

**BYLAWS OF  
THE NORTH AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE SOCIOLOGY OF SPORT**

**ARTICLE I: MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1: Categories of Members.**

The Society shall have three categories of members. The designation of such categories shall be as follows:

- 1.1 Active Members. Active members are those individuals who maintain professional interest in and support the sociological study of play, games, and sport.
- 1.2 Student Members. Student membership is open to persons who are students as defined by their institutions of higher education.
- 1.3 Emeritus Members. Emeritus membership is open to active members when retiring from the institutions with which they have been affiliated (according to the rules and regulations of that institution) and at the time of retirement have been active members of this Society for a minimum of five years. They are eligible for emeritus membership and such membership shall be extended to them upon request and shall continue indefinitely, provided only that they pay dues of emeritus members as set forth in Article XI.

**Section 2: Membership Rights.**

- 2.1 Admission to Membership. Persons eligible for Active, Student, and Emeritus membership shall be deemed admitted to such membership upon payment of the first annual dues provided for by Article XI of these Bylaws.
- 2.2 Voting Rights. Every member shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members.
- 2.3 Termination of Membership. The membership of any member from whom dues are required shall automatically terminate upon failure to pay annual dues by the deadline fixed in Article XI of these Bylaws.
- 2.4 Reinstatement. Upon payment of dues pursuant to Article XI of these Bylaws, the membership of any person eligible for membership whose membership has been terminated for nonpayment of dues shall be automatically reinstated as of date payment is received by the Treasurer of NASSS.
- 2.5 Transfer of Membership. Membership in this Society is not transferrable or assignable.

## **ARTICLE II. MEETINGS OF MEMBERS**

### **Section 1: Annual Meeting.**

Annual meeting of the members shall be held each year for the transaction of such business as may come before the meeting. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to select the dates and site of the annual meeting.

### **Section 2: Special Meetings.**

Special meetings of the members may be called by the President, the Board of Directors, or not less than one-tenth of the members having voting rights.

### **Section 3: Place of Meeting.**

The Board of Directors may designate any place as the place of the meeting for any meeting called by the Board of Directors.

### **Section 4: Notice of Meetings.**

Notice by postal mail, telephone or electronically (e.g., fax or email), stating the place, day, and hour of any meeting of members shall be delivered to each member entitled to vote at such a meeting, by or at the direction of the President, or the officers or persons calling the meeting. In case of a special meeting or when required by statute of this Constitution the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called shall be stated in the notice. If mailed, the notice of the meeting shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the mail addressed to the members at their addresses as they appear on the records of the Corporation, with postage thereon paid.

### **Section 5: Quorum.**

The majority of the members with voting rights shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of members. Should a quorum not be present at any meeting of members, a majority of the members present may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice. A response by at least twenty percent (20%) of the members with voting rights shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by mail voting (including but not limited to the election of officers).

### **Section 6: Manner of Acting.**

A majority of the votes cast on a matter to be voted upon by members present or represented by proxy at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be necessary for the adoption thereof unless a greater proportion is required by these Bylaws requiring a greater proportion for approval.

### **Section 7: Voting by Mail.**

The election of officers shall be conducted by mail by the Elections Committee in such a manner as the Board of Directors shall determine. Furthermore, any action which may be taken at a meeting of members may be taken without mail vote provided it is conducted in such manner as the Board of Directors shall determine, provided, however,

that mail voting shall not be permitted upon proposals to merge or consolidate, to sell, or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all the assets of the Society or to dissolve the Society.

### **Section 8: Proxies.**

At any meeting of members, a member is entitled to vote by proxy if he/she has informed the President in writing of that intention. No proxy shall be valid after 11 months from the date of its execution unless otherwise provided in the proxy.

## **ARTICLE III: BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **Section 1: Composition of the Board of Directors.**

The Board of Directors is comprised of the President, the President-elect, Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, three (3) Members-at-Large and two (2) Graduate Student Representatives, all of whom shall serve as voting members of the Board of Directors. The Editor of the *Sociology of Sport Journal* the Editor of the NASSS Newsletter and the NASSS Archivist shall be ex-officio non-voting members of the Board, who are appointed by the Board for a three-year term.

### **Section 2: General Powers.**

The affairs of the Society shall be managed by its Board of Directors subject to instructions adopted by majority vote at any meeting of the members. Directors must be Active members of the Society. The Board of Directors shall appoint an Editor of the *Sociology of Sport Journal*, an Editor of the NASSS Newsletter, the NASSS Archivist and all standing committees.

### **Section 3: Appointments.**

The Board of Directors shall act on the recommended appointments of members of all committees, an Editor of the *Sociology of Sport Journal*, an Editor of the NASSS Newsletter, and an Archivist, in addition to any advisors who will serve at the pleasure of the Board.

### **Section 4: Regular Meetings.**

A regular annual meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held without other notice preceding and at the same place as the annual meeting of members. The Board of Directors may provide by resolution the time and place for holding additional regular meetings of the Board without other notice.

### **Section 5: Special Meetings.**

Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by or at the request of the President or one-third of the Board of Directors. The person or persons authorized to call special meetings of the Board may fix any place as the place for holding any special meeting of the Board called by them.

### **Section 6: Notice.**

Notice of any special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be given at least two weeks previously thereto by telephone or electronically, or by postal mail to Directors at their address as shown by the records of the Society. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the mail in a sealed envelope with postage thereon prepaid.

### **Section 7: Quorum.**

A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board, but if a quorum is not present at said meeting, a majority of the Directors present may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice.

### **Section 8: Manner of Acting.**

The act of a majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors, unless the act of a greater number is required by law or by these Bylaws.

### **Section 9: Informal Action by Directors.**

Any action required by law to be taken at a meeting of Directors, or any action that may be taken by Directors, may be taken without a meeting if agreement is confirmed in writing, electronically or by telephone by the majority of the Directors.

## **ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS**

### **Section 1: Officers.**

The officers of the Society shall be a President, President-Elect, Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, three (3) Members-at-Large and two (2) Graduate Student Representatives.

### **Section 2: Eligibility for Office.**

Active Members are eligible to serve as officers of the Society, except that graduate students are solely eligible to serve as the Graduate Student Representatives.

### **Section 3: Term of Office.**

The Secretary, Treasurer, and Members-at-Large shall be elected by the Active Members by mail ballot prior to an annual meeting for two-year terms. No more than two Members-at-Large shall be elected on the same ballot. The President-Elect shall also be elected by the Active Members by mail ballot prior to an annual meeting for a one-year term. The President-Elect serves a one-year term as President-Elect prior to assuming the presidency. He/she then serves a one-year term as President. He/she then serves a one-year term as Past President. Graduate Student Representatives shall be elected by the graduate students at the annual Conference for a two year, staggered term. Terms

of office shall begin at the close of the annual meeting prior to which officers were elected and terminate at the close of the meeting prior to which their successors are elected.

#### **Section 4: Election**

Elections shall be conducted in the following manner: Each January the Elections Committee shall canvass the membership and the Board of Directors for nomination suggestions and shall then prepare, after having secured the permission of each nominee, a slate of nomination for the election of officers. The slate shall contain at least two candidates for each office. The Elections Committee Chairperson shall forward this slate to the Treasurer, who will mail to each member no later than March 1 a ballot containing the slate of candidates together with instructions for voting. The Ballot shall include, but not be limited to: (a) a list of candidates for each office, (b) a brief statement by each candidate expressing his or her qualifications for the office, (c) a summary of his or her publications, (d) a report on his or her other professional activities, and (e) a brief statement on his or her desired vision for NASSS. The ballot may also include other pertinent information on candidates and offices, as long as the additions are the same for each candidate for each office. The ballots shall be returnable by mail to the Elections Committee Chairperson, to be received no later than April 1. Each ballot is to be sealed individually in an unsigned and unmarked envelope. The nominees receiving the majority of the votes will be elected, provided that ballots are returned by twenty percent (20%) of the Active Members. In the case of a tie, ballots for a run-off election shall be mailed out to the membership no later than May 1 and returned no later than June 1. The Elections Committee Chairperson shall count the votes, certify the elections results to the Board of Directors, and report the elections results to the members. In keeping with Officers shall hold office until their successors have been duly elected and until their terms of office shall have begun as herein provided. One Graduate Student Representative will be elected by the graduate students at the annual Conference each year, at a meeting called for them and chaired by the continuing Graduate Student Representative.

#### **Section 5: Removal.**

Any officer may be removed by the members at a meeting of members whenever in their judgment the best interest of the Society would be served thereby.

#### **Section 6: Vacancies.**

A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification, or otherwise may be filled by the Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the term except that a vacancy in the office of the President shall be filled by the Past President.

#### **Section 7: Powers and Duties.**

The officers shall have the powers and duties customarily incident to their respective offices in similar organizations, such as shall be specifically delegated to them by the Board of Directors. The offices must include:

### **Section 8: President.**

The President shall be the principal executive officer of the Society and shall in general supervise all of the business and affairs of the society. The president shall preside at all meetings of the members and the Board of Directors. The President may sign, with the Secretary or any other proper officer of the Society authorized by the Board of Directors, any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, or other instruments which the Board of Directors has authorized to be executed, except in case where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Directors or by these Bylaws or by statute to some other officer or agent of the Society; and, in general the President shall perform all duties incident to the Office of President and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time.

### **Section 9: President-Elect.**

The President –Elect works closely with the President to learn to perform all duties incidental to the office of the President. When a vacancy occurs, in the office of the President, and when there is no Past-President, the President-Elect shall fill the unexpired term. The President-elect is responsible for overseeing the upcoming Conference program, and selecting a Convention Program Committee to assist him/her in that process.

### **Section 10: Past-President.**

Upon completion of the one-year term as President, this person shall serve a one-year term as Past-President. During that year, the Past-President shall perform the duties of the President in absence of the President or in the event of the President's inability or refusal to serve. The Past President chairs the NASSS Service Excellence Award Committee.

### **Section 11: Secretary.**

The Secretary shall keep, or cause to keep, the minutes of the meetings of the members and the Board of Directors in one or more books provided for that purpose; see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws or as required by law; be custodian of the Society's records; attend to the correspondence of the Society, as directed by the President; and in general perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary, and such others as from time to time may be assigned by the President or by the Board of Directors.

### **Section 12: Treasurer.**

The Treasurer shall have charge and custody of, and be responsible for, all funds and securities of the Society, receive and give receipts for monies due and payable to the Society from any sources whatsoever and deposit all such monies in the name of the Society in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as shall be selected in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws. The Treasurer shall prepare an annual financial report of the Society at the close of each fiscal year and a proposed budget for the biennium. The Treasurer shall arrange for an annual audit. The Treasurer shall compile for official use and record an annual membership list of this Society and provide a copy of the membership list of this Society for each biennium.

### **Section 13: Member-At-Large**

Each Member-At-Large shall chair an award committee (i.e., for outstanding article, book and student essay), and assist in other duties as assigned by the Board.

### **Section 14: Graduate Student Representative**

The Graduate Student Representatives represent the concerns and interests of the graduate students on the Board, and are responsible for reporting back to NASSS graduate students concerning Board activities. They may also assist graduate students attending the annual Conference concerning their particular needs (e.g., accommodations)

## **ARTICLE V: PUBLICATIONS**

### **Section 1: Newsletter and Sociology of Sport Journal.**

There shall be a NEWSLETTER and SOCIOLOGY OF SPORT JOURNAL published on a regular basis. Such basis shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

### **Section 2:**

The offices of the Editor of the Newsletter and the SOCIOLOGY OF SPORT JOURNAL shall be filled by qualified persons appointed by the Board of Directors. Persons appointed to their positions shall serve for a three year period or until (a) he/she, for whatever reason, decides that he/she can no longer satisfactorily carry out the duties of the office in which case he/she shall submit to the President, and in writing, a statement of intent to resign, resignation to become effective six months following the date of receipt of such statement by the resident; or (b) the President shall, having received written statements of consensus from all other members of the Board of Directors, call for said Editor's resignation, which shall become effective immediately.

### **Section 3:**

Other publications may ensue as determined to be desirable by the Board of Directors.

### **Section 4:**

All Active members shall receive regular subscriptions to the NEWSLETTER and SOCIOLOGY OF SPORT JOURNAL and other official publications of the Society, subject to the current financial status of the Society. Graduate student and Emeritus members shall receive regular subscriptions to the NEWSLETTER.

## **ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES**

### **Section 1: Standing Committees.**

The standing committees of the Society shall be the Elections Committee, Finance Committee, Convention Program Committee, Outstanding Article Award Committee, Outstanding Book Award Committee, Outstanding Student Paper Award Committee and Service Excellence Award Committee. The chairpersons and members of all standing

committees shall be appointed by the President, acting with the approval of the Board of Directors. The members of all standing Committees must be members of this Society.

### **Section 2: Elections Committee.**

At each annual meeting of the Society, the President shall appoint, subject to the confirmation of the Board of Directors, an Elections Committee consisting of three (3) members of the Society, none of which shall be members of the Board of Directors, who shall continue in office for one year. The Chairperson, selected by the President, shall be responsible for selecting the other committee members. This Committee is responsible for the preparation of a list of nominees for the elected offices of the Society, in accordance with Article IV, Section 4 of these Bylaws. The Chairperson shall report the results of the election back to the Board at their next Annual meeting.

### **Section 3: Finance Committee.**

At each annual meeting of the Society, the President shall appoint, subject to the confirmation of the Board of Directors, a Finance Committee. The Treasurer shall be the chairperson and select his/her committee members. This three-person committee shall aid in the construction of a proposed budget in co-operation with the Treasurer, evaluate all existing fiscal policies of the Society, recommend changes to the Board of Directors, and appoint an auditor and report the results to the Board of Directors.

### **Section 4: Convention Program Committee.**

At each annual meeting of the Society, the President shall appoint, subject to the confirmation of the Board of Directors, a Convention Program Committee. The President-Elect shall be the chairperson, and select his/her committee members. This committee is responsible for organization of the next NASSS convention program. The chairperson shall appoint a convention manager to make necessary local arrangements for the annual meeting of the Society.

### **Outstanding Article Award Committee:**

At each annual meeting of the Society, the President shall appoint, subject to the confirmation of the Board of Directors, an Outstanding Article Award Committee. A Member-At-Large shall be the chairperson and select his/her committee members. This three-person committee shall review all *Sociology of Sport Journal* articles in the year they are appointed and select a winner, to be announced at the next Annual meeting of the membership.

### **Outstanding Book Award Committee:**

At each annual meeting of the Society, the President shall appoint, subject to the confirmation of the Board of Directors, an Outstanding Book Award Committee. A Member-At-Large shall be the chairperson and select his/her committee members. This three-person committee shall review books published in the year previous to or in which they were appointed, that have been nominated by a NASSS member. They shall select a winner, to be announced at the Annual meeting of the membership.

### **Outstanding Student Paper Award Committee:**

At each annual meeting of the Society, the President shall appoint, subject to the confirmation of the Board of Directors, an Outstanding Article Award Committee. A

Member-At-Large shall be the chairperson and select his/her committee members. A three-person committee shall review all papers submitted by graduate students for consideration prior to the deadline set and announced in the NASSS Newsletter. They shall select a winner, to be announced at the Annual meeting of the membership.

**Service Excellence Award Committee:**

At each annual meeting of the Society, the President shall appoint, subject to the confirmation of the Board of Directors, an Outstanding Article Award Committee. The Past-President shall be the chairperson and select his/her committee members. This three-person committee solicits nominees for the award from the NASSS membership and selects the recipient. The call for nominees shall be announced in the NASSS Newsletter, and nominations should include a one/two page statement from the nominator, summarizing the nominee's service to NASSS and to the area of Sport Sociology. They shall announce recipients of this Award at the Annual meeting of the membership.

**Section 6: Special Committees.**

The President, acting with the approval of the Board of Directors, may authorize special committees, appoint the chairpersons and other members, and have the power to dissolve the committees. In any event, all special committees shall dissolve upon the expiration of the term of office of the President during whose term the committees were authorized. No dissolution of a special committee shall preclude subsequent creation of a special committee having the same or a similar area of responsibilities.

**Section 7: Removal.**

Any member of a standing or special committee may be removed by the President, acting with the approval of the Board of Directors, whenever the best interests of the Society shall be served by such removal.

**Section 8: Operating Codes.**

Each standing committee shall adopt an operating code for its own governance not inconsistent with these Bylaws or with rules adopted by the Board of Directors. Each operating code shall include the name of the committee, its plan of work, its procedures for submitting reports, and its provisions for financial support. A special committee may adopt an operating code at its option.

**ARTICLE VII: CONTRACTS, CHECKS, DEPOSITS, AND FUNDS**

**Section 1: Contracts.**

The Board of Directors may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents, of the Society in addition to the officers so authorized by these Bylaws, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the society, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

## **Section 2: Checks, Drafts, Etc.**

All checks, drafts, or orders for payment of money, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness, issued in the name of the Society shall be signed by such officer or officers, agent or agents, of the Society and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Board of Directors. In the absence of such determination by the Board of Directors, such instruments shall be signed by the Treasurer or by the President of the Society.

## **Section 3: Deposits.**

All funds of the Society shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the Society in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories, as the Board of Directors may select.

## **Section 4: Gifts.**

The Board of Directors may accept on behalf of the Society any contribution, gift, bequest, or devise for the general purpose or for any special purpose of the Society.

## **ARTICLE VIII: MEMBERSHIP CARDS**

The Board of Directors may choose to issue a membership card annually to each member of the Society. Such membership cards shall be signed by the Treasurer of this Society, with the name and address of each member and the date of issuance of the membership cards entered on the records of the Society.

## **ARTICLE IX: BOOKS AND RECORDS**

The Society shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall also keep minutes of the proceedings of its members and the Board of Directors and shall keep at its registered or principal office a record giving the names and addresses of the members entitled to vote. All books and records of the society may be inspected by any member, or their agents or attorneys, for any proper purpose at any reasonable time.

## **ARTICLE X: FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year of the Society shall begin on the first day of January and end on the last day of December in each year.

## **ARTICLE XI: DUES AND FEES**

### **Section 1: Annual Dues.**

Annual dues for Active, Student, and Emeritus Members shall be determined as recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by the members. Emeritus Members shall during the first year of eligibility for emeritus membership pay a sum equal to one year's membership dues and thereafter shall be exempt from payment of annual dues and of special fees. During the year that the Emeritus member pays his/her

regular dues, he/she shall receive all publications, etc. that all active members receive. After this year, the Emeritus member shall receive only the NASSS NEWSLETTER.

## **Section 2: Payment of Dues.**

Annual dues shall be payable on January 1 of each year. All memberships are for a term of January 1 to December 31. Membership benefits will begin upon payment by the Treasurer and continue throughout that year until December 31.

## **Section 3: Special Fees.**

The Board of Directors may levy a special fee on participants in a convention or special fee on participants in a convention or workshop meeting to defray part of all of the expenses thereof. The amount of such fees shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE XII: SEAL**

### **Section 1:**

The seal of the Society shall be that adopted by the Board of Directors and shall be used on all official transactions and publications. The seal must include at least : (a) identification of the Society, (b) the date of the origin of the Society, and (c) a symbol depicting the purpose of the society.

## **ARTICLE XIII: RULES OF ORDER**

The rules contained in the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, shall govern all meetings of members and directors and committees of this Society where those rules are not inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation, these Bylaws, or special rules of order of the Society.

## **ARTICLE XIV: COMPENSATION**

Officers and directors of this Society and members of its committees shall serve without compensation. Traveling and maintenance expenses which they incur solely on account of this Society may be partially or wholly reimbursed at the discretion of the Board of Directors; also the Board of Directors may in its discretion pay an honorarium to speakers at its meetings.

## **ARTICLE XV: AMENDMENTS**

### **Section 1: Constitution.**

The Constitution may be altered or amended and new articles may be adopted in the following manner: The Board of Directors shall adopt a resolution setting forth the proposed amendment and directing that it be submitted to a vote. Written or printed notice setting forth the proposed amendment or a summary of the changes to be effected thereby shall be sent by mail to all Active Members. The proposed amendment shall be adopted upon receiving at least two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the ballots

returned, provided that ballots are returned by twenty percent (20%) of the Active Members.

**Section 2: Bylaws.**

These Bylaws may be amended at any annual meeting by two-thirds of the votes cast by members with voting rights present or represented by proxy. Amendments may be proposed by any member with voting rights in NASSS. Proposed amendments must be submitted in writing, with supporting arguments, to the President no later than ninety (90) days before the opening of the annual meeting. The President shall review all proposed amendments but make no substantive changes in a proposal without the consent of the originator. The President shall mail or cause to be mailed to every member amendment proposals no later than thirty (30) days before the opening of the annual meeting.