

BYLAWS OF AGGIELAND HOMESCHOOL ATHLETICS

Aggieland Homeschool Athletics, Inc. is a non-profit, incorporated Christian educational organization established to facilitate the development of the home school athletic programs in the Brazos Valley area of central Texas.

Mission, Purpose, and Goals

The mission of Aggieland Homeschool Athletics is to create, facilitate, and operate athletic programs for home school families in the Brazos Valley area in Central Texas. We believe that competitive athletics provide young people with invaluable life experiences and lessons that are part of a well-rounded education. Through these competitive programs we desire to work with parents to see home school students grow in character, discipline, self-control, humility, respect for authority, and faith in God.

The Aggieland Homeschool Athletics organization has the following goals:

- A. Provide information and support to home schooling families interested in athletics.
- B. Facilitate the successful implementation of athletic programs to serve the common needs of the home schooling families in Brazos County and the surrounding counties.
- C. To field competitive, well-coached, and skilled teams of young student athletes who are also of high moral character.
- D. To see each participating athlete grow in his or her relationship with, and understanding of, God.
- E. To provide athletic opportunities to all home schooling families and young athletes, regardless of race, gender, or specific religious beliefs.

Additionally, Aggieland Homeschool Athletics may also facilitate activities such as service projects or mission trips for its member families and student athletes. Service projects and trips of this nature build teamwork and camaraderie and are in keeping with the overall goals of the organization.

Aggieland Homeschool Athletics is governed by its members, consisting of families that participate in the activities of the organization.

The organization has not been formed for the making of any profit, or personal financial gain. The assets and income of the organization shall not be distributable to, or benefit the trustees, directors, or officers or other individuals. The assets and income shall only be used to promote corporate purposes as described above. This organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from federal income tax. The organization shall not endorse, contribute to, work for, or otherwise support (or oppose) a candidate for public office. The organization is organized exclusively for purposes subsequent to section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The provisions of these bylaws are in support of the articles of incorporation files with the Secretary of State for the State of Texas filed June 10, 2013.

ARTICLE I. OFFICES

- 1.01 Principal Office: The principal office of the corporation in the State of Texas shall be located in Brazos County, Texas.
- 1.02 Registered Office and Registered Agent: The registered office and the registered agent of the corporation required by the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act to be maintained in the State of Texas shall be managed and kept current by the officers of the corporation. The registered agent must be an active member of the organization and current officer.

ARTICLE II. DEFINITIONS

- 2.01 Member Family: Parents or Guardians of student athletes participating in at least one sport program during the school year. Member Families may or may not have voting rights. See article III for full definition and rights of membership.
- 2.02 Sport Committee. A committee authorized by the voting membership of Aggieland Homeschool Athletics to operate a sport program.
- 2.03 “Student Athlete” or “Player”: A person who does not attain the age of 19 prior to the start of a school year and participates in at least one sport activity.
- 2.04 School Year: The period from approximately September 1st to August 31st of the following calendar year.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

- 3.01 General Powers: The business and affairs of the corporation shall be managed by the membership of the corporation.
- 3.02 Families as Members: Membership is granted to families. Families are defined as the legal, primary, custodial parents or guardians of a student athlete. A single membership is granted to the parents or parent, regardless of how many student athletes they have participating in the sports programs. A single student athlete can only be represented by one member family.
- 3.03 Qualifications: Families are qualified as members when:
 - (a) They submit a complete membership application to the secretary of the corporation or a sports committee.
 - (b) They have children active in sports program, or, if a sport is in the off season, children were active during the most recently completed season.
 - (c) Each member family must agree to waive any and all claims, actions, or rights of action, which they may have against the organization, or any of its officers, or members, which may arise from the activities of any member family of the organization by reason of the purpose and nature of the organization.
- 3.04 Dues:
 - (a) The membership may require that annual dues be paid by each member family.
 - (b) As of the initial adoption of these bylaws, no organization wide dues will be assessed.
- 3.05 Member Families and Voting Rights:

- (a) Member Families fall into two classifications:
 - Member families with voting rights
 - Member families without voting rights
 - (b) Member Families obtain voting rights within the corporation and within the sport committees after:
 - Being active in at least one of the corporation's sport programs for a period of 6 months, or after having been active in one of the corporation's sport programs for a full season, whichever is shorter.
 - Agreeing to the organization's Statement of Faith on their sport program's registration.
 - (c) Member Families who have not attained voting rights may attend any meeting and speak under the general rules of order.
- 3.06 Initial Membership: Prior to November 1st, 2013, the corporation will accept participation in the BVCHEA Mustang basketball sport program for a period of 6 months between September 1st, 2012 and May 31st, 2013 in lieu of the requirement of being active in an Aggieland Homeschool Athletic program for 6 months.
- 3.07 Transfers and mergers of members: At a special or annual meeting, the membership may qualify a set of families as having met the requirements of membership by participation in another homeschool sports program that serves the Brazos Valley area of Central Texas.
- 3.08 Removal from membership
- (a) Families can be removed from membership for the following reasons:
 - Falsification of the membership application document
 - Falsification of a criminal background check, leadership application, or any other official document of the corporation
 - The membership of the corporation finds that actions of the member family undermine or subvert the mission and purpose of the organization.
 - Consistent failure to abide by the complaint policy of a sport committee
 - (b) Removal of a family from membership must occur at an annual or special meeting of the membership, and must be placed on the agenda.
 - (c) Member families subject to removal must be given notice as prescribed in Article XIII.
- 3.09 Suspension of membership: A family's membership may be suspended for non-payment of dues or fees. Suspension entails the loss of voting rights and also the loss of playing privileges for players from that family. The membership must publish and follow clear, written procedures that include notice of at least 30 days, before invoking a suspension.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

- 4.01 The officers of the corporation serve the membership by fulfilling specified roles and duties.
- 4.02 Officers of the corporation hold no additional powers to direct the affairs of the organization, other than what is specifically granted to the officers in the bylaws. Officers may be granted temporary rights to act on behalf of the members by resolution of the membership. For example, authorization to execute a contract to lease facilities would be an additional, temporary right.

- 4.03 Following are the officers of the corporation and their enumerated duties.
- (a) President
 - The president shall preside over the meetings of the membership.
 - The president shall help facilitate corporate wide communication to all members.
 - The president shall lead the organization by identifying issues, challenges, and opportunities of the corporation, and shall bring proposals to the membership to address these issues, challenges, and opportunities.
 - The president shall work to build consensus among the membership.
 - (b) Secretary
 - The secretary shall keep accurate minutes at all meetings of the membership and make those minutes available to any member upon request.
 - The secretary will keep an accurate roster of all currently active families.
 - The secretary will notify the Texas Secretary of State of any changes to the registered agent, and will file any other necessary information with the Texas Secretary of State.
 - (c) Treasurer
 - The treasurer will oversee the management of any funds held by the organization.
 - The treasurer will be the registered agent of the corporation as filed with the Texas Secretary of State. Election of a new Treasurer authorizes the secretary to update the registered agent with the Texas Secretary of State.
 - The treasurer will keep accurate books and produce consolidated financial reports.
 - The treasurer will file any required financial reports with the State of Texas and the IRS.
- 4.04 Qualifications: Officers must belong to an active member family of the organization or have been an active member of the organization during the prior ~~40~~ 5-year period. Officers can also hold positions within individual sport programs.
- 4.05 Term of office: Officers are elected for one-year terms at the annual membership meeting. The term will run from September 1st through August 31st. After completion of the annual elections, the outgoing officers may begin to transition duties to the new officers during the months of July and August. Officers may serve in successive terms with no term limits.
- 4.06 If, at the time of the annual meeting, the organization consists of a single sports committee or sports program, the membership may, by simple majority vote, designate that the sport committee chair, secretary, and treasurer will also serve as the corporate officers.
- 4.07 Election Process:
- (a) Election committee: Four to six weeks prior to the annual or special meeting, the current officers will appoint an election committee of two or three persons from different member families to operate the annual election.
 - (b) Nominations: The election committee must notify the membership of the vacancies and request nominations. The election committee may also solicit and recruit candidates to run for the vacant positions. Nominations must remain open for at least one week and members of the election committee may not be nominated.
 - (c) The election committee will prepare a ballot. The election will be placed on the agenda of an annual or special meeting.

- (d) Members will be given the opportunity to vote via mail or email. Mail or email voting will occur over a period of one week. Votes may be submitted via email or printed signed paper.
 - (e) Each member family will have one vote.
 - (f) Voting will conclude at the annual or special meeting of the membership. Secret paper ballots may be submitted at said meeting by members families who did not submit a vote via e-mail.
 - (g) If one candidate does not acquire over 50 percent of the vote, a runoff election between the two top candidates will be held by secret ballot at the annual meeting.
 - (h) Unopposed candidates must also receive an affirmative vote of over 50 percent of the members who voted.
 - (i) The election committee will submit election results to the new secretary for appropriate record keeping.
- 4.08 Vacancies: If a vacancy shall occur, the other officers shall appoint an interim officer until a special election can be held. If the annual elections are to be held within the next 3 months, the interim officer may continue to serve until the annual elections. Special elections will follow the election process described in Section 4.07.
- 4.09 Removal of Officers
- (a) The membership may vote by simple majority vote to remove an officer.
 - (b) The officer subject to removal must be given Notice as defined in Article XI, at least two weeks in advance.
 - (c) The entire membership must be given special notice (i.e. separate and distinct) that an action to remove an officer is on an upcoming meeting's agenda
- 4.10 Compensation: Officers as such shall receive no stated salaries or compensation for their services, but they are not precluded from serving the corporation in any other capacity and receiving compensation therefore.

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS

- 5.01 Annual meeting: The membership shall meet once annually during the months of June, July, or August. At this meeting, the membership shall elect officers for the next year, and consider any other business of the corporation.
- 5.02 Published agenda: The president and secretary shall work with the executive committee to publish and e-mail out an agenda at least 5 days prior to the annual meeting.
- 5.03 Place and time of meetings: The president and secretary of the corporation will arrange a place and time for all meetings. Meetings must take place within Brazos County and must occur outside of regular of working hours (i.e. 8:00am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday). Meeting times and places must be set to allow for the most possible members to attend.
- 5.04 Special Meetings: Special meetings of the members may be called by agreement of two officers. A petition of at least 5 member families to the secretary can also call a special meeting. Notice of the place and time of any Special Meeting of the membership shall be given to each member family at least 10 days prior to such meeting. If notice is required, notice shall be given as defined under "Notice" in section 13.01 of these bylaws.
- 5.05 Quorum: A Quorum of the membership must be present at any meeting in order for the membership to conduct business. A Quorum shall be defined as:

- (a) At least 2 of the current officers and 20% of the active member families.
- (b) All 3 current officers plus an officer from each active sport committee.

ARTICLE VI. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 6.01 The officers of the corporation and the chairperson from each active sport committee will form the Executive Committee.
- 6.02 The Executive Committee will meet at least once a year prior to the annual meeting of the membership to put together the agenda for the annual meeting. The executive committee shall also consider and prepare resolutions for the membership to consider that are in the best interest of the corporation.
- 6.03 The membership may assign the executive committee specific other duties.
- 6.04 The executive committee does not have full delegation of authority from the membership to manage the affairs of the corporation. The executive committee's authority is limited to authority granted in these bylaws or granted via special resolution of the membership.

ARTICLE VII. MEMBER COMMITTEES

- 7.01 Committees of Members: The Membership, by resolution adopted by the majority of the Members, may designate one or more Members to serve on a committee for any specified purpose. Committees may be formed for a specific length of time or may be of indefinite duration. The membership can disband a member committee at any annual or special meeting of the membership.
- 7.02 Member committees do not have full delegation of authority from the membership to manage the affairs of the corporation. Member committee's authority is limited to authority granted to the committee via resolution of the membership.

ARTICLE VIII. SPORT PROGRAM COMMITTEES

- 8.01 Individual Sport Programs will be operated by committees formed from member families of student athletes who participate in a particular sport. The membership must create and authorize sport program committees by resolution at an annual or special meeting of the membership
- 8.02 Sport committees must share governance with the participating member families of the sport program by conducting open meetings and allowing all member families involved with that sport an opportunity to give input on matters brought to the attention of the organization before a final recommendation is submitted to the member families for a vote. The organization's leaders will always work toward consensus when discussing matters brought to their attention for consideration.
- 8.03 Committees may be initially appointed by the membership of the corporation, but after one season of operation, a sport program committee must be elected by the member families participating in that sport.

- 8.04 Sport Program committees must consist of at least three members: a chairman, a secretary, and a treasurer.
- 8.05 Sport Programs will be allowed to manage their own financial operations provided the following requirements are met:
- (a) The sport program committee must appropriately manage the financial records of the sport. Ideally, this will be done with an appropriate software program such as Quicken or Quickbooks. At a minimum, each sport must track income and expenses in categories as defined by the treasurer of the corporation.
 - (b) No committee member will receive financial compensation for serving on the sport program committee.
- 8.06 Sport program committees must adopt written operating procedures that address the following issues:
- (a) Selection of Coaches
 - (b) Structure and selection of the sport program committee
 - (c) Eligibility of student athletes
 - (d) A conflict resolution policy and process
 - (e) Financial policies on the disbursement of funds
- 8.07 Conflicts: Sports program committees will have the final say in the resolution of all matters of conflict. Member families may not bring grievances to the full corporation membership. However, each sport program committee conflict resolution process must allow for the creation of an independent review board if committee members are named in the grievance.
- 8.08 Coaching: Sports program committees and member families will have the freedom to select coaches to best meet the needs of the student athletes participating in that sport.
- 8.09 In general, the Sport Program committees and families will be given broad latitude to operate the sports programs. However, the executive committee and membership of Aggieland Homeschool Athletics may step in and take over management of a sport program committee if any of the following is found or strongly suspected
- (a) Fraudulent financial operations
 - (b) Falsification of reports and information communicated to its membership or to Aggieland Homeschool Athletics.
 - (c) Illegal or immoral activity occurring among the leadership (committee members, coaches, or volunteers) of the sport program.
- 8.10 Separation from Aggieland Homeschool Athletics: If a sports committee no longer desires to affiliate with Aggieland Homeschool Athletics, that program may separate and join or form another non-profit homeschool athletic program. This decision must be made by majority vote of the member families participating in that sport program committee. Notice of intent to separate must be given in writing, with documented election results, to the current chairman of Aggieland Homeschool Athletics. If a sports committee chooses to separate from Aggieland Homeschool Athletics the following steps must be taken to dispose of the assets of the sports program:
- (a) All debts and obligations of the sports program must be settled.
 - (b) After all debts are settled, the sport committee must provide written direction to the treasurer of Aggieland Homeschool Athletics of the non-profit organization to receive the residual funds. The receiving organization:
 - Must be non-profit in its purposes

- May or may not be incorporated.
 - Must have its own bank account in the name of the organization
- (c) The sports committee may also direct any other assets of the sport program to the same organization that is receiving the residual funds.

ARTICLE IX. STUDENT ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

- 9.01 Student athletes will be qualified for eligibility by each sport committee.
- 9.02 In general, student athletes should be home schooled following commonly accepted definitions used by THSC or NCHC. However, sport committees can grant exceptions and will have the final say over player eligibility.
- 9.03 A student athlete's parents or guardians must register their student athlete with an Aggieland Homeschool Athletics sport and pay any dues currently authorized by the membership in order for said student athlete to participate in any sport program.

ARTICLE X. CONTRACTS, LOANS, CHECKS, AND DEPOSITS

- 10.01 Contracts: The Membership may authorize any officer or agent, to enter into any contract, or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the corporation, and this authority may be general or confined to specific instances.
- 10.02 Checks, Drafts, Etc.: All checks, drafts, or other orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the corporation shall be signed by an officer or officers, agent or agents of the corporation as shall be determined by resolution of the Membership.
- 10.03 Deposits: All funds of the corporation not otherwise employed shall be deposited to the credit of the corporation in banks, trust companies or other depositories as the Membership may select.
- 10.04 Gifts: The Membership may authorize any officer or agent, to accept on behalf of the corporation any contribution, gift, bequest, or devise for the general purpose of for any special purpose of the corporation.

ARTICLE XI. BOOKS AND RECORDS

The corporation shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall keep minutes of the proceedings of its membership, and committees having any authority of the Membership. Anyone providing a written request shall be given a financial report of Aggieland Homeschool Athletics, provided that sufficient time will be allowed to prepare such report if a current one is not available.

ARTICLE XII. FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the corporation shall begin on the 1st day of September, and end on the 31st day of August the following calendar year.

ARTICLE XIII. NOTICE AND WAIVER

- 13.01 Notice: Any notice to a Member shall be given in writing by mail, fax, or e-mail. Notice to any Member by mail shall be deemed given when deposited in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, addressed to such Member's last known address. If notice is given by fax, the notice shall be deemed to be delivered in writing to the telegraph company or when it is physically sent by the fax to a known current fax number. If notice is given by e-mail, the notice shall be deemed to be delivered when confirmed with a reply or a delivery receipt.

The secretary of the corporation shall attempt to confirm receipt of notice, or document reasons when confirmation was not possible.

- 13.02 Waiver: Whenever any notice is required to be given to any member or officer of the corporation under the provisions of these bylaws or under the provisions of the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act, a waiver thereof, in writing, signed by the person or persons entitled to the notice, whether signed before or after the required or stated time, shall be deemed equivalent to giving of the notice.

ARTICLE XIV. DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS ON DISSOLUTION

- 14.01 Upon dissolution of this corporation, the property then on hand, if any after payment of all outstanding debts of the corporation, will be donated without charge to the Texas Home School Coalition, or any other non-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose purpose is similar to Aggieland Homeschool Athletics to be determined by a quorum as defined by the bylaws.

ARTICLE XV. AMENDMENTS TO THESE BYLAWS

- 15.01 These bylaws may be amended at any special or annual meeting of the membership by following the process described below:
- (a) The membership must be presented with a written copy of all proposed changes as well as a complete copy of the bylaws as amended at least 3 weeks before the meeting of the vote.
 - (b) Members unable to attend the meeting must be allowed to vote for or against the proposed changes via mail, email, or hand delivery of a written vote.
 - (c) For purposes of bylaw changes, a quorum will be defined as 50% of currently active members. Votes by mail, e-mail, or hand delivery will count towards the quorum.
 - (d) Bylaw amendments will be passed by a simple majority of votes cast.