

National Dodgeball Association, Inc. **Bylaws and Constitution**Season 2025 / Version 2.0

Preamble and Introduction

National Dodgeball Association, Inc. Bylaws & Articles of Incorporation as a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization.

The Organization was incorporated in Michigan as a nonprofit organization and was granted 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status on March 20th, 2023 as "National Dodgeball Association, Inc.".

1. Naming and Offices

- 1.1 *Title* The full and official title of this organization is "National Dodgeball Association Inc." It may be referred to by its official abbreviation, "NDA", or "National Dodgeball Association". It shall hereby be referred to in these Bylaws and subsequent Policies/Documents as "Organization".
 - 1.1.1 The Organization may establish such acronyms or abbreviations as may be appropriate for business use, and may establish logos, service marks, or trademarks as may be appropriate to further its purposes, mission recognition and goals.
- 1.2 Status The Organization is incorporated as a nonprofit organization and licensed pursuant to the laws of the state of Michigan, abiding by the laws of all states or provinces in which it operates, and in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations of a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States of America. The Organization shall be operated for charitable and educational purposes.
- 1.3 Offices The Principal Office of the Organization shall be in the state of Michigan. Organization may have such other offices, either within or outside Michigan, as the Executive Board may designate or as the affairs of the Organization may require.

2. Purposes

Consistent with the Articles of Incorporation filed in the state of Michigan, the Organization shall operated under the following purposes:

2.1 Abbreviated Purpose - The purpose for which the Organization is organized is to act as the premier governing body that fosters an educational, athletic, and recreational atmosphere for competition in the sport of Dodgeball by involving its members in the organizing, promoting,

and hosting of events.

- 2.2 *General Purpose* The Organization is organized and operated for the following general purposes:
 - 2.2.1 Exclusively for charitable and educational purposes and to foster national or international amateur athletic competition within the meaning of $\S501(c)(3)$ of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as amended), including for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations which are recognized as exempt from tax under such $\S501(c)(3)$; and
 - 2.2.2 To exercise such of the rights, powers, duties and authority of a nonprofit corporation organized under the Nonprofit Corporation Act of the state of Michigan which are consistent with the preceding paragraph.
- 2.3 *Specific Purpose* The specific purposes of the Organization include, without limitation, the following:
 - 2.3.1 To foster, promote and advance participation in the growth and development of Dodgeball;
 - 2.3.2 To encourage and assist amateur athletes and their participation in local, national and international competition in the sport of Dodgeball;
 - 2.3.3 To educate and inform the public of all aspects of the benefits to be derived from Dodgeball;
 - 2.3.4 To guard the interests of the members of the Organization and to encourage good sportsmanship and fair play;
 - 2.3.5 To train athletes in basic skills up through advanced skills, and to encourage them to attend local, state, national, and international competitions and tournaments;
 - 2.3.6 To make training programs open to all who have a desire to learn about Dodgeball and a desire to learn something about themselves.
 - 2.3.7 To combat delinquency by providing the healthy extracurricular activity of Dodgeball which strives to help develop individuals in social, athletic, and wellness aspects; and
 - 2.3.8 To represent area athletes and their parents within the rules and bylaws of the Organization.

3. Powers

The Organization shall be autonomous in its governance of the sport of Dodgeball, in that it independently shall determine and control all matters central to such governance, shall not delegate such determination and control to other organizations, and shall be free from outside restraint. This provision shall not be construed as preventing the Organization from contracting with third parties for administrative assistance and support in connection with its purposes or from delegating to its members the authority to conduct certain portions of the Organization's

program. In connection therewith, and without limiting any powers granted by applicable state law, the Organization shall have the following powers:

- 3.1 *Coordination* Serve as the coordinating body for competition in the sport of Dodgeball in the United States;
- 3.2. Facilitation Conduct competition in the sport of Dodgeball, including regional and national championships and Events in the United States, and establish procedures for the determination of eligibility standards for participation in such competitions;
- 3.3 *Conflict Resolution* Facilitate, through orderly and effective administrative procedures, the resolution of conflicts or disputes which involve any of its members, coach, trainer, manager, administrator, official, or Amateur Sports Organizations, which may arise;
- 3.4 Offices Establish and maintain offices for the conduct of the affairs of the Organization;
- 3.5 *Publications* Publish one or more newspapers, magazines, online publications or other publications consistent with its corporate purposes;
- 3.6 *Promotion* Promote and encourage educational programs in the sport of Dodgeball, including programs that inform people of the virtues of good citizenship and Spirit of the Game, of the cultural aspects of amateur athletic activities, and of the benefits of physical fitness and participation in amateur athletic activities; and
- 3.7 Furtherance Take such other actions and engage in such other activities as may be consistent with and in furtherance of the purposes of the Organization.

4. Definitions

- 4.1 *Member* A registered athlete in good standing with the Organization. Administration and Staff of the Organization also become Members upon beginning their role in the Organization. A Member may be Active or Passive.
 - 4.1.1 *Athlete* Persons of good standing with the Organization who have met the requirements for competition at Organization-sanctioned Events.
 - 4.1.2 Coach A Member serving as the coach of a Member Team.
 - 4.1.3 Staff A Member serving in some role of the Organization.
 - 4.1.4 Administration A Member serving in some administrative role of the Organization. This includes members of the Executive Board, Committee Chairs, and other roles deemed Administration by the Executive Board.
- 4.2 Member Status A Member may be designated as Active or Passive.
 - 4.2.1 *Active Member* Any Member may earn Active Member status by paying annual membership dues announced by the Organization at the start of each fiscal year and must have participated in an Organization event within the past two years (either as a player, coach, or staff).

- 4.2.1.1 *Active Member Privileges* Active members in good standing have the opportunity to vote in elections, nominate individuals for elections, hold positions in the organization either on the Board or hold Committee roles.
- 4.2.1.2 *Active Member Waiver* An Active Membership waiver can be granted in extenuating circumstances in order for a Member Status to be Active to serve on the Board or Committee through approval from the Board.
- 4.2.1.3 Active Member Expulsion The Board can expel any member or downgrade member status due to violation of bylaws or organization policy through a vote by two-thirds majority of the Board. Any membership dues paid by an Active Member in these circumstances will be forfeited. Members can appeal for reinstatement and achieve reinstatement through two-thirds majority vote by the Board.
- 4.2.1.4 Active Membership Transfer Membership cannot be transferred to another individual.
- 4.2.2 *Passive Member* Any Member who is not an Active Member is designated as a Passive Member. A Passive member can include players, coaches, or staff members that have participated in an NDA event. Passive Members in good standing are eligible to participate in any NDA event in accordance with Organization rules.
- 4.3 *Member Team* A group of Members who agree to compete against other Member Teams. In order to become a Member Team of the Organization, they must:
 - 4.3.1 Be an approved, registered Member Team of the Organization
 - 4.3.2 Have at least six (6) eligible Members to participate in competition, as required by the Organization Rulebook;
 - 4.3.3 Submit current contact information for scheduling purposes (upon receipt of information, the organization will be noted as an Upcoming Member Team);
 - 4.3.3.1 *Upcoming Member Team* Group of members that has explicitly expressed interest in becoming a Member Team of the Organization, but has not yet completed all four requirements set forth under Article 4.3.
 - 4.3.4 At least once per fiscal year, participate in an Organization-sanctioned Event under the Organization's ruleset against another Member Team. An inducting Match does not need to include a current Member Team, so two Upcoming Member Teams may play each other to attain Member Team status.
- 4.4 Event An Organization-sanctioned Match, Series of Matches, or Tournament between at least two Member Teams (or any combination including an Upcoming Member Team) played under the Organization's ruleset.
 - 4.4.1 *Match* An Organization-sanctioned competition between two Member Teams (or any combination including an Upcoming Member Team) played under the Organization's ruleset.

- 4.4.2 Series of Matches At least two Organization-sanctioned Matches in the same 24-hour time frame between at least two Member Teams (or any combination including an Upcoming Member Team) played under the Organization's ruleset. This type of Event typically does not determine an overall winner. It can also be referred to colloquially as a "round-robin" or "invitational".
- 4.4.3 *Tournament* At least three Organization-sanctioned Matches in the same 72-hour time frame between at least four Member Teams (or any combination including an Upcoming Member Team) played under the Organization's ruleset. This type of Event may include an elimination bracket to determine an overall winner.
- 4.4.4 *Nationals* Nationals is the post-season Tournament to determine a champion Member Team of the Organization for a fiscal year.

5. Executive Board

- 5.1 *In General* The Organization shall be governed by an Executive Board whose members are selected in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws. Henceforth, the Executive Board will be referred to as the "Board" in these Bylaws and subsequent Policies and Documents.
- 5.2 Authority The Board shall represent the interests of the Dodgeball community and its Members by providing the Organization with policy, guidance and strategic direction. The Board shall oversee the management of the Organization and its affairs. The Board shall focus on long term objectives, impacts, and day-to-day management of the Organization. In addition, the Board shall perform the following specific functions, among others:
 - 5.2.1 implement procedures to orient new Board members, to educate all Board members on the business and governance affairs of the Organization, and to evaluate the performance of the Board;
 - 5.2.2 reviews and approves the Organization's strategic plan and the annual operating plans, budget, business plans, and corporate performance;
 - 5.2.3 sets policy and provides guidance and strategic direction to management on significant issues facing the Organization;
 - 5.2.4 reviews and approves significant corporate actions;
 - 5.2.5 oversees the financial reporting process, communications with donors, and the Organization's legal and regulatory compliance program;
 - 5.2.6 oversees effective corporate governance;
 - 5.2.7 approves financial strategies, borrowing commitments, and long-range financial planning;
 - 5.2.8 reviews and approves financial statements, annual reports, audit and control policies, and, selects independent auditors;
 - 5.2.9 monitors whether the Organization's assets are being prudently invested;
 - 5.2.10 monitors the Organization's compliance with laws and regulations and the performance of its broader responsibilities; and

- 5.2.11 ensures that the Board and staff are properly structured and prepared to act in case of an unforeseen corporate crisis.
- 5.3 *Diversity* The Organization is committed to taking meaningful and intentional actions to promote diversity among Board members. Organization recognizes the need to promote and enhance diversity throughout the sport of Dodgeball and diversity among Board members is consistent with and in furtherance of that overall goal. Board members shall be selected without regard to race, color, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, national origin or disability.
- 5.4 *Composition* The Board shall be composed of seven (7) Chairs. The President and Treasurer will be directly elected positions, and only qualified candidates may run for the position of President and Treasurer. The remaining five positions are Open positions, candidates running for the Board as a general Directorship. The seven Chairs that make up the Board will be voting members:

5.4.1 President

- 5.4.1.1 *Responsibilities* The President is to maintain and manage the Organization. Some specific duties include, but are not limited to:
 - 5.4.1.1.1 *Presence* Acting as the public face of the Organization.
 - 5.4.1.1.2 *Bylaws* Maintaining the Policies, Bylaws, and Constitution of the Organization.
 - 5.4.1.1.3 *Assistance* Assisting all other Board members with their responsibilities.
 - 5.4.1.1.4 *Announcements* Making official announcements on behalf of the Organization.
 - 5.4.1.1.5 *Laws and Regulations* Maintain understanding of laws, policies, and procedures for 501(c)(3) organizations in the United States.
 - 5.4.1.1.6 *Voting* Voting on all decisions made for the organization.
 - 5.4.1.1.7 *Relationships* Establishing and maintaining relationships with potential sponsors and other shared-interest organizations in the United States and elsewhere.
 - 5.4.1.1.8 *Success* Maintaining and promoting the success of the Organization.
 - 5.4.1.1.9 Other tasks Doing any task deemed necessary.
- 5.4.1.2 *Term* The President's term shall be for the duration of four fiscal years. The President's term shall begin at the start of the fiscal year ending in a year divisible by four (e.g. 2024. 2028).
- 5.4.1.3 *Voting Power* This position allows for one vote on the Board.

5.4.2 Treasurer

- 5.4.2.1 *Responsibilities* The Treasurer is to maintain and manage the finances of the Organization. Some specific duties include, but are not limited to:
 - 5.4.2.1.1 Laws and Regulations Maintain understanding of laws and regulations associated with finances in nonprofit organizations under the parameters outlined under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States of America.
 - 5.4.2.1.2 Banking Maintain relationships with the bank, signing checks, and investing excess funds wisely under the parameters outlined under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States of America.
 - 5.4.2.1.3 *Oversight* Being knowledgeable about who has access to the Organization's funds, and any outstanding bills or debts owed, as well as developing systems for keeping cash flow manageable.
 - 5.4.2.1.4 *Budgets* Developing the annual budget as well as comparing the actual revenues and expenses incurred against the budget.
 - 5.4.2.1.5 *Financial Policies* Overseeing the development and observation of the organization's financial policies.
 - 5.4.2.1.6 *Reports* Keeping the Board regularly informed of key financial events, trends, concerns, and assessment of fiscal health in addition to completing required financial reporting forms in a timely fashion and making these forms available to the board.
 - 5.4.2.1.7 *Dues* Collecting annual membership dues from each represented Active Member.
 - 5.4.2.1.8 *Creating invoices* Create and maintain record of invoices sent to vendors and Member Teams.
 - 5.4.2.1.9 *Filing Taxes* Filing annual federal taxes. This includes but is not limited to Form 990 or any variations of that form along with the subsequent Schedules associated with it.
 - 5.4.2.1.10 *Research* Seeking guidance from outside sources when questions arise.
- 5.4.2.2 *Term* The Treasurer's term shall be for the duration of four fiscal years. The Treasurer's term shall begin at the start of the fiscal year ending with an even number not divisible by four (e.g. 2022, 2026).
- 5.4.2.3 *Voting Power* This position allows for one vote on the Board.

5.4.3 Open Directors

- 5.4.3.1 *Position* The remaining five (5) positions of the elected Board shall be fluid in responsibilities and actions, dependent upon the particular skill sets and interests of the elected individual.
 - 5.4.3.1.1 Term The Open Directors' terms shall be for the duration of

four fiscal years.

- 5.4.3.1.1.1 Two of the Open Directors' terms shall begin at the start of the fiscal year ending in a year divisible by four (e.g. 2024. 2028).
- 5.4.3.1.1.2 Three of the Open Directors' terms shall begin at the start of the fiscal year ending with an even number not divisible by four (e.g. 2022, 2026).
- 5.4.3.3 Voting Power Each Open Director position allows for one vote on the Board.
- 5.4.3.2 *Responsibilities* The Open Directors ("OD") of the Board have a shared responsibility, in part, for contributing to the management, development, and completion of the responsibilities of the Organization. These responsibilities may include the following groups/teams/committees, tasks, and projects:

5.4.3.2.1 Rulebook Maintenance

- 5.4.3.2.1.1 *Rulebook Committee* Creating and managing a Rulebook Committee.
- 5.4.3.2.1.1 *Rulebook Publication* Publishing a new version of the Organization Rulebook each year with the appropriate changes.
- 5.4.3.2.2 Officiating Crew Development
 - 5.4.3.2.2.1 *Officials* Managing the Officiating Staff and assisting in scheduling of Officials for Events as deemed necessary.
 - 5.4.3.2.2.2 *Training* Create and distribute Officiating Staff training material.
- 5.4.3.2.3 Records and Rankings
 - 5.4.3.2.3.1 Records Maintain official records of Matches played.
 - 5.4.3.2.3.2 *Rankings* Maintain the Ranking Systems for Member Teams of the Organization.
 - 5.4.3.2.3.3 *Statistics* Develop and maintain statistics for the Organization.
- 5.4.3.2.4 *Development Team* Direct the Development Team, which consists of front end web developers, back end programmers, and any other colleagues needed to fulfill the tasks of the office.
 - 5.4.3.2.4.1 *Development and Improvement* Seek development and improvement opportunities for the Organization's technological growth.
- 5.4.3.2.5 *Content Team* Direct the Content Team, consisting of Content Writers, Podcast Hosts, Graphic Designers, and any other Members as needed to fulfill the tasks of the office.
 - 5.4.3.2.5.1 Articles Keep the Organization's website in order by

posting regular articles on mostly Dodgeball related subjects.

- 5.4.3.2.5.2 *Updating* As director of the Content Team, keep the Organization's website in order by maintaining and updating existing static content, while introducing new content as needed.
- 5.4.3.2.5.3 *Production* As director of the Content Team, produce both written or graphical elements of print, as required by the Organization's operations.
- 5.4.3.2.5.4 *Social Management* As director of the Social Management Team, maintain the Organization's online social identity and presence.
- 5.4.3.2.6 *Alumni Relations* Managing the Office of Alumni Relations. Keeping alumni involved in the Organization.
- 5.4.3.2.7 *Charitable Organizations* Working to create and maintain relationships with charitable organizations. Working with the President on campaigns that both help with recruitment and raise funds for charitable organizations.
 - 5.4.3.2.7.1 *Community* Creating campaigns to help develop positive relationships with our Organization and the communities the Members belong to.
- 5.4.3.2.8 *Public Relations* Assist the President in the development and maintaining of relationships with like, and complimentary, organizations.
 - 5.4.3.2.8.1 *Campaigns* Develop and launch publicity campaigns.
- 5.4.3.2.9 *Other Tasks* Assisting other directors on tasks related to the benefit of the organization.
- 5.5 *General Qualifications* Each Board member shall exhibit the following general qualifications below:
 - 5.5.1 Be at least eighteen (18) years of age;
 - 5.5.2 Be of good character;
 - 5.5.3 Be judged, qualified, and appropriate for the particular position;
 - 5.5.4 Be committed to serving in the best interest of the Organization and the sport of Dodgeball regardless of the constituency that elects the Board member;
 - 5.5.5 Be willing to adhere to the Organization's policies and procedures;
 - 5.5.6 Possess strong communication and interpersonal skills;
 - 5.5.7 Must be able to commit at least 8 hours each week throughout their term;
 - 5.5.7.1 Some positions may involve more of a time commitment during certain periods of their year;
 - 5.5.8 Be a member of the Organization in good standing; and
 - 5.5.9 Board members shall not represent any one region, district or constituency group and shall act in the best interests of the Organization without regard to geographic

- 5.7 Election and Appointment Board members shall be elected as follows:
 - 5.7.1 *Nominations* With a Board Member's term set to expire at the end of the fiscal year, any Active Member of the Organization may nominate any Active Member for the Board by submitting the candidate's name in writing to the Board.
 - 5.7.1.1 *Formal Nomination* The nomination to the Board must include the following: full name of the nominee, signature of the nominee offering consent for nomination, contact information of the nominee, and a brief summary of the nominee's qualifications for the Board.
 - 5.7.1.2 *Nomination Period* The open nomination period will last no shorter than seven days and the nomination period will be announced with at least seven days of advanced notice.
 - 5.7.2 *Board Review* Following the conclusion of the nomination period, the Board will review all nominated candidates. Under careful consideration, the Board will put forth the selected candidates for public approval.
 - 5.7.2.1 *Number of Candidates for Public Approval* The Board shall put forth the same number of candidates for public approval as there are incoming open Board positions.
 - 5.7.3 *Voting* Following the Board putting forth the selected candidates for public approval, all Active Members of the Organization will have no less than seven days to oppose, in writing, the election of any candidate. Failure to oppose any candidate by any Active Member in accordance with the provisions of this Section shall be deemed a vote in support of the candidate by such Member. Opposition by a majority of Active Members shall constitute a rejection of the candidate.
 - 5.7.3.1 *Public Rejection of Candidate* In the event a candidate receives votes in opposition from a majority of Active Members, that candidate will have failed to win the election and will no longer be eligible for the Board in the current election. The Board will then review the nominated candidates remaining and put forth a new candidate for public approval. This process repeats until a candidate does not receive a majority of votes from Active Members in opposition. Following the public rejection of a candidate, the Board may choose at their discretion to open the nomination pool up to more nominees following the same nomination provisions as described above prior to submitting a candidate for public approval.
 - 5.7.4 *Counting* Prior to voting by Active Members, the Board will appoint a Board member without an expiring term to head the election process. That will include leading the Board review of nominees, formally submitting the candidates for public approval, and the counting of any votes in opposition of the candidate.
 - 5.7.5 Position The winners of the election will have to either accept or deny their

position within seven days of the Board counting the votes.

- 5.7.6 *Announcement* The new Board members will be publicly announced within seven days of acceptance by all incoming Board members.
- 5.7.7 *Timing* The exact timing of elections may vary year to year. The Board should act in good faith to allow a reasonable amount of time for each phase of the election process and announce said timing of each phase with reasonable notice to members.
- 5.8 *Meetings* The Board shall virtually meet at least five (5) times per fiscal year. Additional meetings may be scheduled by the President as necessary. The annual meeting shall strive to be a face to face meeting occurring once per year, and shall constitute as one of the five (5) meetings required by Article 5.8.
 - 5.8.1 *Special Meetings* A special meeting of the Board of may be held at any time and at any place when called by the President of the Board or by four (4) or more Board members after proper notice has been given pursuant to Article 5.8.4.
 - 5.8.2 Attendance at Meetings Board members shall attend all regular meetings of the Board whenever practicable, and physical attendance is required at the annual meeting and at other regular meetings unless alternative arrangements have been made with the President. An attending OD shall monitor the attendance of Board members at meetings of the Board and Board members who fail to attend meetings shall be required to explain the reason or reasons for their absence to the President.
 - 5.8.2.1 *Meeting Absence* Any member of the Board who fails to attend at least three-quarters of the meetings of the Board during his or her initial term shall not be eligible for re-election to a successive term unless the Board determines that unique and extraordinary circumstances prevented a particular individual from attending at least three-quarters of the meetings of the Board during his or her initial term, in which case such individual shall be deemed eligible for re-election to a successive term.
 - 5.8.3 *Remote Presence* Unless otherwise provided by law, the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws, Board members may participate in any meeting by means of a conference telephone, web conferencing, or similar communication device through which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting.
 - 5.8.3.1 Meetings of the Board may take place entirely through the use of a conference telephone, web conferencing, or similar communication device if circumstances require that a meeting be conducted in such manner, as determined by the President.
 - 5.8.4 *Notice* Notice of any meeting of the Board shall be given by the President or by the President's designee. Notice of each regular meeting of the Board, stating the place, day and hour of the meeting, along with the agenda and any supporting materials, shall be given to each Board member prior to the time designated for the meeting. Written

notice may be delivered by electronic transmission.

5.8.4.1 Reasonable notice consisting of at least five (5) days prior notice of the time and place of special meetings of the Board shall be given to each Board member. Such notice need not specify the purposes of a meeting, unless otherwise required by law, the articles of incorporation or these Bylaws or unless there is to be considered at the meeting:

5.8.4.1.1 contracts or transactions of Organization with interested persons;

5.8.4.1.2 amendments to the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws;

5.8.4.1.3 an increase or decrease in the number of Board members;

5.8.4.1.4 removal or suspension of a Board member; or

5.8.4.1.5 the merger or conversion of the Organization.

5.8.4.2 Subject to all applicable law, the transactions of any meeting of the Board, however called and noticed or wherever held, shall be as valid as though there had been a meeting duly held after regular call and notice if a quorum is present and if, either before or after the meeting, each of the Board members not present signs a written waiver of notice.

5.8.4.3 A Board member may waive notice of any meeting before or after the time and date of the meeting.

5.8.5 *Quorum* - At any meeting of the Board a simple majority of the Board members then in office shall constitute a quorum. Any meeting may be adjourned by a majority of the votes cast upon the question, whether or not a quorum is present, and the meeting may be held as adjourned without further notice.

5.8.6 Action by Vote - When a quorum is present at any meeting, a majority of the Board members present at the meeting shall decide any question, including election of officers, unless otherwise provided by law, the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws.

5.8.7 Action by Writing - Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the Board may be taken without a meeting if the Board members are provided the notice, two-thirds of all Board members then in office consent to the action in writing and the written consents are filed with the records of the meetings of the Board. Such consents shall be treated for all purposes as a vote at a meeting. If the President or presiding officer receives a written demand that such action not be taken without a meeting, then the Board shall hold a meeting to vote on the action.

5.9 Removal - At any meeting of the Board, any Board member may, by a vote of not less than six-sevenths of the Board Members then in office, be removed from office for cause and a successor may be appointed pursuant to Article 5.11 Vacancies. The Board member in question shall not participate in the vote. For purposes of this Section "cause" shall mean the failure by the Board member to carry out his or her duties or responsibilities as a Board member or any action or inaction which materially and adversely affects or may affect the Organization.

- 5.10 *Resignation* Any Board member may resign at any time by giving written notice to the President. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein or, if no time is specified, at the time of acceptance of the resignation as determined by the Board.
- 5.11 *Vacancies* In the event of the death, resignation, or removal of a Board member, the Board may elect a successor for the unexpired term. The Board shall have and may exercise all their powers notwithstanding the existence of one or more vacancies in their number.
 - 5.11.1 *Replacement* Each Board member so elected shall serve for the unexpired portion of the term of the Board member being replaced.
- 5.12 *Compensation* No compensation shall be paid to any Board member for services as a Board member but, at the discretion of the Board, a Board member may be reimbursed for travel and actual expenses necessarily incurred in attending meetings and performing other duties on behalf of the Organization.
- 5.13 *Hierarchy* The Board has a flat hierarchy, with the Office of the President acting as the public figure of the Organization. The President has no more power than any other member on the Board, but will be viewed and portrayed as the ultimate authority. This is not done to misrepresent the power structure of the Organization, it is simply more effective to allow one member of the Board to act as the public figure.
 - 5.13.1 *Member Teams* Member Team Officers will report directly to the appropriate Board Member depending on their intent in relation to their respective Member Team concerning Events, Policies, rule inquiry, financial status, news and announcements, etc.

6. Rulebook, Bylaws, and Policies

The Organization is a fluid entity and is flexible to change and further consideration. The Organization opens its ears to all suggestions for change.

- 6.1 *Suggestions* Members are encouraged to voice their opinions for change at any time on the Organization's official online forum or website.
- 6.2 *Discussion* Members are to discuss the Suggestions year-round in order to ensure the best possible outcome.
- 6.3 *Rule Changes* The Organization will strive to enact changes to the Rulebook or Bylaws during the Organization's offseason (defined as the time period between the national championship and the first event of the subsequent season).
 - 6.3.1 The Board has final authority on all changes made to the Rulebook and Bylaws. Members and Member Teams are free to offer suggestions to help facilitate positive

changes for the Organization, but all final decisions will be a result of a decision by the Board.

- 6.3.2 The Organization acknowledges that in certain instances, immediate changes to the Rulebook or Bylaws will necessitate those changes occurring during the season. The Board will strive to keep rules and bylaws consistent during the season but reserves the right to enact changes during the season.
- 6.3.3 Any new change will take effect immediately upon announcement by the Board, whether during the offseason or during the season.
- 6.4 *Publication* The documents reflecting new changes made during the offseason will be published prior to the first Event of each season.

7. Member Team Obligations

It is the responsibility of the Member Teams to maintain a certain repertoire to keep their status in the Organization. Member Teams are to:

- 7.1 Report Member Team contact information each year to the Organization.
 - 7.1.1 Member Team Contact Information includes the roster of Core Players for each season.
 - 7.1.2 Member Teams are subject to the most up to date Core Player requirements for the organization.
- 7.2 Abide by the NDA Member Team Naming Conventions Policy.
 - 7.2.1 Team location titles must be named after a state, city or distinctly unique nickname for a city, state, or region. A region may be used in cases where it is not a broad term that encompasses many states (ex: "Northeast" or "Rocky Mountain").
 - 7.2.2 State and Region usage is permitted only if an NDA team is the first and only team to use said state or region. If not given exception approval by the Board, all future teams within that state or region are permitted to use any other name outside of the state name or region name.
 - 7.2.2.1 Teams looking to repeat a state name already in use can submit a request for approval to the Board.
 - 7.2.3 City names are permitted if they are within the top 333 listed below at time of team name election, or if they are the city of a college campus in which a player(s) on the team attended.
 - 7.2.3.1 Top 333 Cities List as of 5.1.24

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_United_States_cities_by_population

7.2.4 Unique Nicknames for a city, state, or region are permitted only if an NDA team is the first and only team to use said nickname. Unique nicknames must be publicly established nicknames and unique to the respective city, state, or region represented. If the same publicly established nickname applies to multiple cities, then the first NDA team to claim said nickname will be the only team to represent it, even if each team is representing a different city. The Board has final say on what nicknames are accepted.

- 7.2.4.1 Teams looking to repeat a unique nickname already in use can submit a request for approval to the Board.
- 7.2.5 The Board has final say on team name approval and disapproval for any team competing in NDA sanctioned events.
- 7.2.6 The Board also possesses the right to approve and disapprove any team nickname or mascot. The general policy on the team nickname is to be professional and legitimate.

7.3 Abide by the NDA Uniform Policy

- 7.3.1 Wearing uniforms with a non-approved Member Team name is not permitted.
 - 7.3.1.1 2024 Exception: All 2023 NDA teams that must change their location title per the NDA Member Team Naming Conventions Policy (7.2) and had their previous title on their uniforms are allowed to use their 2023 uniforms during the 2024 season.
- 7.3.2 Beginning with the 2025 season, all uniforms must abide by the NDA Uniform Policy in order to be sanctioned for use in NDA events.
 - 7.3.2.1 A Member Team's matching uniforms created prior to 2024 may be used during the 2024 NDA season.
 - 7.3.2.2 A Member Team may file a formal appeal to use a non-conforming uniform to the Board.
- 7.3.3 Only player last names are accepted on a uniform nameplate.
 - 7.3.3.1 Substitute uniforms should have a blank nameplate or a nameplate matching the team name.
- 7.3.4 Uniform numbers must be whole integers: 0, 00, 1-99. Uniform numbers should be unique between players.
- 7.3.5 Uniform tops may have short sleeves or long sleeves. Sleeveless uniform tops are prohibited.
- 7.3.6 Uniform tops must have a minimum 4" tall number on the front.
- 7.3.7 Uniform tops must have a minimum 6" tall number on the back.
- 7.3.8 Uniforms with last names must have a minimum 3" tall name across shoulders.
 - 7.3.8.1 This minimum can be reduced out of necessity due to a lengthy last name.
- 7.3.9 Uniform tops must have the NDA logo on right sleeve
 - 7.3.9.1 The NDA logo can be re-colored to match the uniform.
- 7.3.10 The Board has final approval on uniform design. All uniforms must be submitted to the Board prior to purchasing.
 - 7.3.10.1 Member Teams may hold creativity in their uniform designs, but uniforms must have some level of professionalism in order to be approved by the

Board.

- 7.4 Play by the ruleset outlined by the Organization.
- 7.5 Portray themselves in a manner that reflects positively on the Organization.
- 7.6 Mandate that all Members of the Member Team submit the Organization Membership Registration Form each fiscal year prior to participating in any Organization-sanctioned Event. In this form Members must agree to the terms and policies of the Organization's Release of Liability Policy, Conduct Policy, and these Bylaws.
 - 7.6.1 The Captain of the Member Team becomes responsible for any Member of their Member Team that fails to submit the Organization Membership Registration Form each fiscal year prior to participating in any Organization-sanctioned Events.
 - 7.6.2 A Member will be suspended indefinitely from participating in Organization-sanctioned Events if they are found in violation of any of the Organization's Bylaws, Policies, or Rulebook requirements.
- 7.7 Have fun.

8. Committees

Committees may be formed by the Organization as a method for involving more Members in the behind-the-scenes tasks of the Organization. Committees also help alleviate the workload from the Board.

- 8.1 In General The Organization may have the following standing committees:
 - 8.1.1 Rulebook Committee;
 - 8.1.2 Officiating Committee;
 - 8.1.3 Development Team;
 - 8.1.4 Records Committee:
 - 8.1.5 Content Team;
 - 8.1.6 Alumni Relations Committee;
 - 8.1.7 Charitable Outreach Committee;
 - 8.1.8 Public Relations Committee;
 - 8.1.9. Judicial Committee; and
 - 8.1.10 Other committees may be created from time to time by resolution of the Board.
- 8.2 General Composition, Term, and Seats Members can join a committee of their choosing, depending on their interest. The members of each committee shall be approved by the President at each meeting of the Board. Any vacant committee seats remaining shall be advertised to be filled in accordance with the procedures of the relevant committee. The

composition of each committee shall be determined by the Board pursuant to the resolution creating such committee. There is no term limit for how long a Member can belong to a committee. Committee members will, however, be asked to reevaluate their interest in the committee at the end of each fiscal year and will be advised to resign if their interest is not similar to that of the committee.

- 8.3 Committee Chair The Board shall name the chair of each committee from among the members of such committee. The committee member must accept the chair position. The Committee Chair has a term of one (1) year. A Member cannot hold the Committee Chair for more than two (2) consecutive terms. A Member previously holding the Committee Chair position can become a non-chair member of the committee after their second consecutive term expires.
 - 8.3.1 *Term Limit Exceptions* If a Board member's position requires them to act as a Committee Chair, their term as Committee Chair will expire synonymously with the end of their term in that position on the Board.
- 8.4 General Powers Each committee shall have such power, authority, and duties as provided for in these Bylaws or in the resolution creating and controlling the committee. No committee shall have any independent decision-making authority except to the extent specifically conferred upon such committee by the Board.
- 8.5 *Specific Powers* In the event that each of the following Committees are created by the Board, each committee shall have the following outlined powers. The Board reserves the right to alter these powers in the resolution to create the committee.
 - 8.5.1 Rulebook Committee The Rulebook Committee shall:
 - 8.5.1.1 Be under supervision of an appointed OD;
 - 8.5.1.2 Edit, maintain, and publish the Organization Rulebook;
 - 8.5.1.3 Develop new rules inspired by issues at Events;
 - 8.5.1.4 Prepare and maintain voting ballots for rulebook changes;
 - 8.5.1.5 Facilitate discussion regarding rulebook changes on the Organization's official forum; and
 - 8.5.1.6 Perform such other duties as assigned by the Board.
 - 8.5.2 Content Team The Content Team shall:
 - 8.5.2.1 Be under supervision of an appointed OD;
 - 8.5.2.2 Maintain and create articles for the Organization's website;
 - 8.5.2.3 Maintain integrity of the Organization through online presence; and
 - 8.5.2.4 Perform such other duties as assigned by the Board.
 - 8.5.3 Development Team The Development shall:

- 8.5.3.1 Be under supervision of an appointed OD;
- 8.5.3.2 Develop and maintain systems created for use by the Organization;
- 8.5.3.3 Research new products available the Organization may have use for;
- 8.5.3.4 Create written explanations of projects and products developed by the Development Team;
- 8.5.3.5 Maintain website's operation; and
- 8.5.3.6 Perform such other duties as assigned by the Board.

8.5.4 Judiciary Committee - The Judiciary Committee shall:

- 8.5.4.1 Be under supervision of the Board;
- 8.5.4.2 Generally administer and oversee all administrative grievances and right to compete matters filed with the Organization;
- 8.5.4.3 Identify individuals who would be fair and impartial and who would have the qualifications and ability to serve on hearing panels;
- 8.5.4.4 Hear and render a decision, or the chair may appoint a panel to hear and render a decision, on grievances and disciplinary matters; and
- 8.5.4.5 Perform such other duties as assigned by the Board.

8.5.5 Alumni Relations Committee - The Alumni Relations Committee shall:

- 8.5.5.1 Be under supervision of an appointed OD;
- 8.5.5.2 Maintain and develop relationships with Alumni;
- 8.5.5.3 Assisting other committees by giving recommendations based on experience;
- 8.5.5.4 Facilitating discussion with Alumni about betterment of the Organization;
- 8.5.5.5 Develop interest in assisting the Organization through means of becoming Organization Officials; and
- 8.5.5.6 Perform such other duties assigned by the Board.

8.5.6 Records Committee - The Records Committee shall:

- 8.5.6.1 Be under supervision of an appointed OD;
- 8.5.6.2 Assist the appointed OD in any aspect of collecting Event results;
- 8.5.6.3 Assist the appointed OD in any aspect of compiling and organizing Event results;
- 8.5.6.4 Be knowledgeable of all record and ranking systems; and
- 8.5.6.5 Perform such other duties assigned by the Board.
- 8.6 Special Committees The President, subject to the approval of the Board, may establish such special committees, working groups, and task forces as the President and Board considers necessary and shall determine the responsibilities and appoint necessary members.

- 8.7 Meetings Committees shall hold meetings as frequently as necessary in order to ensure that the committee's business is being carried out effectively. Unless otherwise provided by law, the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws, committee members may participate in any meeting by means of a conference telephone, web conferencing, or similar communication device through which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting. At a minimum each committee shall meet three (3) times per fiscal year and shall deliver a report to the Board on the actions of the committee to date.
- 8.8 *Removal* At any meeting of the Board, any committee member, including the chair, may be removed from the relevant committee, with or without cause, by the Board, and a successor who meets the requirements for membership in that committee may be selected.
- 8.9 *Resignation* Any committee member may resign at any time by giving written notice to the chair of the relevant committee and the President. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein or, if no time is specified, at the time of acceptance by the Board.
- 8.10 *Vacancies* In the event of the death, resignation, or removal of a committee member, the person or body responsible for the selection of such committee member shall select a replacement.
- 8.11 *Compensation* No compensation shall be paid to any committee member for services but, at the discretion of the Board, a committee member may be reimbursed for travel and actual expenses necessarily incurred in attending meetings and performing other duties on behalf of the Organization.

9. Grievances and Appeals

The Organization wants all Members to feel satisfied with the work of the Organization. If any Member has grievances or would like to appeal a decision made by the Organization or the Board, this Article will provide Members the ability to express those.

- 9.1 *Designation of Complaints* The following types of complaints may be filed with the Organization:
 - 9.1.1 *Administrative Grievance* The Organization or any Member may file a complaint pertaining to any matter within the cognizance of the Organization, including but not limited to any alleged violation of or grievance concerning:
 - 9.1.1.1 any Organization rule or regulation,
 - 9.1.1.2 any provision of the Organization's Bylaws, Policies, or Rulebook, or
 - 9.1.1.3 any provision of the Organization's recognition as a national governing body;

- 9.1.2 *Right to Participate* Any Member, Administrator or Official may file a complaint pertaining to any alleged denial, or alleged threat to deny, of that individual's opportunity to participate in Organization-sanctioned Events.
- 9.1.3 *Prohibited Conduct* The Organization or any Member may file a complaint pertaining to any matter of Prohibited Conduct witnessed by a member of the organization.
- 9.2 *Manner of Filing* The complainant shall file the complaint with the Board. The complaint shall be filed through the use of the NDA Misconduct Report form, or in writing via email; the email shall include:
 - 9.2.1 the name of the respondent,
 - 9.2.2 the alleged violation, grievance denial or threat to deny, and
 - 9.2.3 the remedy requested.
- 9.3 Filing Fee A complaint filed by an individual shall be accompanied with a \$150 filing fee. The complainant may request that the filing fee be reduced or waived. If such a request is made, the Board or the Judicial Committee, as the case may be, shall determine whether or not to reduce or waive the filing fee.
- 9.4 *Timing and Statute of Limitations* A complaint filed under these Bylaws shall be filed within thirty (30) days of the conduct in question. The Board or the Judicial Committee, as the case may be, shall have the discretion to grant complainants extensions of this deadline, including up to 180 days for right to participate complaints.
- 9.5 Field of Play Decisions The final determination of an Official during a Match regarding a field of play decision (a matter set forth in the rules of the competition to be within the discretion of the Official) shall not be reviewable through this process unless the decision is:
 - 9.5.1 outside the authority of the Official to make or
 - 9.5.2 the product of fraud, corruption, partiality or other misconduct of the Official.
 - 9.5.3 For purposes of Article 9.5, the term "Official" shall include any individual with discretion to make field of play decisions.
- 9.6 Administration The Board and the Judicial Committee shall generally administer and oversee all administrative grievances and right to participate matters filed with the Organization. The Judicial Committee shall ensure that all complaints are heard in a timely, fair and impartial manner. The Judicial Committee may promulgate procedures in addition to those set forth in these Bylaws for the effective administration of complaints filed with the Organization.
- 9.7 Hearing Panel Upon the filing of a complaint, the Board shall relay the complaint to the

chair of the Judicial Committee, who shall notify the other committee members. The Judicial Committee may hear the complaint, or may appoint a hearing panel consisting of a minimum of three (3) individuals to hear the complaint. The Judicial Committee shall also appoint a chair of the hearing panel. Judicial Committee members may be appointed to and serve on the hearing panel. Other disinterested individuals identified by the Judicial Committee may also be appointed to and serve on the hearing panel. Members of the panel need not be members of the Organization or involved in the sport of Dodgeball. The hearing panel shall be considered an extension of the Judicial Committee and shall follow the same rules and procedures as the Judicial Committee. If the Judicial Committee hears the complaint, reference to "hearing panel" in this Article shall mean the Judicial Committee.

9.8 Conduct of the Proceeding

9.8.1 The hearing panel shall rule on all motions and other matters raised in the proceeding in accordance with its procedures and practices as set forth in the Conduct Policy. If the complaint is not dismissed, the hearing panel shall adjudicate the matter in accordance with its procedures and practices which shall include holding a hearing on the complaint. The hearing panel shall set such timelines and other rules regarding the proceeding and the conduct of the hearing as it deems necessary. The hearing shall be informal, except that testimony shall be taken under oath.

9.8.2 The hearing may be conducted by teleconference or web conference, if necessary or convenient to the parties. Each party shall have the right to appear personally or through a legal representative. All parties shall be given a reasonable opportunity to present and examine evidence, cross-examine witnesses and to present arguments. Members of the hearing panel shall have the right to question witnesses or the parties to the proceeding at any time.

9.8.3 Any party may have a record made of the hearing. A court reporter may be present at the hearing at the request of a party. The court reporter shall be paid for by the party requesting the court reporter, or if mutually agreed, the cost may be equally divided. Any transcript shall be paid for by the party requesting the transcript.

9.9 Expedited Procedures - Upon the request of a party, and provided it is necessary to expedite the proceeding, in order to resolve a matter relating to a competition that is so scheduled that compliance with regular procedures would not be likely to produce a sufficiently early decision to do justice to the affected parties, the hearing panel is authorized to order that the complaint be heard and decided within forty-eight (48) hours of filing the complaint. In such a case, the hearing panel is authorized to hear and decide the complaint pursuant to such procedures as are necessary, but fair to the parties involved.

9.10 Complaints Involving Selection to Participate in a Competition - Where a complaint is filed involving selection of a Member to participate in a Match, the complainant shall, to the best of

the complainant's ability, include with the complaint a list of all other individuals that may be adversely affected by a decision rendered on the complaint. The respondent shall also, to the best of the respondent's ability, promptly submit a list of such individuals. The hearing panel shall determine which additional individuals must receive notice of the complaint. The Organization shall then be responsible for providing appropriate notice to these individuals. Any individual so notified then shall have the option to participate in the proceeding as a party. If an individual is notified of the complaint, then that individual shall be bound by the decision of the hearing panel regardless of whether the individual chose to participate as a party or not.

9.11 *Decision* - A decision shall be determined by a majority of the hearing panel. The hearing panel's decision shall be in writing and distributed to the parties.

9.12 Arbitration

9.12.1 Any party may appeal a final determination of the hearing panel to the American Arbitration Association (AAA), following the commercial rules of the AAA. For "Administrative Grievances", a "final determination" shall mean the party requesting the arbitration shall have exhausted all administrative remedies available to it, exhausted all other available appeals and received a final decision from the Organization. Failure to receive a final determination and to take all administrative steps necessary to obtain a final determination is a jurisdictional requirement and shall be a bar to requesting arbitration. For "Right to Participate" complaints the Organization will adhere to the Organization Bylaws. The arbitrator appointed by the AAA shall have the authority to hear the matter anew, or if requested by the parties render a decision on a more limited review. The arbitrator may consider the decision of the hearing panel, provided the arbitrator considers the decision admissible, relevant to the issues before the arbitrator may give whatever weight or authority to the hearing panel's decision as the arbitrator deems appropriate.

- 9.12.2 Arbitration shall not be available for the following:
 - 9.12.2.1 A field of play ruling as described in and subject to limitations set forth in Article 9.6.
 - 9.12.2.2 An allegation concerning an anti-doping rule violation, which is subject to the jurisdiction of the independent anti-doping organization designated by the Organization to conduct drug testing.
 - 9.12.2.3 A matter specifically excepted by provisions of these Bylaws.
 - 9.12.2.4 A monetary claim or monetary dispute between parties.

10. Miscellaneous

10.1 Amendments

10.1.1 These Bylaws may be amended, repealed, or altered, in whole or in part, and new

Bylaws may be adopted, by a majority of the Board members then in office at any meeting duly called and at which two-thirds of the Board members then in office are present.

- 10.1.2 The text, or a summary thereof, or any proposed amendment to be adopted at a meeting shall be sent to the Board at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting at which such action is to be taken.
- 10.1.3 Such amendment shall be effective as of the date of adoption unless otherwise specified in either the amendment or the resolutions adopting the amendment.
- 10.2 *Indemnification* To the fullest extent permitted by law, Organization shall indemnify any person made a Party to a Proceeding because the person is [or was] a Board member or officer against Liability incurred in, relating to, or as a result of, the Proceeding.
- 10.3 *Individual Liability* No individual Board member or officer shall be personally liable in respect of any debt or other obligation incurred in the name of Organization pursuant to the authority granted directly or indirectly by the Board.
- 10.4 Discharge of Duties Each Board member and officer shall discharge his or her duties:
 - 10.4.1 in good faith,
 - 10.4.2 with the care an ordinarily prudent individual in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances,
 - 10.4.3 in a manner the Board member or officer reasonably believes to be in the best interests of the Organization, and
 - 10.4.4 one month after the newly elected Board member takes his or her seat in the position on the Board.
 - 10.4.4.1 The Board member being replaced will stay for this one month time period as a way to train the new Board member in their position.
 - 10.4.4.2 During this time period the Board member being replaced does not have a vote on the Board. They are simply acting as an advisor to the newly elected Board member.
- 10.5 Ethics The Organization shall adopt a Conduct Code and a Conflicts of Interest Policy applicable to all staff, Board members, committee members and volunteers (the "Code of Ethics"). Each Organization staff member, Board member, standing committee member and volunteer shall annually certify compliance with the Code of Ethics.
- 10.6 Conflicts of Interest If any Board member, officer, committee or task force member has a financial interest in any contract or transaction involving the Organization, or has an interest adverse to the Organization's business affairs, and that individual is in a position to influence a determination with regard to the contract, transaction or business affair, such individual shall:

- 10.6.1 disclose the conflict of interest,
- 10.6.2 not participate in the evaluation of the contract, transaction or business affair, and
- 10.6.3 not vote on the contract, transaction or business affair.
- 10.7 Fiscal Year The fiscal year of the Organization shall commence January 1st and end on December 31st each year.
- 10.8 Accounts, Books, Minutes and Records Organization shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall keep minutes of the proceedings of its Board and standing committees. All books and records of the Organization may be inspected by any Board member, or such authorized agent or attorney, for proper purpose at any reasonable time.
- 10.9 Conveyances and Encumbrances The assignment, conveyance or encumbrance or sale, exchange, lease or other disposition of any real property of the Organization of all or substantially all of the real property and assets of the Organization shall only be authorized by the Board if the purposes of such assignment, conveyance or encumbrance or sale, exchange, lease or other disposition of any of the real property of the Organization or all or substantially all of the property and assets of the Organization complies with applicable law and the purposes and restrictions on the powers of the Organization set forth in these Bylaws.
- 10.10 *Designated Contributions* The Organization may accept any designated contribution, grant, bequest or device consistent with its general tax-exempt purposes as set forth in these Bylaws, and any restricted gifts policy adopted by the Board. The Organization shall acquire and retain sufficient control over all donated funds (including designated contributions) to assure that such funds will be used to carry out the Organization's tax exempt purposes.
- 10.11 Irrevocable Dedication and Dissolution The property of the Organization is irrevocably dedicated to charitable purposes, and no part of the net income or assets of the Organization shall insure to the benefit of private persons. Upon the dissolution or winding up of the Organization, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of the Organization, shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, foundation, or corporation which is organized and operated for charitable purposes and which has established its tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended.
- 10.12 *Prohibited Loans* No loans shall be made by the Organization to the President, to any Board member, to any staff, or to any committee or task force member, or to any Member. Any President, Board member, staff, committee or task force member, or Member, who assents to or participates in the making of any such loan, shall be liable to the Organization for the amount of such loan until it is repaid.

- 10.13 *Special Counsel* The Board may authorize the appointment of special legal counsel or consultants as may be required from time to time at such fees and compensation as agreed upon.
- 10.14 *Gender* Use of the feminine herein shall also refer to the masculine and the use of the masculine herein shall also refer to the feminine, unless otherwise expressly provided. The use of the singular herein shall also refer to the plural unless the context requires otherwise.
- 10.15 *Severability and Headlines* The invalidity of any provision of these Bylaws shall not affect the other provisions of these Bylaws, and in such event these Bylaws shall be construed in all respects as if such invalid provision were omitted.
- 10.16 Saving Clause Failure of literal or complete compliance with any provision of these Bylaws in respect of dates and times of notice, or the sending or receipt of the same, or errors in phraseology of notice of proposals, which in the judgment of the Board do not cause substantial injury to the rights of the Members, shall not invalidate the actions or proceedings of the Board.
- 10.17 *Voting* All votes taken in the Organization shall follow the structure of a preferential voting system.

10.18 Ranking Algorithm

- 10.18.1 *Purpose* Since the Organization does not have a set schedule or a required number of games to be played by each Member Team, the Organization will utilize a unique ranking system to accommodate for the current structure of the Organization. Member Teams will be ranked based on the results of the Events in which they participate.
- 10.18.2 *NDA Ranking* The Organization will determine the ranking of a Member Team utilizing one or more ranking systems. A Member Team's placement will be their "NDA Ranking."

10.18.3 Ranking Systems

- 10.19.3.1 *Criteria* Any System used to rank Member Teams will be based on the empirical results of the Events in which they participate, which may be found in the Event Records.
- 10.19.3.2 *Barring of Opinion* Any such systems will avoid the use of any poll, opinion, or similar anecdotal evidence to indicate a Member Team's rating.
- 10.19.3.3 *Definition* Descriptions of the Systems, examples, and any related formulae will be made publicly available on the Organization's website.
- 10.19.3.4 Approval Implication of a System may be introduced at any time, but

must be approved in a Meeting of the Board.

10.19 Effective Date - These Bylaws shall be effective when adopted by the current Board.

CREDITS:

Inspired by USA Ultimate, USA Rugby, and the NCDA Editing and Revisions by the 2024 Executive Board

2024 NDA Bylaws and Constitution: Signed and Approved April 25, 2024:

Published by authority of 2024 NDA Executive Board on behalf of the Member Teams: Dylan Fettig, League President; Felix Perrone, Treasurer; Kevin Bailey, Director; Wesley Peters, Director; Dylan Greer, Director; Colin O'Brien, Director; Anthony Stumpo.

Typeface: Calibri Regular, Bold, and Italic - 12 Point