

**DWARF-GIRAFFE ATHLETIC LEAGUE OF WHITESTONE, INC.
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

As amended 1/20/77, 8/4/77, 9/3/81, 1/1/82, 3/25/04, 10/17/13, 5/26/16

ARTICLE I - NAME

This organization shall be known as the Dwarf-Giraffe Athletic League of Whitestone, Inc. (hereinafter DGAL).

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVE

- A. The objective of DGAL is to assist the youth of our community.
- B. The Mission of DGAL is to offer challenging and exciting programs that provide each person the opportunity to become a better rounded individual. Our belief is that good sportsmanship is an ongoing process that can be taught, learned and practiced through organized sports and social functions.
- C. This mission cannot be achieved without the involvement of all participants, children, coaches, referees, parents and community leaders. We encourage this collaboration to support the growth of all our participating children and young adults, both athletically and socially.

ARTICLE III - GOVERNMENT

- A. The league's corporate powers shall be exercised by a voting Board of Directors (hereinafter "the Board") consisting of the following:
 - 1. The Elected Officers:
 - a. President, Vice President, Second Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer
 - b. The Elected Officers shall be the Executive Committee
 - 2. Appointed Members:
 - a. The Political Action & Grant Coordinator shall be designated as an Executive Committee member
 - b. The Sports Commissioners, Purchasing Coordinator, Storeroom Coordinator, Commitment Coordinator & Computer Coordinator.
 - 3. Active Past Presidents.

- B. The Directors acting as a Board shall manage and conduct the business and affairs of DGAL and may exercise all its powers that are not prohibited or required by law or these By-laws to be otherwise exercised.
- C. The President will appoint, with the approval of the Board, all appointed members of the Board. The President shall make all other appointments deemed necessary by the Board to fulfill the needs, duties and obligations of DGAL. The above referenced appointed members shall serve at the discretion of the Board and may be removed by a two thirds vote of a majority of the Board.
- D. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of Business. A vote of the majority of those in attendance shall be necessary for the transaction of business. All matters acted on or discussed at any meeting shall be reported to the Board at the next meeting.
- E. All matters concerning the policies of DGAL, as approved by the Board shall be submitted to the voting members for approval.
- F. All reports, findings etc. of the committees shall be reported to the voting membership. A majority negative vote of their findings, reports, etc. by the voting membership shall automatically necessitate an immediate announcement of the date of the next meeting of that committee so that any voting member desiring to attend such meeting shall be permitted to do so. It is the intention of this organization that actual rule be embodied in the voting membership and not in any elected or chosen few.
- G. The committees shall include but shall not be limited to: Finance, Constitution, Business, Publicity, Entertainment, Steering, Fields, Building, Storeroom, Rules, Nominating, Fund Raising and any Sport in place at any relevant time. Such committees shall serve for one year or until their successors are appointed. Any member of the league has the right to observe the functions of any committee.

ARTICLE IV - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

- A. Nominations of officers shall begin at the first meeting in November, but not later than November 15th, and shall remain open until the election of the President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer. There shall be a two week interval between the first nomination and the election. The term of office for all elected officers shall be one (1) year, beginning January 1 and ending December 31 or until their successors are elected.
- B. Any active member may be considered for elective office.
- C. An eligible voting member, for election of officers only, is an elected or appointed

board member who has attended a minimum of fifty per cent (50%) of the board meetings in a calendar year.

- D. Each candidate for an elected office shall be balloted on separately in a manner decided upon by a majority vote of the eligible voting members present at the election. The Vice President shall call a roll of those entitled to vote prior to the election. The candidate receiving the majority of votes shall be declared elected.
- E. The Second Vice President shall be the Active Past Presidents unless elected to another office, in which case the office shall be filled by nominations from the floor and a subsequent majority vote of the voting membership, immediately following the election of the other officers.
- F. In the event a vacancy shall occur in any of the elected offices, except President in which case the Vice President shall fill the unexpired term, the voting members may, by nomination and subsequent majority vote, elect an active member to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

- A. Unless otherwise ordered by the voting members, regular membership meetings shall be held monthly on the first Thursday of each month.
- B. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the voting members of which at least three (3) are executive committee members, and a majority shall govern. Notwithstanding this paragraph, the Board may meet and conduct business in accordance with Article III D.
- C. DGAL's special meetings may be called by the President on his/her own order or on the written request to the Board of five (5) voting members in good standing. The notice shall contain a statement of the purpose of the meeting. No business shall be transacted at a special meeting except that contained in the notice. Every voting member shall be notified of such special meeting at least three days prior to the date of the meeting.
- D. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of all meetings, except where said Rules conflict with the Constitution and By Laws of the DGAL in which case DGAL rules will prevail.

ARTICLE VI - MANAGERS & COACHES

- A. Managers and Coaches shall be responsible to DGAL for their equipment and the actions of their team.

ARTICLE VII - MEMBERSHIP

- A. A non-voting member shall become an active member only after approval by the Executive Committee and he/she has attended at least four (4) consecutive regular meetings.
- B. An active member shall be defined as one who has not missed four (4) consecutive regular meetings. He/she shall not be reinstated as an active member until he/she has attended four (4) consecutive regular meetings after dismissal from the ranks of active membership.
- C. An honorary member is a person so designated by a majority vote of the voting members in consideration for extraordinary service to the DGAL.
- D. The Membership at Large shall consist of those members who show an active interest to the DGAL. They shall be willing to perform any reasonable duties required.
- E. The voting Board of Directors by a majority vote, shall have the authority to suspend any member, manager or coach whose conduct is considered detrimental to the league or its membership. However, if the suspended individual objects and request a hearing in writing, a hearing shall be conducted before the Executive Committee at the next meeting of the Board of Directors or sooner if the Board so elects.
- F. Any youth may participate in any sport upon meeting the requirements set in the rules of the DGAL.
- G. Members of the Board, upon evidence of misconduct of any youth, shall notify the parents, manager or coach of the youth's team of the misconduct within a reasonable time. The manager or coach shall appear in the capacity of advisor with the youth before at least two (2) of the elected officers of the Board and the Commissioner or Assistant Commissioner of the sport for such action as they may determine to be necessary and appropriate.
- H. Any member who is an active participant or participates in any sports activity sponsored but the DGAL automatically gets preference for his/her child over a nonmember for late registration privileges only if enrollment is available.

ARTICLE VIII - FINANCIAL POLICY

- A. It shall be a permanent policy of DGAL to place all income in a Common League Treasury, directing the expenditures of same in such a manner so as not to give any individual or team any advantage over others as to equipment, etc. except as

provided in paragraph C below.

- B. The active membership shall discourage the contribution of funds to individuals or teams and solicit same for the common treasury of DGAL. DGAL shall govern the giving or acceptance of awards to individuals or individual teams so as to discourage favoritism.
- C. Income of the DGAL Scholarship Fund shall be held separately for the sole purpose of funding scholarship awards in accordance with ARTICLE IX - The Scholarship Program.

ARTICLE IX - THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

- A. The Dwarf Giraffe Athletic League (hereinafter "DGAL") does hereby resolve to create a Scholarship Fund (hereinafter "the Fund"). The proceeds used to support the Fund will come from dedicated and independent Fund raising events. All profits will be set aside into a segregated account and used for the sole purpose of issuing scholarships to the award recipients. Contributions and other proceeds will also be accepted into the Fund. The Treasurer of DGAL will determine the profit that the event has generated and cause said profit to be placed into the segregated account.
- B. Selection Committee: The selection committee shall be comprised of a six member panel made up of the President, Vice President, Second Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary and the Corresponding Secretary.
- C. Recipient: Any DGAL member who has played five seasons in a DGAL sport (this may be any combination in any DGAL sport) is eligible to be a recipient of an award. Member must be in the 8th grade or higher.
- D. Nomination: Any Board Member or coach may nominate a child for an award. This nomination must be in writing and must state the reasons why the child should be considered.
- E. Criteria: When nominations are made, consideration should be given to the child's sportsmanship, team spirit, and ability to act as a role model within the community. The recipient's family's participation in DGAL athletics is also to be a major consideration when determining the recipient of such awards.
- F. Awards: Awards may be awarded on an annual basis, with awards ranging in value from \$500 to \$1,500. Up to three awards may be awarded in any given year not to exceed a total of \$4,500. The Selection Committee is barred from discussion or explaining any of the decisions made during their committee meetings. The Selection Committee is also barred from issuing awards in excess of the amount set

aside for awards within the scholarship fund.

- G. Presentation: It is the intention of the committee for the awards to be presented at the Presidents Dinner or at the annual picnic in the event we do not have a President's Dinner in a particular year.
- H. Processing: Awards are to be paid directly to the school attended by the recipient of the award. Should a recipient not have a bill at the school they are attending, then the committee may at their discretion direct the award to go for educational purposes.
- I. Amendments: Amendments to the scholarship fund will be proposed by the committee to the DGAL Board and voted on by the DGAL Board. Should the DGAL Board approve the Amendment by two-thirds vote, then that Amendment will become a part of this Scholarship Program.

ARTICLE X - RULES

- A. The basic playing rules of the DGAL shall be formulated by the Rules Committee. Rules must be presented to the Board for approval at least one month prior to the start of competition in each sport.
- B. The Rules Committee shall consist of the Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners of each sport together with any other members designated by the President to serve on said committee.

ARTICLE XI - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- A. The President shall preside at all meetings of the DGAL, preserve decorum therein, decide all questions of order without debate, enforce the laws, rules and regulations of the DGAL, appoint necessary committees and perform such other duties pertaining to his/her office.
- B. The Vice President shall assist the President in the discharge of his/her duties and in his/her absence or disability, discharge all the duties of that office and perform any other duties pertaining to the office. He/she shall be an ex-officio of all committees.
- C. The Treasurer shall receive all the funds of the DGAL giving his receipt hereof. He/she may sign all drafts, checks, warrants and orders for the payment of monies. No drafts, checks, warrants or orders shall be valid or binding unless signed by the Treasurer and counter signed by either the President, Vice President, Recording Secretary or any other person designated by the Board. The treasurer shall keep a

true and accurate account of all receipts and disbursements. He/she shall submit to the membership at large an annual report of the receipts and disbursements. He/she shall file and submit annual tax returns with the President's approval. He/she shall read the status of funds at each Board meeting and shall perform any other duties as pertain to his/her office.

- D. The Recording Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings and assist the Corresponding Secretary. He/she shall read the minutes of prior meeting at the commencement of the current meeting. He/she shall maintain a record of previous approved minutes.
- E. The Corresponding Secretary shall have charge of all correspondence, prepare all notices, newsletters, advertisements and flyers pertaining to League business and notify Board member of matters of interest to the Board.
- F. The Sports Commissioners shall be responsible for the day-to-day operation of their sport. They shall arrange for the presence of umpires/referees at all games, arrange for the appointment of managers, coaches and assistant coaches for all teams in their respective sport. Commissioners shall have the authority to suspend any player, manager or coach subject to the hearing request provision contained in Article VII E.
- G. Other Members shall perform their respective tasks in a timely and responsible manner as directed by the President.

ARTICLE XII - ATTENDANCE RECORDS

- A. The Vice President shall keep the attendance of all active members at each regular meeting. A member at large shall inform the Vice President of his/her intention of becoming an active member so that his/her attendance may be entered into the record.

ARTICLE XIII - CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

- A. Whenever a director or officer has a financial or personal interest in any matter coming before the board of directors, the affected person shall:
 - a) fully disclose the nature of the interest and
 - b) withdraw from discussion, lobbying, and voting on the matter.
- B. Any transaction or vote involving a potential conflict of interest shall be approved only when a majority of disinterested directors determine that it is in the best interest of the corporation to do so. The minutes of meetings at which such votes

are taken shall record such disclosure, abstention and rationale for approval.

ARTICLE XIV - NEPOTISM

- A. The practice of having relatives as current board members are permitted if there are no conflicts of interest.
- B. Relatives include persons within the third degree of consanguinity (blood), within the second degree of affinity (marriage), and sole domestic partners (unmarried). Relatives within the third degree parents, children, grandparents, siblings, grandchildren, great-grandparents, uncles, aunts, nephews, nieces, and great-grandchildren. Relatives within the second degree include spouses or sole domestic partners and their parents, grandparents, and siblings, and an employee's son, daughter-in-law, and grandchild's spouse. This policy also includes relatives of the board member residing in the existing board member's household.
- C. The President will determine the potential for conflict prior to an election. If the relative is related to the President then the Vice President will make determination.

ARTICLE XV - DIVERSITY

- A. DGAL is an association where diversity is a core value. A broad understanding of diversity is employed that includes, but is not limited to, race, ethnicity, national origin, class, gender, sexual orientation, disability, age, and religion. This statement also acknowledges that personal identity is complex and various. It is a goal of DGAL to facilitate broad participation by all youth participants.
- B. The board of directors and others associated with DGAL shall otherwise act in ways, to the extent it is reasonable and feasible to do so, consistent with this core value of diversity.
- C. Furthermore, those charged with nominating members for election or naming committee chairs shall diligently recruit for qualified persons representing the full diversity of the membership of the association.
- D. In addition, before entering into contracts, those representing DGAL shall consider the history and current practices of the vendor with regard to diversity. DGAL shall not knowingly enter into agreements, where by intent or practice, there is a demonstrated insensitivity to the principles of non-discrimination and inclusion. As practicable, DGAL should work with vendors, both in contracting and procurement, that have affirmative action policies and practices, as well as policies and practices that are consistent, in general, with those of the association in relation to diversity.

ARTICLE XIII - AMENDMENTS

- A. This Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors and may be repealed by a unanimous vote of the Board.