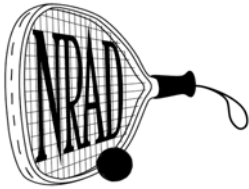


National Racquetball Association of the Deaf

Constitution and by-laws



ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of this corporation shall be the National Racquetball Association of the Deaf of the United States, (the "NRAD"), hereinafter called the Association.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this Association shall be:

- SECTION 1.** To unite in one national organization those Deaf persons engaged or interested in any phase of racquetball in the United States.
- SECTION 2.** To act as a central clearinghouse for information relating to racquetball activities for Deaf people being conducted throughout the United States. Records may be maintained and information may be gathered and disseminated to members of this Association.
- SECTION 3.** To establish principles and standards of racquetball activities for Deaf people in the United States.
- SECTION 4.** To provide developmental training programs to any Deaf person in any aspect of racquetball.
- SECTION 5.** To establish, promote, and conduct racquetball tournaments for the members of the Association.
- SECTION 6.** To encourage, foster, and promote the sport of racquetball and the spirit of fellowship.

ARTICLE III

EXECUTIVE BOARD

SECTION 1. ---*Composition*

The Executive Board shall be composed of as follows: the President, the Vice President, the Secretary and the Treasurer.

SECTION 2. ---*Duties and Responsibilities*

The Executive Board is empowered to act for the Board of Directors on such matters as appropriate and shall transact business and administrative affairs of the Association and Board of Directors.

SECTION 3. ---*Vacancies*

Subsection 3(a). If there is a vacancy for any reason in the office of the President, the Vice President shall succeed to the office of the President and shall have all the powers and perform all the duties of the office.

Subsection 3(b). If there is a vacancy for any reason in the office of the Vice President, the Secretary, and/or the Treasurer, the President shall appoint that vacancy subject to the approval of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE IV

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. ---*Governing Body*

The policy making body of the Association shall be known as the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2. ---*Composition*

The Board of Directors shall be composed of the Executive Board and three (3) Members-at-Large.

SECTION 3. ---*Duration of Term*

The voting members of the Board of Directors shall serve a one (4) year term commencing with their election at the annual NRAD. The Board of Directors shall serve no more than one (4) consecutive full term in the

same office.

SECTION 4. ---*Vacancies*

If there is a vacancy for any reason in the position of one of the three (3) Members-at-Large, the President shall appoint a member of the Association to fill that vacancy subject to approval of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5. ---*Proxy Votes*

No member shall vote by proxy.

SECTION 6. ---*Meetings*

The President shall call the Board of Directors' meetings at the annual NRAD tournament site.

SECTION 7. ---*Quorum*

A quorum of the Board of Directors shall consist of two (2) Executive Board and the three (3) Members-at-Large.

ARTICLE V

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. ---*Definition*

Membership in the Association may be open to any person with a hearing loss of at least 55 decibels in his/her better ear. The President retains the right to request any player to submit an audiogram if there is any question about the hearing loss.

SECTION 2. ---*Membership Dues*

The annual membership dues shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00) per member, payable with the entry fees on or before the deadline as stated by the host of the annual NRAD tournament. The host shall turn over the moneys to the Treasurer of the NRAD before the start of the NRAD tournament.

SECTION 3. ---*Termination of Membership*

Any member in the Association may be terminated, suspended or expelled for conduct detrimental to the objectives of the Association. No members shall be terminated, suspended, or expelled without such member having an opportunity to respond in answer to charges, provided in procedures to be determined by the Board of Directors. A majority vote will then be necessary from the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI

INSIGNIA

The Association shall have an official insignia/logo.

ARTICLE VII

**NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF THE OFFICERS
AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

SECTION 1. ---*Nomination*

Any member of the Board of Directors who desires not to seek re-election shall run the nomination/election process. If such case occurs that all members of the Board of Directors seek re-election, the President shall appoint at least two (2) members from the general membership to run the nomination/election process.

SECTION 2. ---*Slate of Nominees*

At least one (1) name shall be presented to the membership for each of the seven (7) vacancies on the Board of Directors. Names may be placed upon the ballot from the floor prior to the vote. Before a name may be placed on the slate, the members must communicate verbally or in written form--their willingness to serve. This willingness to serve must include attending annual NRAD meetings.

SECTION 3. ---*Election*

The Board of Directors shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Association. Only these members of the Association in good standing

present at the meeting shall be eligible to vote.

SECTION 4. ---*Election of the Executive Board and Members-at-Large*

The offices of President, Treasurer and one (1) Member-at-Large shall be nominated and elected in the years of 2006, 2010, 2014 and hereinafter. The offices of Vice President, Secretary and two (2) Members-at-Large shall be nominated and elected in the years of 2008, 2012, 2016 and hereinafter.

ARTICLE VIII

**DEFINITIONS AND DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

SECTION 1. ---*President*

Subsection 1(a). The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors.

Subsection 1(b). The President shall be responsible for the affairs of the Association and shall execute and administer the policies established by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2. ---*Vice President*

Subsection 2(a). In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall have all the powers and prerogatives of the President.

Subsection 2(b). The Vice President shall assist the President in carrying out the affairs of the Association.

Subsection 2(c). The Vice President shall assume the responsibility of a parliamentarian at all meetings.

Subsection 2(d). The Vice President shall assume the responsibility as a Law Committee.

Subsection 2(e). The Vice President shall assume the responsibility as a Ranking System Committee Chairman.

SECTION 3.---*Secretary*

The Minutes of the previous meeting shall be distributed to the Board of

Directors at least three (3) days prior to the annual NRAD meeting and at least (30) days after the annual NRAD meeting.

SECTION 4.---*Treasurer*

Subsection 4(a). The Treasurer shall have charge and custody of, and be responsible for, all funds and financial records of the Association.

Subsection 4(b). The Treasurer shall oversee the financial activities at the NRAD tournament site.

Subsection 4(c). The Treasurer shall present an annual financial report to the Board of Directors and the general membership at the annual meeting.

Subsection 4(d). The Treasurer shall keep an up-to-date listing of members; keep records of the annual NRAD tournaments; collect dues and keep records of expenditures; make the annual financial report. The President will appoint a person from the Executive Board member and one Member-at-Large to be audited before the annual Board of Directors' meeting.

Subsection 4(e). The annual financial report shall be distributed to the Board of Directors at least thirty (30) days before the annual NRAD meeting.

Subsection 4(f). The Treasurer shall be responsible for the Fund Raising Committee.

SECTION 5. ---*Members-at-Large*

The three (3) Members-at-Large shall assist the Board of Directors in carrying out the affairs of the Association.

ARTICLE IX

MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

SECTION 1. ---*Annual Meetings*

Subsection 1(a). The annual meeting of the Association shall take place at the annual NRAD tournament site, preceding the tournament activities.

Subsection 1(b). The meeting of the Board of Directors shall take place on the Thursday afternoon preceding the tournament.

Subsection 1(c). The general meeting shall take place on the Thursday evening preceding the tournament.

SECTION 2. ---Place of Annual Meetings

The Tournament Committee in cooperation with the Executive Board shall determine the place, at which the annual meeting will be held.

SECTION 3. ---Agenda

The agenda of the annual meeting shall be as follows: (1) Call to Order; (2) Minutes; (3) Treasurer's Report; (4) Officers' Reports; (5) Committees' Reports; (6) Unfinished Business; (7) New Business; (8) Bidding for the Tournament Sites; (9) Announcements; and (10) Adjournment.

ARTICLE X

NRAD TOURNAMENT POLICIES

SECTION 1. ---Date of the NRAD Tournament

The NRAD tournament shall be held during the last weekend of April, or at the discretion of the tournament host with the approval of the Board of Directors. The NRAD should advise all Deaf local tournament committees not to have a tournament within three weeks of the NRAD tournament.

SECTION 2. ---Selection

The site at which the annual NRAD tournament is to be held shall be decided by ballot at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors held preceding the NRAD tournament activities.

SECTION 3. ---Verification

The bidders shall provide copies of letters from the hotel manager and the racquetball club manager verifying arrangements including the exact dates and times to the Secretary of the NRAD at the annual Board of Directors' meeting. This shall be done no less than three hundred sixty-five (365) days prior to the next NRAD tournament.

SECTION 4. ---Host Fees

Subsection 4(a). Bids for the tournament may be made three (3) years prior to the tournament. Bids must be made not less than two (2) years prior to the tournament. To win the bid, two (2) or more members must be present during the annual meeting. If no one offers the bid, the NRAD organization can take over the host club privileges subject to the approval

of the Board of Directors.

- Subsection 4(b).** A club or group that wins the bid to host the NRAD tournament must post Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250) payable to NRAD. The deposit will be refunded after the tournament after those submits its financial report subject to the approval of the NRAD Board of Directors.
- Subsection 4(c).** The Host Chairperson and one (1) Committee member must be present during the annual meeting and a year after completing being the host.
- Subsection 4(d).** The host club shall be responsible to raise funds of at least One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) a year which must be accounted for in the financial reports to the Board of Directors; so that, assistance or advice may be offered, if necessary, to insure that sufficient funds are raised for the tournament.
- Subsection 4(e).** The deposit of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) will be forfeited, if the host club fails to successfully meet the requirements of Article X, Subsections 4(c) and 4(d).
- Subsection 4(f).** If the host club is withdrawing as host due to unforeseen circumstances or there are no bids for a specified year, the NRAD organization can take over the host club privileges and/or another organization finds the site of the tournament subject to the approval of the Board of Directors

SECTION 5.---*Information*

- Subsection 5(a).** The host for the next tournament shall bring application forms, information on accommodations, and financial reports to the current tournament.
- Subsection 5(b).** The host for the tournament to be held in two years shall bring general information.

SECTION 6. ---*Executive Board Exemptions*

- Subsection 6(a).** The Executive Board shall be exempt from paying entry fees for the first event only, except for annual dues for NRAD Fees for the second and third events (if applicable) are not exempt.
- Subsection 6(b).** The NRAD shall provide free two (2) rooms to the Executive Board.

SECTION 7. ---*Board Member Exemptions*

The Board Member, who is not an Executive Board Member, hosts a local racquetball tournament in his/her area, that person will have his/her first entry fee in a NRAD tournament waived.

SECTION 8. ---*Member Exemptions*

The Member, who is not NRAD Board of Director, gets three (3) new women to participate the annual NRAD tournament, that person will have his/her first entry fee in a NRAD tournament waived.

SECTION 9. ---*Tournament Prizes and Souvenirs*

Subsection 9(a). The host committee shall provide tournament souvenirs to each entrant and cash prize and/or trophies/plaques to the winners of the NRAD tournament.

Subsection 9(b). The NRAD official logos shall be printed in program books, flyers, tournament attire, souvenirs, etc.

SECTION 10. ---*Saturday Evening Entertainment*

The host committee shall provide dinner and/or entertainment on Saturday evening.

SECTION 11. ---*Proceeds of the Tournament*

Subsection 11(a). The Association shall not be responsible for any debt incurred by the host committee. The host committee shall prepare a closing financial report including copies of all receipts within sixty (60) days after the conclusion of the annual NRAD tournament and pay Twenty Percent (20%) of the net profit to the Treasurer of the NRAD. If the NRAD organization is hosting the tournament, all the profits are proceeded to the Association.

Subsection 11(b). The failure of the host committee to submit a closing financial report after sixty (60) days to the Treasurer of NRAD, shall pay a penalty of Five Percent (5%) of the net profit per month unless the host committee makes a formal request of delay to the NRAD President.

SECTION 12. ---*Articles*

The host committee shall write an article about the NRAD tournament and submit the article to the Secretary of the NRAD within thirty (30) days after the conclusion of the annual NRAD tournament. The Secretary will then forward a copy of the article to the AARA.

ARTICLE XI

DISSOLUTION

SECTION 1. ---Vote for Dissolution.

The Association may be dissolved by a vote of two thirds (2/3) of the members present at a special meeting called for that purpose.

SECTION 2. ---Distribution of Assets:

Subsection 2(a). Upon dissolution of the Association and after payment of all then existing debts and liabilities, all assets shall be distributed to United States of America Deaf Sports Federation, (USADSF), provided they are then organized and are operated for religious, charitable, educational and/or scientific purposes.

Subsection 2(b). In event the named organizations in Subsection 2(a), either not be in existence or should they at any time not be organized and be operated for religious, charitable, educational and/or scientific purposes, then the assets of the Association shall be distributed to an organization that is organized and operated for that purpose. The members of the Association shall determine the organization that shall receive the assets.

ARTICLE XII

AMENDMENTS

Members may propose changes in the by-laws by submitting a written statement to the Vice President at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting to be voted on at that year's annual meeting. Those amendments that are approved will be in effect as of the following year.

ARTICLE XIII

RULES OF ORDER

The rules of parliamentary procedure as presented in the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all meetings of the Association.

Revised Edition
June 30, 2006

By Stewart J. Gerlis, *Vice President, NRAD*

