended by the Board from time to time. An Elections Supervisor shall be nominated and elected by the board. The Election Supervisor shall organize the nomination (s) and election processes. Elections shall take place annually in accordance with voting methods and procedures approved by the Board of Directors.

9.000 BOOKING COMMISSIONER ("Commissioner" or "Assignor")

9.100 A Booking Commissioner shall be appointed by the Board of Directors for a two (2) year term beginning in odd numbered years (i.e. 2019, 2021, etc.) and shall perform various duties and assignments as outlined in policies, procedures, and/or guidelines as established and approved by the Board of Directors.

9.200 If possible, the Booking Commissioner should be selected or have his/her contract renewed (as applicable) prior to July 1st.

9.300 If an active basketball official, the Booking Commissioner shall be regularly assigned to contests in accordance with their ECBOA ranking.

9.400 The Booking Commissioner may not serve as a member of the Board of the ECBOA but shall serve as i) an ex-officio non-voting member of any committee as prescribed by the Board or FHSAA; and ii) a voting member of the Recommendation committee and/or any other committees as so prescribed by the Board or the FHSAA.

9.400 The Booking Commissioner shall:

- a) Assign officials for all high school basketball contests of schools for which ECBOA assign games, and in conjunction with the Palm Beach County Executive Secretary (as applicable), make all necessary changes in assignments.
 - b) Attend regularly scheduled Board meeting and general meetings of the ECBOA.
 - c) Advise the President to investigate matters of official misconduct or complaints from a school, coach, or official regarding the conduct or competence of a member and assist the President in the investigation if so requested.
 - d) Maintain a service record of each official. Such records may include all pertinent information which may affect the status of each official for the purposes of assignment, promotion, or dismissal. The records of each official shall be for the use of the President and Board and its committees, only. The contents may be revealed verbally or, in writing, only if an official wishes, for any reason, to be informed of his/her own ratings or in cases of possible dismissal when the official's service record may be revealed as substantiating or exculpatory evidence.
 - e) At season's end, when the service records are no longer of immediate use, the records shall be released to the Board.
 - f) carry out such other duties and responsibilities as so directed by the Board of Directors.
- The fee and payment dates of the Assignor shall be determined annually by the Board of Directors. The Assignor may be removed from the position for failure to perform the various duties and assignments as outlined herein or in the policies, procedures, and/or guidelines as established and approved by the Board of Directors. Removal shall require a minimum of six (6) Board members to vote in favor of removing the Assignor.

10.000 BOARD MEETINGS

10.100 The President shall determine the dates, times, places, and agendas of all Board and General meetings to be conducted.

- a) The agendas should be established at least one (1) day prior to the meeting date.
- b) The President shall attend and preside over all meetings except for emergencies related to his/her immediate family or in the event of employment-related issues.

10.200 GENERAL MEETINGS

10.210 General meetings of the ECBOA shall be used to conduct general business of the Association in accordance with the agenda.

10.220 The first general meeting of the ECBOA shall be held on a date in September as determined by the Board; with subsequent meetings held in accordance with the approved calendar as set by the Board.

10.230 Members in good standing of this Association shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at general meetings.

10.240 Tardiness: Any official who arrives to a general meeting more than fifteen (15) minutes after its scheduled start time is considered tardy and shall not be given credit for the meeting, unless the tardiness is due to an ECBOA game assignment.

10.250 Absence: Any official who does not attend a General Meeting, or arrives more than fifteen (15) minutes after its scheduled start, shall be considered absent.

10.260 Attendance: Members shall be required to attend minimum meeting requirements as determined by the board on an annual basis, to receive an ECBOA schedule and be eligible for consideration for the State Series Recommendation list.

10.270 Mandatory Meetings: Members shall be required to attend mandatory meetings, as may be designated by the Board from time to time; however, no more than two (2) meetings shall be designated as mandatory in any given season. Failure of a member to attend a mandatory meeting shall be penalized and/or fined in such a manner as determined by the Board.

10.300 BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETINGS

10.310 The President shall determine the dates, times, places, and agendas of all Board meetings.

10.320 The physical presence (or by phone if not physically present) of five (5) members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at Board meetings.

10.320 To the extent a meeting of the Board of Directors has not been previously scheduled, the President shall give to each Board Member not less than five (5) calendar days written notice of meetings of the Board of Directors by mail, facsimile, email, or other means of electronic transmission.

10.330 The President and in his or her absence or disability the Vice President, shall preside at every meeting of the Board of Directors. If neither the President nor the Vice President are present and willing to serve as chair of the meeting, the Board of Directors shall appoint from among the directors present a chairperson to preside at such meeting. The Secretary (or his or her designee) shall keep regular minutes of its actions.

10.400 RULES OF ORDER

10.410 Robert's Rules of Order shall prevail at all meetings of this Association.

11.000 COMMITTEES

11.100 All FHSAA required committees shall have a member of the Board serve on each standing committee as a Board Liaison in a non-voting, ex-officio capacity. Said Board Liaisons shall be nominated by the President and approved by the Board.

11.200 Each of these FHSAA required committees shall be composed of three (3) or five (5) voting members selected by the Board Liaison unless otherwise as may be prescribed in the policy, procedure or guidelines of a specific committee. A member may serve on one (1) committee only.

11.300 Each FHSAA required committee shall be governed by the ECBOA established policies, procedures, and/or guidelines for that specific committee, as may be amended or modified by the Board of Directors from time to time. Any change to said policies, procedures and/or guidelines for a specific committee shall be approved by a simple majority of Board.

11.301 The President may from time to time form special committees for the purpose(s) as determined by the President, which said committee members shall serve at the pleasure of the President.

12.000 AMMENDMENTS

12.100 The By-Laws of this Association may be amended at a general meeting. A quorum of, at least, fifty one percent (51 %) of the membership in good standing must be present.

12.200 Proposed changes must be presented to the membership at the general meeting immediately preceding the meeting at which a vote is to be taken.

12.300 Proposed changes become adopted by a two-thirds vote of those members in good standing present and voting, subject to the prior approval of the Board of Directors. In lieu of an in-person vote, the Board may elect to hold an electronic vote, which would become adopted by a two-thirds majority of those that cast a ballot.

13. RANKNG OF OFFICIALS

13.100 Officials are ranked as determined by an ECBOA ranking system approved by the Board, and games are assigned the Booking Commissioner utilizing an approved assigning program that uses established rankings approved by the ECBOA Evaluation Committee.

13.200 The master ranking list shall be published and made available on the ECBOA website.

13.300 Any official who wishes not to have their ranking shown on the list shall send a written notice to the Evaluation Committee chairperson requesting their name be removed from the published list.

13.40 The procedure for the ranking of officials shall be shown in the Evaluation policies, procedures, and/or guidelines, which may be amended from time to time by the Board of Directors.

14.000 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

14.100 The ECBOA Board may, by majority vote, may accept an active official's request for a leave of absence. In the event the request is granted, the Board shall, by majority vote, state the length of such leave. However, FHSAA rules regarding leaves of absence shall be enforced.

15.000 INTERRUPTION OF REGISTRATION (RETURNEES)

15.100 Officials who are in good standing at the time they interrupt their registration with the

ECBOA shall be reinstated under the following conditions:

- a) One (1) year's absence: return to former classification.
- b) Two (2) or more year's absence: evaluation by the Evaluation Committee.

16.000 NEW OFFICIALS AND TRANSFEREES

16.100 Officials who are new to ECBOA (including Transferees from another association) shall be placed on a probationary status for one year until granted active status by the Board.

16.200 A non-ECBOA varsity official transferring into this Association shall, upon investigation and certification of previous officiating experience, be classified as a 130 ranked official until such time that said official is formally evaluated by the ECBOA.

16.300 A non-ECBOA official who has not achieved varsity status transferring into this Association shall not receive game assignments until said official is formally evaluated by the ECBOA.

16.400 The Board of Directors shall have authority to change, modify and/or amend policies, procedures, and/or guidelines governing transfer referees.

17. 000 EVALUATION OF OFFICIALS

17.100 It shall be the goal of this Association that every official who has been a member for at least three years be evaluated every three (3) years utilizing ECBOA established policies, procedures, and/or guidelines for evaluations.

17.200 Official ECBOA evaluations shall be conducted during FHSA sanctioned games, ECBOA Approved events and/or camps; and shall be conducted in accordance with established policies, procedures and/or guidelines.

17.400 An official who, after receiving his/her written evaluation, believes that the evaluation was not conducted fairly may respond, in writing, to the President, within five (5) days of receiving the evaluation. If the President was the evaluator, the written response shall be addressed to the Vice President. A copy of the evaluation shall be attached to the written response. In certain circumstances a follow-up evaluation by a different evaluator may be conducted but shall not be required.

18.000 GAME ASSIGNMENTS

18.100 Game assignments will be made in accordance with policies, procedures, and/or guidelines governing the Assignment process. Games shall be accepted or declined within a prescribed time period as may be approved by the Board from time to time. Blocking of dates in which a member does not wish to officiate shall be the sole responsibility of each member.

18.300 An official may return a game after the deadline, without penalty, due to the following emergency situations: death in the family, sickness, automobile trouble, automobile accident, or any other such emergency deemed acceptable by the President. Documentation should be available upon request. If for emergency reasons, notification cannot be given prior to the contest, a valid reason for non-appearance must be given in writing to the President no later than 12:00 PM of the day following the date on which the non-appearance occurred.

18.400 It shall be the responsibility of the official whose partner does not show for an assigned game (the game referee in a 3-man crew) to report said absence to the Basketball Commissioner or his/her designee by 12:00 noon of the following day. Failure to notify of the absence of a crew member shall result in a \$25.00 fine.

18.500 Game-Start Regulations and Substitutions: shall be set forth in the Assignment policies, procedures and/or guidelines.

18.600 Game Assignment Guidelines: shall be set forth in the Assignment policies, procedures and/or guidelines.

18.700 Any member with a complaint about game assignments may take his/her complaint to the President, provided it is done in writing. A copy of which shall also be sent to the Secretary and Booking Commissioner. Game assignment complaints shall be considered confidential and discussed between the Booking Commissioner and the President. The President's decision regarding a written complaint shall be final.

18.800 Game assignments are solely at the discretion of ECBOA and its Booking Commissioner, and ECBOA is under no obligation to assign a minimum number of games to its members unless as may otherwise be required to do so by the FHSAA.

19.000 CODE OF CONDUCT

19.100 As outlined in the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) and the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) as outlined in the Officials Handbook shall be considered the Code of Conduct for the ECBOA. Each member shall abide by the principles of the Code of Conduct. The President shall ensure the adherence to the Code of Conduct and take appropriate disciplinary action to members who violate the Code of Conduct including the withholding of game assignments, placement on probation, or such other action as deemed appropriate. If an official commits an act which any Board member considers to be an egregious violation of the Code of Conduct such that expulsion from the Association is recommended, the President shall bring this before the Board, and the Board shall conduct an investigation and vote on whether or not such act warrants expulsion from the Association.

Any official who has been disciplined, placed on probation, expelled, or suspended by the ECBOA may appeal that decision to the Grievance Committee.

20.000 SCRATCHES

20.100 Basketball head coaches shall be permitted to scratch a maximum of five (5) official from the roster each season. Scratched officials shall not be assigned to that school's games (home or away games) in that season, including regular season and post-season contests. Scratches shall be terminated on March 31st of each season.

20.200 The President and Booking Commissioner must collectively approve any scratch request by an official.

20.300 Automatic Scratches: It is the responsibility of the official to notify the Booking Commissioner regarding those schools whose games the official should not officiate due to the reasons stated in this section. Officials shall not be assigned to a school's games if:

- a) are employed by that school and/or in the case of private schools, that school's sponsoring institution.
- b) have members of their immediate family attending that school.
- c) have a relative (parent, child, spouse, grandparent, uncle, aunt, niece, nephew, first cousin) working at the school.
- d) assist with coaching teams which provide athletes for that school. (f) are close social friends with coaches of that school.

21.000 FINES AND SUSPENSIONS

21.100 To the extent the President takes disciplinary action to suspend a member, the President shall notify the Board within 48 hours of taking the disciplinary action and call a Board meeting within 72 hours of taking disciplinary action. At the duly called Board meeting, by a majority vote, the Board may take action to affirm, amend, revise, or overturn said disciplinary action taken by the President. Violations may include but are not limited to:

- a) conduct on or off the court which is unsportsmanlike or not conducive to the best interests of the ECBOA.
- b) failure to comply with FHSAA and/or ECBOA regulations and By-Laws as they pertain to officials.
- c) officiating a "practice game" or an "exhibition game" in which a member school is involved.
- d) pursuing a course of action which is detrimental to the welfare of the ECBOA and/or its members.
- e) exhibiting behavior that is detrimental to the ECBOA and/or game of basketball.
- f) appearing at a game site under the influence of any mood modifier or with an odor of alcohol or tobacco on their breath.
- g) violation of the FHSAA or NFHS Code of Conduct or such other conduct deemed unacceptable as may be reasonably determined by the President.

21.200 Fines and/or Penalties: Fines and/or penalties shall be imposed by the Association as determined by a majority vote of the Board. Said fines and/or penalties shall be consistently applied. The President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer shall be responsible for notifying any member that he/she has received a fine and/or penalty and the reason for the fine and/or penalty.

21.210 Officials who are penalized with a "season suspension" are ineligible to officiate games for the remainder of the season.

21.220 An official is considered late to assigned contest if the official is not present, in uniform, on the court in accordance with FHSAA policies, procedures, and/or guidelines, which is 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start of a contest. It is strongly recommended that an official arrive at a contest game site at least thirty (30) minutes before the scheduled game time (45 minutes preferred for varsity contests). If a situation arises where a contest official is not at a contest site at the prescribed time the contest official must notify the other contest official(s) and must notify the appropriate person(s) appointed by the Board to be notified, generally the Booking Commissioner or his/her designee. In a situation where a contest official is present at the game site, however that official's partner or partners are not present at least fifteen (15) minutes before game time, then the official(s) onsite must notify the appropriate person(s).

21.330 Gross Misconduct:

1st Offense: Season suspension

2nd Offense: Lifetime suspension

21.400 Members may appeal any penalty imposed by the ECBOA to the Grievance Committee in accordance with ECBOA approved policies, procedures, and/or guidelines of the Grievance Committee.

22.000 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

22.100 In the event that an official has a grievance, that official shall, submit said grievance in accordance with the ECBOA Grievance policies, procedures and/or guidelines.

22.200 The ECBOA Grievance policies, procedures and/or guidelines may be amended from time to time by majority vote of the Board of Directors.

These By Laws were amended during the 2025 off season and approved by Membership vote in the Fall of 2025 with a greater than 67% approval.