

# CONSTITUTION

August 1, 2011

Revised by Referendum — May 2011

## Article 1 — Name

**1-1-1** The name of this organization shall be the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA).

## Article 2 — Purpose

**2-1-1** The purpose of this non-profit organization shall be to regulate, supervise and administer interscholastic athletic competition among its member schools to the end that the interscholastic program be an integral factor in the total educational program of the schools. This shall be accomplished by cooperation with all agencies vitally concerned with the health and educational welfare of high school, middle school and junior high school students; determining qualifications of individual contestants, coaches, and officials; providing information through literature and other materials to facilitate athletic relations among member schools; establishing standards for sportsmanship and competition; furnishing protection against exploitation of school or student and in any manner directed by the member schools.

## Article 3 — Membership

**3-1-1** Membership in the OHSAA is voluntary and shall be renewed annually by each member school's Board of Education or similar governing body by execution of the Resolution Card approved by the Board of Directors.

**3-1-2** Member schools must either be chartered by the Ohio Department of Education or operate in accordance with the Ohio Department of Education Minimum Standards Chapter 3301-35-08 Non-Chartered Non-Tax Supported School.

**3-1-3** A school which loses its charter by action of the State Department of Education or which no longer operates in accordance with Ohio State Department of Education Minimum Standards Chapter 3301-35-08 Non-Chartered Non-Tax Supported School ceases to be a member of the Association.

**3-1-4** The annual membership period begins August 1 and continues until July 31 of the following year.

### 2 - Initial Membership

**3-2-1** The Board of Education or similar governing body must adopt a resolution authorizing membership for all 7th and 8th grades and high schools under its jurisdiction.

**3-2-2** An Application for Membership on the form prescribed by the OHSAA must be completed and signed by the superintendent of the school district (or the person acting in a similar capacity for any non-public school).

**3-2-3** The applicant must be able to certify that with respect to its student-athletes and sports programs, the school has conformed with all bylaws and regulations of the OHSAA for a minimum period of one year immediately prior to the date of application.

**3-2-4** The applicant must be able to certify that it has sponsored at least two varsity "recognized sports" (per Bylaw 1-5-1) per sports season in the school year immediately prior to the date of application and that it intends to continue with its sponsorship of these recognized sports upon becoming a member of the OHSAA. Furthermore, the applicant must certify that it intends to participate in the OHSAA-sponsored tournaments for each of the sports for which applicant provides sponsorship.

### 3 - Continuing Membership

**3-3-1** The Board of Education, or similar governing body, must adopt a resolution authorizing continuing membership in the OHSAA for all 7th and 8th grade schools and high schools under its jurisdiction, which resolution shall be submitted to the Commissioner's office no later than July 31 of each year for the ensuing school year. When a new school is opened in a multi-high school/7th-8th grade school district or system, the Board of Education or similar governing body may add that school to its membership card.

- 3-3-2** Prior to the start of each school year, the superintendent (or person acting in a similar capacity on behalf of a non-public school) shall sign and file with the Commissioner’s office any and all required membership forms for the ensuing school year. Furthermore, the principal of each member school must sign and file with the Commissioner’s office the required sports registration forms.
- 3-3-3** A school that loses its charter by action of the State Department of Education or which no longer operates in accordance with Ohio State Department of Education Minimum Standards Chapter 3301-35-08 Non-Chartered Non-Tax Supported School ceases to be a member of the Association.
- 3-3-4** Subject to Article 3-3-5 below, a member school must continue to sponsor two varsity “recognized sports” (per Bylaw 1-5-1) per sport season in the school year in order to maintain membership in the OHSAA. Exception: Schools that have restricted enrollment due to geographic placement and single gender schools may request an exemption from this sponsorship requirement. The exemption may be granted solely at the discretion of the Commissioner’s office.
- 3-3-5** In the event a member school is compelled to suspend sponsorship of its extracurricular activities, including interscholastic sports, due to levy failures or other economic hardships, that school’s membership in the OHSAA shall likewise be temporarily suspended until such time as the existing member school petitions to re-activate its membership in the OHSAA. During this period of suspended membership, all rights and privileges associated with membership shall be suspended.

**Article 4 — Membership Dues**

- 4-1-1** The Board of Directors shall have the authority to levy any dues deemed necessary.

**Article 5**

**1 - Governance**

- 5-1-1** The Board of Directors directs the Commissioner and establishes policy for the efficient operation of the Association.

**2 - Board of Directors**

- 5-2-1** The Board of Directors shall be composed of one classification representative from each of the district athletic boards elected from an athletic district, three representatives from district athletic boards elected from an athletic district: one who is an ethnic minority, one who is a female and one who is a 7th & 8th grade representative, a non-voting ex-officio member from the State Department of Education and a non-voting ex-officio member from the Ohio Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association.

**3 - Qualification for Board of Directors Membership**

- 5-3-1** The district athletic board representatives shall be members of the teaching profession and employed fulltime (minimum of 180 days) by a member school or schools. They shall be elected members of the district athletic boards representing the classification of schools or a representation category (female, ethnic minority and 7th & 8th grade) and the athletic districts whose terms of office are set for the Board of Directors according to this table.

YEAR	C	E	NE	NW	SE	SW	C	E	NE	NW	SE	SW
2011-2012	A	AAA	AA	AAA	A	AA		7-8	M		F	
2012-2013	A	A	AAA	AAA	AA	AA	F	7-8	M			
2013-2014	AA	A	AAA	A	AA	AAA	F				7-8	M
2014-2015	AA	AA	A	A	AAA	AAA				F	7-8	M
2015-2016	AAA	AA	A	AA	AAA	A	7-8	M		F		
2016-2017	AAA	AAA	AA	AA	A	A	7-8	M	F			
2017-2018	A	AAA	AA	AAA	A	AA			F	7-8	M	
2018-2019	A	A	AAA	AAA	AA	AA				7-8	M	F
2019-2020	AA	A	AAA	A	AA	AAA	M		7-8			F
2020-2021	AA	AA	A	A	AAA	AAA	M	F	7-8			
2021-2022	AAA	AA	A	AA	AAA	A		F		M		7-8
2022-2023	AAA	AAA	AA	AA	A	A				M	F	7-8
2023-2024	A	AAA	AA	AAA	A	AA		7-8	M		F	
2024-2025	A	A	AAA	AAA	AA	AA	F	7-8	M			
2025-2026	AA	A	AAA	A	AA	AAA	F				7-8	M

**5-3-2** The State Department of Education Representative employed by the State Department of Education and appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall be an ex-officio non-voting member of the Board of Directors.

**5-3-3** The President-Elect of the Ohio Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association shall be an ex-officio non-voting member of the Board of Directors.

**4 - Selection of Members to the Board of Directors**

**5-4-1** District athletic board members who are serving in the appropriate classification/ representation category shall automatically be nominated for the Board of Directors position. In the matter of nominees from the classification positions (A, AA, AAA), the respective District Athletic Boards shall select the representative to serve on the Board of Directors. The deadline for appointment shall be no later than the May meeting of the Board of Directors.

**5-4-2** When a vacancy or temporary incapacitation occurs for reasons other than expiration of term, the Board of Directors shall appoint a member for the remainder of that term or the duration of the incapacitation, who is qualified in accordance with this Constitution.

**5-4-3** In the event that a District Athletic Board may not have a candidate to fulfill the term of a female, ethnic minority or 7th & 8th grade representative at the time when that candidate's term commences, the Board of Directors may appoint a candidate that meets the candidate's qualifications for the duration of that term.

**5 - Term of Office**

**5-5-1** The term of office of a Board of Directors representative selected from a District Athletic Board shall be a full term of two years and begin on August 1.

**5-5-2** The term of office of a Board of Directors representative ceases immediately when the representative no longer meets the qualifications in Constitution 5-3.

**5-5-3** The term of office of the State Department of Education representative shall be indefinite, and a vacancy shall be filled through appointment by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

**6 - Powers and Duties of the Board of Directors**

**5-6-1** The powers and duties of the Board of Directors include but are not limited to:

1. Employ the Commissioner, Associate Commissioners, Assistant Commissioners.
2. Approve or disapprove the appointments by the Commissioner for all employees in the Association office.
3. Determine contracts with Association personnel.
4. Provide a retirement system for employees.
5. Determine the contest rules and regulations for each sport.
6. Organize and conduct all state sponsored interscholastic athletic tournaments and set entry fees as needed.
7. Hold hearings involving eligibility, qualifications, game contracts and controversies between or among schools and/or participants and officials regarding interscholastic athletics and shall be the final authority in rendering decisions.
8. Establish an appeals procedure, hear appeals of rulings made by the Commissioner's office and may adopt, modify or set aside the rulings of the Commissioner; however, the Board of Directors may not alter, waive or set aside a bylaw except as indicated and approved within the Constitution.
9. When appropriate, compel the attendance at any OHSAA hearing of the principal, athletic director, coach or such other school administrator from any school(s) affected or likely to be affected by the outcome of that hearing.
10. The Board of Directors may make regulations to promote the purpose of the Association.
11. The Board of Directors may declare a position vacant on a District Athletic Board when an elected member fails to attend three consecutive meetings and/or fulfill the requirements of the position.

**7 - Divisions of State into Districts**

- 5-7-1** The Board of Directors shall divide the state geographically into six districts to be known as the Central, East, Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest districts. The responsibility of each geographic district shall be to administer the District Athletic Board bearing the same name.
- 5-7-2** All member schools shall be assigned to the athletic district in which the school is located.
- 5-7-3** Member schools requesting permission to transfer from one district to another district must submit, in writing, to the releasing and receiving district athletic boards and the Commissioner, letters stating reasons for the transfer. Both district athletic boards shall be given an opportunity to take advisory action which shall be completed within 90 days. The Board of Directors will take action to approve or deny the transfer request within a 90-day period. All petitions for transfer become effective at the beginning of the school year with no retrospective activation.
- 5-7-4** All member schools within an athletic district shall be assigned one of three classifications (A, AA or AAA) based upon the school's size of enrollment. One-third (1/3) or as near to one-third (1/3) as possible of the member schools will be assigned to each classification.
- 5-7-5** The classification of schools within a given athletic district shall be determined on a bi-annual basis.

**8 - Meetings**

- 5-8-1** Immediately following the June meeting of the Board of Directors, the Board shall elect a president and vice-president to serve a term of one year beginning on August 1 and ending the following July 31.
- 5-8-2** The regular meetings shall be determined by the Board of Directors. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President, or by any three voting members.

**9 - Quorum**

- 5-9-1** Five voting members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

**Article 6 — Commissioner**

- 6-1-1** The Commissioner shall be the chief executive officer of the Association and shall take the initiative in enforcing the Bylaws and Regulations and promoting the purpose of the Association.
- 6-1-2** The Commissioner or another administrative staff member designated by the Commissioner shall decide all questions and interpretations of the Constitution, Bylaws and Regulations, and shall impose and enforce penalties. The Commissioner may compel the attendance of the principal, athletic director, coach or such other school administrator of the member school/schools whom the Commissioner deems to have knowledge or information relevant to any issues in any hearing before the Commissioner or the Board of Directors.
- 6-1-3** The Commissioner shall provide for the preparation of forms for the use of schools, distribute reports and bulletins, arrange and conduct clinics, tournaments and other athletic contests.
- 6-1-4** The Commissioner shall serve as the Chief Financial Officer of the Association, render reports as requested by the Board of Directors, and shall cause to be published annually the audited financial report for the past fiscal year and shall be responsible for the minutes of the Board of Directors meetings.
- 6-1-5** The Commissioner shall provide the Board of Directors with data pertinent to any phase of the Association's work and perform other duties as directed by the Board of Directors.
- 6-1-6** The Commissioner shall assign duties and responsibilities to all employees.

**Article 7 - District Athletic Boards**

**1 - Membership**

- 7-1-1** The district athletic boards shall be composed of nine members. Each of the three classifications (A, AA, AAA) of schools will be represented by two members on each district athletic board, and there will be three at-large members elected: one who is an ethnic minority, one who is a female and one who is a representative of a 7th & 8th grade school according to the following tables:

<b>District</b>	<b>Year of Election</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Starting Date</b>	<b>Ending Date</b>
CENTRAL	2011	AA	August 1, 2011	July 31, 2017
	2012	AAA	August 1, 2012	July 31, 2018
	2013	AAA	August 1, 2013	July 31, 2019
		Female	August 1, 2013	July 31, 2019
	2014	A	August 1, 2014	July 31, 2020
		Minority	August 1, 2014	July 31, 2020
	2015	A	August 1, 2015	July 31, 2021
		7th & 8th	August 1, 2015	July 31, 2021
	2016	AA	August 1, 2016	July 31, 2022
	2017	AA	August 1, 2017	July 31, 2023
	2018	AAA	August 1, 2018	July 31, 2024
	2019	AAA	August 1, 2019	July 31, 2025
		Female	August 1, 2019	July 31, 2025
	2020	AA	August 1, 2020	July 31, 2026
Minority		August 1, 2020	July 31, 2026	
2021	AA	August 1, 2021	July 31, 2027	
	7th & 8th	August 1, 2021	July 31, 2027	
2022	AA	August 1, 2022	July 31, 2028	
EAST	2011	AA	August 1, 2011	July 31, 2017
	2012	AA	August 1, 2012	July 31, 2018
	2013	AAA	August 1, 2013	July 31, 2019
		Minority	August 1, 2013	July 31, 2019
	2014	AAA	August 1, 2014	July 31, 2020
		7th & 8th	August 1, 2014	July 31, 2020
	2015	A	August 1, 2015	July 31, 2021
		Female	August 1, 2015	July 31, 2021
	2016	A	August 1, 2016	July 31, 2022
	2017	AA	August 1, 2017	July 31, 2023
	2018	AA	August 1, 2018	July 31, 2024
	2019	AAA	August 1, 2019	July 31, 2025
		Minority	August 1, 2019	July 31, 2025
	2020	AAA	August 1, 2020	July 31, 2026
7th & 8th		August 1, 2020	July 31, 2026	
2021	A	August 1, 2021	July 31, 2027	
	Female	August 1, 2021	July 31, 2027	
2022	A	August 1, 2022	July 31, 2028	
NORTHEAST	2011	A	August 1, 2011	July 31, 2017
	2012	A	August 1, 2012	July 31, 2018
	2013	AA	August 1, 2013	July 31, 2019
		7th & 8th	August 1, 2013	July 31, 2019
	2014	AA	August 1, 2014	July 31, 2020
		Female	August 1, 2014	July 31, 2020
	2015	AAA	August 1, 2015	July 31, 2021
		Minority	August 1, 2015	July 31, 2021
	2016	AAA	August 1, 2016	July 31, 2022
	2017	A	August 1, 2017	July 31, 2023
	2018	A	August 1, 2018	July 31, 2024
	2019	AA	August 1, 2019	July 31, 2025
		7th & 8th	August 1, 2019	July 31, 2025
	2020	AA	August 1, 2020	July 31, 2026
Female		August 1, 2020	July 31, 2026	
2021	AAA	August 1, 2021	July 31, 2027	
	Minority	August 1, 2021	July 31, 2027	
2022	AAA	August 1, 2022	July 31, 2028	

NORTHWEST	2011	A	August 1, 2011	July 31, 2017
	2012	AA	August 1, 2012	July 31, 2018
	2013	AA	August 1, 2013	July 31, 2019
		Female	August 1, 2013	July 31, 2019
	2014	AAA	August 1, 2014	July 31, 2020
		Minority	August 1, 2014	July 31, 2020
	2015	AAA	August 1, 2015	July 31, 2021
		7th & 8th	August 1, 2015	July 31, 2021
	2016	A	August 1, 2016	July 31, 2022
	2017	A	August 1, 2017	July 31, 2023
	2018	AA	August 1, 2018	July 31, 2024
	2019	AA	August 1, 2019	July 31, 2025
		Female	August 1, 2019	July 31, 2025
	2020	AAA	August 1, 2020	July 31, 2026
Minority		August 1, 2020	July 31, 2026	
2021	AAA	August 1, 2021	July 31, 2027	
	7th & 8th	August 1, 2021	July 31, 2027	
2022	A	August 1, 2022	July 31, 2028	
SOUTHEAST	2011	AAA	August 1, 2011	July 31, 2017
	2012	AAA	August 1, 2012	July 31, 2018
	2013	A	August 1, 2013	July 31, 2019
		Minority	August 1, 2013	July 31, 2019
	2014	A	August 1, 2014	July 31, 2020
		7th & 8th	August 1, 2014	July 31, 2020
	2015	AA	August 1, 2015	July 31, 2021
		Female	August 1, 2015	July 31, 2021
	2016	AA	August 1, 2016	July 31, 2022
	2017	AAA	August 1, 2017	July 31, 2023
	2018	AAA	August 1, 2018	July 31, 2024
	2019	A	August 1, 2019	July 31, 2025
		Minority	August 1, 2019	July 31, 2025
	2020	A	August 1, 2020	July 31, 2026
7th & 8th		August 1, 2020	July 31, 2026	
2021	AA	August 1, 2021	July 31, 2027	
	Female	August 1, 2021	July 31, 2027	
2022	AA	August 1, 2022	July 31, 2028	
SOUTHWEST	2011	AAA	August 1, 2011	July 31, 2017
	2012	A	August 1, 2012	July 31, 2018
	2013	A	August 1, 2013	July 31, 2019
		7th & 8th	August 1, 2013	July 31, 2019
	2014	AA	August 1, 2014	July 31, 2020
		Female	August 1, 2014	July 31, 2020
	2015	AA	August 1, 2015	July 31, 2021
		Minority	August 1, 2015	July 31, 2021
	2016	AAA	August 1, 2016	July 31, 2022
	2017	AAA	August 1, 2017	July 31, 2023
	2018	A	August 1, 2018	July 31, 2024
	2019	A	August 1, 2019	July 31, 2025
		7th & 8th	August 1, 2019	July 31, 2025
	2020	AA	August 1, 2020	July 31, 2026
Female		August 1, 2020	July 31, 2026	
2021	AA	August 1, 2021	July 31, 2027	
	Minority	August 1, 2021	July 31, 2027	
2022	AAA	August 1, 2022	July 31, 2028	

**2 - Qualifications for Election and Retention of a Position on the District Athletic Board**

- 7-2-1 Members of the district athletic boards shall be members of the teaching profession and employed fulltime (minimum of 180 days) with high school responsibilities in a member school or schools, within the respective athletic district they represent. A member of the teaching profession is defined as an individual who holds a professional license as a teacher or administrator or serves as an athletic administrator approved by the Board of Education or other governing board in a non-public school. The 7th & 8th grade representative on each district athletic board shall be a member of the teaching profession and employed fulltime with more than sixty percent of his or her duties in that 7th & 8th grade school.
- 7-2-2 An individual who is a member of the teaching profession as defined in 7-2-1 and employed fulltime in an Educational Service Center (E.S.C.) may be eligible for election to only that District Athletic Board in which the principal place of business of the E.S.C., as defined by the Ohio Department of Education, is located, provided that another employee of a school district within the geographical jurisdiction of the E.S.C. is not currently serving on a District Athletic Board. The classification of an eligible employee of an E.S.C. shall be determined by the individual's gender, race or, in the case of school size, by the majority of member high school classifications within the E.S.C.'s geographic jurisdiction. If no majority of the member high school classifications exists, then the classification position shall be determined by totaling the enrollment numbers for both the girls and the boys in all high schools within the E.S.C.'s athletic district and dividing by the number of member high schools in that athletic district within the E.S.C.'s jurisdiction. An E.S.C. employee may stand for election for either the boys or the girls classification as determined by the enrollment numbers derived using the method described in this article.
- 7-2-3 All licensed teaching and administrative personnel assigned to only one high school who are standing for election to one of the classification positions on the district athletic board shall be eligible to represent either the boys or girls classification of the school at the time the term of office begins.
- 7-2-4 All other licensed teaching and administrative school employees who are standing for election to one of the classification positions on the district athletic board must represent the boys or girls classification of a high school in the school district where employed at the time the term of office begins.
- 7-2-5 Only one member of a district athletic board may be employed by the same city, exempted village or local school district Board of Education or Educational Service Center (E.S.C.) in a public school or similar governing body in a non-public school. The Board of Directors shall have the sole authority to resolve all election issues pertaining to the district athletic boards including, but not limited to eligibility of candidates and conflicts under this provision.
- 7-2-6 District athletic board members who remain employed in the same school district are entitled to serve the full term provided they continue to have high school responsibilities and regardless of change in classification of their school. 7th & 8th grade district athletic board members who remain employed in the same school district are entitled to serve the full term provided they continue to have at least 60% of their responsibilities at the 7th & 8th grade level.
- 7-2-7 A district athletic board member who changes employment from one school district to another school district may continue to serve the term of office to which elected provided the school of new employment is assigned to the same OHSAA athletic district and the classification of the school is the same as the previous school of employment and provided there is no conflict with 7-2-5. At-large elected members may continue to serve provided they remain employed fulltime in a school within the athletic district provided there is no conflict with 7-2-5.

**3 - Nomination**

- 7-3-1 Nomination for district athletic board membership shall be by petition, signed by at least six member high school principals other than the nominee, regardless of classification within the district involved. Nomination for the 7th & 8th grade membership shall be by petition, signed by at least six member 7th & 8th grade principals other than the nominee.

- 7-3-2** The nominating petition shall be obtained from the OHSAA Commissioner's office and shall contain the name and school of the candidate and specify the term of office. In order to be valid, a petition in a regular election must be received by April 30 at the OHSAA office no later than 4:00 p.m.

#### **4 - Elections**

- 7-4-1** The election of representatives to the district athletic boards shall be held during the second week of May. Ballots listing the names and schools of certified candidates shall be sent to member high school principals in the district to be represented based on the classification the voting member's school will hold during the subsequent school year. In order to be counted, ballots must be received by May 15 no later than 4:00 p.m.

- 7-4-2** District athletic board candidates who are running for one of the classification positions shall be elected by a vote of the principals of member high schools of their classification within their district. At large district athletic board candidates shall be elected by a vote of all the principals of the member high schools within their athletic district (female and minority representatives) or the principals of the member 7th & 8th grade schools (7th & 8th grade representative).

- 7-4-3** In case of a tie in election of board members, the tie shall be broken by a run-off election. In the event there is a tie vote in the run-off election, the tie shall be broken by a "toss of coin" at Association headquarters under the supervision of the Commissioner.

#### **5 - Term of Office**

- 7-5-1** A full term of office for District Athletic Board members shall be six years beginning August 1.

#### **6 - Vacancies**

- 7-6-1** The term of office of a district athletic board representative ceases immediately when the representative no longer meets the qualifications in Constitution 7-2.

EXCEPTION: If the district athletic board representative is retiring and, prior to the effective date of retirement he/she has received a commitment from an employer that said employer will employ him/her, the term of office of that representative shall continue PROVIDED the Board of Education or similar governing body takes affirmative action to employ the representative within 30 days of the effective date of retirement and the re-employment effectively begins within 65 days of the effective date of retirement.

- 7-6-2** When a vacancy occurs for an elected representative on the district athletic board for reasons other than expiration of the term, the Board of Directors shall appoint an interim representative who meets all of the requirements of the position and who shall serve until such time as the newly elected representative, elected during the next regularly scheduled election, takes office. This appointment shall take place at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors after the vacancy occurs.

#### **7 - Powers and Duties**

- 7-7-1** The district athletic boards shall assist the Board of Directors and the Commissioner in promoting the purposes of the Association, in organizing and conducting interscholastic athletic tournaments, and other duties as directed by them.

- 7-7-2** Each district athletic board shall be responsible for forwarding to the Commissioner's office, financial and other specified reports on sectional and district tournaments, and all other materials and records as required to support the Association's annual audit.

#### **8 - Meetings**

- 7-8-1** The annual organizational meetings of the district athletic boards shall be held in August at which time one of its members shall be elected president and one vice-president, both of whom shall serve for one year.

- 7-8-2** District athletic board meetings will be determined by each board to fulfill their responsibilities.

- 7-8-3** Special meetings of the district athletic boards may be called by the President, or by any three members of the board.

**9 - Quorum**

**7-9-1** Five members of a district athletic board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

**Article 8**

**1 - Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws**

**8-1-1** In the event of a proposed or adopted legislative action or court order that modifies an existing bylaw or article of the constitution, the Board of Directors may immediately authorize the change in the bylaw or constitution so that the bylaws and/or constitution of the OHSAA will be in compliance with Ohio state law or the proposed legislative action. This action is subject to ratification by the membership.

**8-1-2** The constitution and bylaws of this Association may be amended by a referendum vote of the member schools in which the principal of the member school shall cast the vote of the school.

**8-1-3** With respect to a matter which concerns only 7th & 8th grade member schools, principals of 7th & 8th grade member schools may vote. With respect to all other matters, only the principal of a member high school shall vote.

**8-1-4** Any proposed amendment shall be adopted if it receives a majority of the votes cast.

**8-1-5** An amendment may be initiated by the Board of Directors or by petition signed by the principals or the official designees of no less than 75 member schools with a minimum of five signatures required from each district.

**8-1-6** Prior to circulation of the petition for signatures, the originators of the petition shall consult with the Commissioner's office to ensure that the petition is accurate and constructed in such a manner that it will change all related provisions of the constitution and/or bylaws of the OHSAA and file the proposed petition with the Commissioner's office prior to obtaining signatures. The originator(s) of a petition may be any person(s) who is employed as an administrator, teacher or coach in an OHSAA member school. The school or school district where employed must be noted with the name on the petition.

**8-1-7** Petitions to be submitted for referendum vote must be filed with the Commissioner's office between August 1 and December 1 inclusive.

**8-1-8** Voting on referendums to amend the constitution and bylaws shall be conducted between May 1 and May 15.

**8-1-9** All referendums to amend the constitution and bylaws will be presented for public explanation and discussion at a spring meeting of any principals and/or superintendents Associations at the request of the respective Association. In addition, similar public explanation and discussions should occur at other meetings of school administrators prior to the vote in May.

**8-1-10** Amendments to the constitution and bylaws which receive a majority approval shall become effective August 1 following the vote unless the Board of Directors establishes another date, which date is indicated on the ballot.

**8-1-11** No amendment submitted by petition for referendum vote may be resubmitted within three years of the previous vote, except by Board of Directors action.