

Constitution



Aurora
Barberton
Copley-Fairlawn
Highland
Kent Roosevelt
Revere
Tallmadge

Brecksville-Broadview Hts.
Cuyahoga Falls
Hudson
Nordonia
North Royalton
Stow-Munroe Falls
Twinsburg
Wadsworth

ARTICLE 1 – NAME

1-1-1. The name of this organization shall be the Suburban League

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

2-1-1. The purpose of the Suburban League shall be to regulate, supervise and administer interscholastic athletic competition by and among its membership by establishing a common set of rules and regulations that provide for and develop activities to meet the common interests of the member schools.

2-1-2. In order to fulfill the purposes of the Suburban League, the Suburban League shall encourage the development of programs within the member schools that promote the goals of good sportsmanship,

assist in the development of good citizenship and seek to achieve the goals of educationally-based interscholastic competitions among member schools. (Senior High Schools and Middle Schools)

ARTICLE III – GOVERNANCE.

1. Executive Board

3-1-1. The Suburban League shall be governed by an Executive Board that shall direct the Commissioner and establish policy for the efficient operation of the Suburban League.

3-1-2. The Executive Board shall be responsible for employing a Commissioner and such other officials of the Suburban League as it deems necessary and appropriate for the effective operations of the Suburban League.

2. Qualifications.

3-2-1. The Executive Board shall consist of the High School Principal and Athletic Director from each member school.

3-2-2. An Executive Board member may designate another administrator from his/her school to represent her/him at any regular meeting of the Suburban League but not at any special meeting of the Suburban League.

3-2-3. Executive Board members, or their designees, shall cast one vote on any/all matters for which a vote of the membership is required.

3. Powers and Duties.

3-3-1. The powers and duties of the Executive Board include, but are not limited to:

1. Employ the Commissioner and such other personnel as the Board deems necessary and appropriate.
2. Determine contest rules and regulations for competition in the sports for which Suburban League shall exercise any type of control or authority.
3. Organize and conduct Suburban League tournaments and set entry fees for the same.
4. Hold hearings on appeals on grievances with member schools.
5. Determine all issues of membership in the Suburban League.
6. Make regulations to promote the purpose of the Suburban League.

4. Officers.

3-4-1. The officers of this League shall be the president, 1st vice-president, and secretary- treasurer.

A. The president of the League shall be the High School principal of the designated school. The Commissioner also assumes the responsibilities of Secretary/Treasurer.

B. The 1st vice-president shall be the High School principal of the succeeding school to be automatically determined by the listing of the representative schools as set forth in Article 4-1-6. The 1st vice-president will assume the presidency the succeeding year.

C. The secretary-treasurer shall keep a current and record of all League financial transactions. The secretary- treasurer will also be responsible for the collection of monies and writing of checks to pay expenses. The secretary/treasurer shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings at all meetings of the League. The secretary/treasurer shall email the minutes of all League meetings plus any additional meeting announcements to all members of the League. The secretary/treasurer shall supply a financial report to all member schools at each meeting date.

D. The officers shall assume their office at the end of the May meeting.

E. Any new replacement schools joining the Suburban League shall be placed in the rotation of the departing school as listed in Article 4-1-6. Any new additional schools shall be placed in alphabetical rotation order.

3-4-2. The duties of the President shall be to preside over all meeting of the Executive board, to supervise and assist the Commissioner in carrying out the business of the Suburban League, to assume the duties of the Commissioner in the Commissioner's absence and to implement and oversee all post season Suburban League honors and awards. The president shall be responsible constructing the agenda for all league meetings.

3-4-3. The duties of the 1st vice-president shall be to assume the duties of the president in the president's absence.

3-4-4. In addition to the aforementioned officers, the immediate past president shall serve as mentor to the current President.

5. Commissioner.

3-5-1. The Commissioner shall be the chief executive officer of the Suburban League and shall take the initiative in enforcing the Constitution, Bylaws, rules and regulations of the Suburban League and shall promoting the purpose of the Suburban League.

3-5-2. The Commissioner shall serve as the secretary/treasurer of the Suburban League and shall render reports as requested by the Executive Board.

3-5-3. The Commissioner shall provide the Executive Board with data pertinent to any and all phases of the Suburban League's work and perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board.

3-5-4. Specific duties of the Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner are detailed in Bylaws Section 6.

6. Meetings.

3-6-1. The regular meeting of the Executive Board shall take place monthly on a date established by the Executive Board.

3-6-2. Special meeting of the Executive Board may be called by the President.

3-6-3. All meeting of the Executive Board shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order unless otherwise specified by these Articles.

7. Voting Procedures

3-7-1. In order to constitute a quorum for any meetings of the Executive Board, at least 75% of the voting members of the Executive Board must be present at and throughout the meeting.

3-7-2. All proposals shall be decided by a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of all the member school systems before becoming a policy. Each member school system present shall have one (1) vote. Departing schools will not be eligible to vote on items that will not affect them. Entering school shall take departing schools place role call for these items.

3.7.3 For all voting issues that affect only the Middle Schools, each middle school principal or his/her designee shall be the voting member.

3-7-4. Commissioner shall call the roll of all member schools. He shall announce results of the roll call and record the vote as cast by each school.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

4-1-1. Membership in the Suburban League is voluntary. Membership shall be institutional meaning that any and all school sponsored activities for which the Suburban League exercises any degree of control (by way of scheduling, league tournaments, officials assignment etc.) shall be subject to the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of the Suburban League.

4-1-2. Membership in the Suburban League requires that member schools acquiesce to and comply with the Constitution, Bylaws and Sports Regulations of the OHSAA and the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules, Regulations and playing rules of the Suburban League, as amended from time to time, as a condition for membership and participation in Suburban League meeting and sponsored events.

4-1-3. Initial Membership

Application for membership in the Suburban League must be made in writing, on the form approved by the Executive Board of the Suburban League, by an authorized agent on behalf of the school whose application shall be submitted to the Commissioner's Office of the Suburban League. Upon

approval for acceptance into the Suburban League for membership, the school, team or club shall pay the annual dues of membership.

4-1-4. Continuing Membership.

a). Upon approval for acceptance into the Suburban League, membership shall be automatically renewed on an annual basis, *subject to* procedures for withdrawal from the Suburban League and/or disciplinary measures as outlines in this Constitution and Bylaws.

b). The continuous membership is conditioned upon the school conforming to all bylaws and regulations of the OHSAA and Suburban League in the preceding year.

4-1-5. Membership is automatically renewed for each school year beginning August 1. Member schools are listed in 4-1-6

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| 4-1-6. 1. Aurora | 2. Barberton | 3. Brecksville-Broadview Heights |
| 4. Copley-Fairlawn | 5. Cuyahoga Falls | 6. Highland |
| 7. Hudson | 8. Kent Roosevelt | 9. Nardon |
| 10. North Royalton | 12. Revere | 13. Stow- Munroe Falls |
| 14. Twinsburg | 15. Wadsworth | |

ARTICLE V – MEMBERSHIP DUES

5-1-1. A yearly fee will be assessed to each member school to underwrite any necessary operational League expenses. The fee amount to be determined by the Executive Board at the yearly May meeting.

5-1-2. The Executive Board shall have the authority to levy any additional dues deemed necessary for the operations of the Suburban League.

ARTICLE VI – MEMBERSHIP WITHDRAWAL, EXPULSION, SUSPENSION

1. Withdrawal

6-1-1. In order for a member school to voluntarily withdraw from membership in the Suburban League, the withdrawing member school must provide written notice to the President of the Suburban League notifying Suburban League of the action taken by its Board of Education to formally withdraw from the Suburban League.

6-1-2. No member school may voluntarily withdraw its membership in Suburban League prior to having fulfilled all of its contractual and legal obligations to the Suburban League and each of the member schools of the Suburban League.

6-1-3. No effective date of withdrawal for any member school shall be less than two (2) school calendar years after receipt of the written notice of its intention to withdraw, *unless* by a vote of at least 75%

of the remaining member schools, the Suburban League accepts an earlier effective date of withdrawal.

- 6-1-4. During the period of time between the date on which the Suburban League receives the Notice to Withdraw and the effective date of the withdrawal, the withdrawing school shall have the full rights and responsibilities of all other member schools *except that* (a) the withdrawing school may not vote on any proposed new member application to join the Suburban League and (b) the withdrawing school's [Superintendent] [Principal] [Athletic Director] may not serve as an officer.

2. Expulsion

- 6-2-1. A school may be expelled from the Suburban League for serious or repeated violations of the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and/or Regulations of either the Suburban League or the OHSA. In addition, a school may be expelled from the Suburban League for institutional failings in the promotion of good citizenship and/or good sportsmanship among the schools staff, student-athletes, boosters and/or parents.
- 6-2-2. In order to expel a school from the Suburban League, the school that is being proposed for expulsion must first be given an opportunity to address with the Executive Board at a Special Meeting any and all grounds and grievances upon which the proposed expulsion is predicated.
- 6-2-3. If, at the conclusion of this Special Meeting the Suburban League desires to continue with the expulsion of said school, a unanimous vote of all other schools of the Suburban League is required for expulsion. The school that is the subject of the proposed expulsion shall not be able to vote on its expulsion.

3. Suspension.

- 6-3-1. In the event a school loses its "good standing" with the OHSA for any reason whatsoever, the school's membership in the Suburban League **may** be suspended.
- 6-3-2. In the event a school suspends or otherwise "drops" its sponsorship of interscholastic sports (teams or individuals) due to economic hard times or other funding issues, the schools membership in Suburban League- may be suspended.
- 6-3-3. During the period of time that a school's membership is suspended pursuant to this Article, the suspended school's rights and privileges to participate in Suburban League activities shall be suspended.
- 6-3-4. Notwithstanding the suspension of rights and privileges of a suspended school as set forth in 6-3-3, a suspended school's obligations and duties, with respect to the Suburban League and/or any member school, may be suspended as well. The suspended school must seek to be released from the Suburban League for any and all Suburban League obligations and duties and must seek a release from the individual remaining schools for any obligations and duties owed them.

- 6-3-5. A school whose suspension is about to terminate must petition the Suburban League for restoration of its rights and privileges within the Suburban League. The Suburban League shall make every reasonable effort to restore the suspended school's rights and privileges as soon as possible. However, the member schools recognize the rights and needs of schools to fulfill and honor existing schedules and contracts.

ARTICLE VII – LEAGUE EXPANSION/CONTRACTION

1. Expansion

- 7-1-1. Upon a 2/3 majority vote of existing members, the Suburban League may expand the total number of member schools from the current total of 15 schools.
- 7-1-2. In any and all expansion of the Suburban League, the following criteria shall be applied in determining what schools may be eligible to join the Suburban League:
1. Must be a member in good standing of the OHSA.
 2. Must file an application in writing with the Commissioner of the League
 3. The Commissioner will present the application to members of the League. (Principals, Athletic Directors, and designated representatives of the middle school and high school)
 4. Must be elected by a ¾ majority vote of member schools. New member schools have the right of franchise upon acceptance into the League.
 5. If a school has been approved for withdrawal from the League they must abstain from voting on new members.
 6. Agree to participate in all League sponsored sports of the middle and high school level in which the individual schools sponsor teams.

2. Contraction

- 7-2-1. Upon a 2/3 majority vote of existing members, the Suburban League may elect to contract from the total number of existing members to a lesser number of members.
- 7-2-2. In any and all contractions of the Suburban League, the same criteria for contraction (removal of member school) as set forth in Article 7-1-2 shall be applied to the schools under consideration for contraction.

3. Substitution for Departing Member.

- 7-3-1. In the event a member school has elected to withdraw or is expelled from the Suburban League in accordance with Article VI of this Constitution, the Executive Board shall convene a Search Committee to seek out an appropriate substitute member for the departing member school.
- 7-3-2. The Search Committee shall use the same criteria for membership as set forth in Article 7-1-2 to any and all prospective new member schools in its efforts to replace a departing member school.

ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS.

8-1-1. The Constitution and Bylaws of the Suburban League may be amended by a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote of the voting members.

Revised - Sept. 2014.
Adopted Nov. 2014.