

IV. EXCERPTS FROM AAU CODE BOOK

A. AAU Membership. All participants must be a member of the AAU in order to participate in any AAU licensed event. Event Operators may not collect AAU membership money at any AAU licensed event.

Membership Requirements. Membership in the AAU is a privilege granted by the AAU. It is not a right. The AAU at its sole discretion reserves the right to accept or reject any applicant(s) for membership.

1. **Conditions for Membership.** Membership in any class may be granted only after an application is submitted and approved. By submitting an application, the applicant agrees to comply with all the provisions of the AAU Code, including its Constitution, Bylaws, Policies, procedures, regulations, and rules of the AAU.
2. **Categories of Membership.** Categories of membership in the AAU are as follows:
 - a. **District Member.** An organization chartered by the Congress to provide administrative services within a designated geographic area.
 - b. **Club Member.** An organization or group that has been approved for membership after meeting the registration requirements of the Code.
 - c. **Individual Member.** A person who has been approved for membership after meeting the registration requirements of the Code. Individual membership categories are:
 - i. Youth Athlete
 - ii. Adult Athlete
 - iii. Non-Athlete
 - d. **Allied Member.** An organization or group approved by Congress which is engaged in athletics or sports-related activities.

B. Membership and Residency

1. Adult members will not be bound by residence requirements.
2. Youth members must register in the District of their bona fide residency, except as follows:
 - a. A youth member who resides in the county of one District that adjoins a county of another District and who attends a school located

- in the adjoining county will have the option of registering in either District.
- b. A youth member subject to a written joint legal custody arrangement whose custodians reside in different Districts shall have the option of registering in either District.
 - c. A bona fide student at an educational institution may be considered a resident of the District in which the institution is located.
 - d. The National Board of Review will determine issues of residency.
3. Persons living outside the U.S. may register online or through the AAU National Office. The respective National Sports Committee rules shall govern the participation of non-U.S. residents in AAU competitions.

C. Eligibility

1. **Participation.** A youth member may elect to participate in his or her District of bona fide residence or a District that geographically adjoins that District. Exception: In team events the National Sports Committee shall determine the number of youth members permitted to participate on a team from an adjoining District. For Volleyball, a maximum of three (3) members may participate with a team in an adjoining District
2. **Club Attachment.** A youth member becomes attached to a club member when he/she competes with that club in any AAU licensed event (practice not included). A youth member may be attached to only one club with the following exceptions:
 - a. An athlete may attach to additional clubs (one in each sport) if he/she participates in additional sports.
 - b. Participation in an AAU licensed league does not create club attachment.
3. **Transfers.** Athletes who transfer under this section are subject to National Championship eligibility restrictions as adopted by the National Sport Committee. After a youth member becomes attached to a club, he/she may only transfer to another club in the same sport as follows:
 - a. If the youth member has not competed in any AAU authorized events in that Sport for a period of sixty (60) days no permission is necessary.
 - b. If the representative of the club to which an athlete is attached signs a release form permitting an immediate transfer. (Athletes who transfer under this section are subject to National Championship eligibility restrictions as adopted by National Sport Committees.)
 - c. When the transfer is for the purpose of competing with a team which has qualified for a National Championship as provided by National Sport Committee rules.

- d. If the Registrar determines there is good cause to believe that the transfer is due to events outside the control of the athlete or that the transfer serves the best interest of the AAU.

D. Use of Marks and Logos

1. **AAU Registered Marks.** The AAU name, mark, seal, logo, and other insignia (all "AAU marks") are protected through trademark registration and are defined as the intellectual property of the AAU. No person or entity may use the AAU's intellectual property without the prior and continued approval of the National AAU. Only those subordinates and affiliated organizations which are expressly authorized by the National AAU may use the intellectual property of the AAU. The National AAU may withdraw its approval to use its marks, at any time in its sole discretion. Members shall immediately comply with notice to cease and desist from the use of the AAU's intellectual property. The unauthorized use of any of the intellectual property of the AAU is a violation of this policy as well as the (Federal) Lanham Act and may subject the member/entity to penalties set out in the AAU Code. If granted approval/permission to use any of the AAU marks, the limited right to use the marks shall be non-exclusive and the user shall not acquire any ownership in or of such mark(s).
 - a. Only chartered Districts, District Sport Committees and National Sport Committees may use the AAU marks in their name.
 - b. There are three (3) levels of AAU club membership. Level 1 AAU Clubs acquire no rights to use the AAU's intellectual property. Level 2 and Level 3 Clubs may use AAU's registered marks only as follows:
 - i. For the purpose of promoting an AAU licensed event.
 - ii. For the purpose of promoting the club's AAU related activities.
 - iii. Neither members nor clubs may use the name AAU in their legal name, domain name, email or any other name without the express written consent of the National AAU.
 - c. In the event of a dispute or conflict as to a member's/entity's claim(s) to use any of the intellectual property of the AAU, the Officers of the AAU shall decide and determine the dispute in their sole discretion.
2. **Use of Olympic Marks.** No license will be granted by the AAU for any event where the word "Olympic" or any derivative thereof is used in any advertisement or notice in any manner in connection with AAU competitions.

E. Event License

1. No event shall be conducted under the auspices of the AAU unless a written license has been issued for the activity. A license is the written approval of the AAU for the conduct of the activity.
2. Only AAU members may participate in licensed events unless otherwise provided in the Bylaws.
3. A license may be issued to any club in good standing and which meets the membership criteria. A license application should be reviewed by the District Sport Committee Director or the Governor if there is no District Sport Director. If the license application is rejected, the applicant shall be notified.
4. No license shall take effect until approved or until the 15-day review period has expired.
5. The National Registration Executive Committee has the authority to:
 - a. **Issue a license in an unchartered District.**
 - b. Issue a license for events in locations where there is no active District member.
 - c. Issue a license for events in Districts where there is no current active participation. (No District Championship in the prior membership year).
 - d. Issue a license for events directly sponsored by the National AAU or National Sports Committee (The National Sport Committee shall consult with the District Sports Director and Governor prior to seeking an event license.)
 - e. Review and approve any licenses rejected by the District.
 - f. Revoke an approved license for good cause.
6. Event licenses issued to one organization cannot be transferred to another organization.
7. No event license will be issued for any event where the word “Olympic” or any derivative thereof is used in any advertisements or notice in connection with the event except upon the specific written approval of the Board of Directors.

F. District Sport Committee Biennial Meetings

1. **District Sport Committee Biennial Meeting.** In even years, it is the duty of the District Sport Committee to hold a biennial meeting, the date, time and location of which shall be approved by the District Executive Committee. [Not the Sport Committee Executive Committee]
2. **Notice of District Sport Meetings.** Notice of the biennial or special meetings of the District Sport Committee will be given to all clubs with

members registered in the sport. Notice shall be sent not less than 30 or more than 60 days prior to the scheduled meeting.

- a. **Quorum.** Five (5) member clubs with voting eligibility must be present to constitute a quorum of the Biennial Sport Committee meeting.
- b. **Voting.** Each club that has registered at least five (5) individual members in the sport during the current year shall appoint one (1) representative to serve on the District Sport Committee. The representative shall be designated on the club membership application.
 - i. The club by written notice to the District Sports Director may withdraw its representative and submit a new representative. Written notice to the District Sports Director of the withdrawal and replacement must be received seven (7) days prior to the meeting. The Club Replacement shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age as of the date of the meeting.
 - ii. There shall be no voting by proxy.
 - iii. Each members of the Sport Committee shall have one vote.
- c. Minutes of the meeting must be written and filed with the District Secretary and the National AAU Compliance Department.

G. Functions of District Sport Committees

1. **District Sport Committees.** In each approved AAU sport in which the District has athletes actively participating, there may be a Committee to manage competition within the District.
2. **Composition.** The District Sport Committee shall include the following:
 - a. Each club member which registers at least five individual members in the sport shall have one representative on the District Sport Committee.
 - b. District Sport Committee Officers as defined by that sport's operating rules.
 - c. The Governor may appoint up to two (2) at-large members.
3. **Duties.** The duties of the District Sport Committee are to:
 - a. In even years, hold a Biennial meeting, the date, time and location of which shall be approved by the District Executive Committee.
 - b. Adopt at the Biennial Meeting, rules of operation of the Committee to be submitted to the Executive Committee for approval and which shall not conflict with the provisions of the AAU Constitution, Bylaws, National Policies or National Sport Committee rules.
 - c. Determine whether to establish a Committee operating account and if so to comply with all relevant AAU procedures and policies.

- d. Provide for the conduct of the District championships.
- e. If the District Sport Committee is organized as an administration club under the AAU, it shall annually file the Location of Assets Report with the District Office, and forward a copy to the National Office.

H. Functions of the District Sport Director

1. **Election.** In each sport in which five or more club members have designated the sport as its primary sport, the Director shall be elected by the Committee at its Biennial Meeting. The District Sport Director takes office upon election.
2. **Appointment.** When there are fewer than five clubs registered to the Sport, the Sport Director may be appointed by the Governor with the approval of the National Sport Committee Chair. The District Sport Director takes office upon election or upon appointment.
3. **Term of Office.**
 - a. The term of office for an elected District Sport Director shall be four (4) years to run concurrently with the District Officers. Once elected, each District Sport Director is required to purchase a four (4)-year membership that will complete their entire term.
 - b. The term of office for an appointed District Sport Director shall be one year; or until removed by the Governor; or until the Sport Committee has met the criteria to elect a Director.
 - c. **Vacancies.** A vacancy occurring in an elected District Sport Director position shall be filled by the Governor with approval of the National Sport Committee Chair.
 - d. If a District Sport Director vacancy occurs, or if a sport reaches the five-club threshold, between a scheduled election year and the next Biennial Meeting, there shall be an election at the interim Biennial Meeting for a director to serve until the next regularly scheduled election. All Notice and nomination requirements must be complied with.
4. **Duties.** The Sport Committee Director shall:
 - a. Develop a budget for the Sport Committee to file with the District Treasurer.
 - b. Perform the duties set forth in the Committee Rules of Operation.
 - c. Review and approve, or for reasonable cause deny, event licenses in the sport.
 - d. Maintain records of the District Sport Committee, including but not limited to the minutes of all meetings, the budget, location of assets report (if required), and the District Sports Committee operating rules.

- e. Preside at Sport Committee meetings.
 - f. Prepare, or have prepared, meeting minutes (which shall be approved at all District Sports Committee meetings). Forward a copy of all minutes to the National Office and District Secretary no later than 30 days following the District Sport Committee meeting.
 - g. File a copy of all records requested by the District Secretary and the AAU National Office Compliance Department no later than 30 days following District Sport Committee meetings.
 - h. At the conclusion of service as Sport Director, turn over all records to the successor to the position.
5. **Removal.** District Sport Directors may be removed as follows:
- a. **By District Sport Committee.** An elected Sport Committee Director may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Sport Committee at the Biennial meeting provided that the Notice of the meeting specifies that a motion to remove is on the agenda.
 - b. **By National Sport Chair.** Each National Sport Chair shall annually review the number of events held in their sport. If the minimum number of licensed days of activity, excluding practice licenses is below the minimum established by the National Sports Council the National Sport Chair may remove the District Director with consent of the Governor. If the District Governor does not agree with the removal, the President shall appoint an arbiter who will make the final decision, which shall be binding.
 - c. **By National Board of Review.** A Sport Director may be removed by order of the National Board of Review following the filing of a complaint and the Board's proceedings.
 - d. By the National Board of Review Chair after the failure of the District Sports Director to file minutes, reports and records as required by this article.