

Alliance of Illinois Dance Adjudicators

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Article 1 - Name

The organization shall be known as the **Alliance of Illinois Dance Adjudicators**. In this Constitution the organization shall be referred to as the **Alliance**. The approved abbreviation of the Alliance is **AIDA**.

Article II – Purpose

The purpose of AIDA shall be to foster and promote the sport of competitive dance within the State of Illinois by providing for the recruitment, training and ongoing education of competitive dance team judges and officials.

To that end, AIDA will:

- Work to improve the image of and confidence in the dance judges and dance officials of Illinois.
- Work in cooperation with the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) to promote competitive dance team officiating.
- Recruit both veteran and new talent with strong dance-specific backgrounds to officiate the sport of dance.
- Represent, disseminate, and encourage consistent NFHS spirit rule interpretations and IHSA score sheet rubric applications throughout dance team competitions in the State.
- Foster cooperation, improve relationships, and create open communication strategies amongst competitive dance tech officials and panel judges, the high schools of Illinois, Illinois dance team coaches and the IHSA.
- Recognize the importance of technical skill, athleticism and creativity in the application of IHSA scoring evaluations.
- Support the development and growth of its members as it relates to officiating Illinois competitive dance by conducting continuing education clinics for IHSA dance officials.
- Support and conduct the recruitment and training of officials by offering clinics in areas of need as identified by the Board of Directors or by the request of the IHSA.
- Maintain an observers' program in efforts to promote accountability and consistency within our members officiating practices as well as to give objective feedback and promote individual growth in dance officiating.
- Keep a keen eye to the continued evolution and trends of the sport; its impact on officiating practices and implications on scoring sub captions.

AIDA will work in full cooperation with the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) and their mission to enrich the education experience for student dancer athletes.

Article III – Board of Directors

Section 1

Overall management of the Alliance shall be vested in a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of 7 elected executive board members and the remaining will be organizational appointees.

Executive Board positions will be as follows: President, Vice-President, Education and Training Director (ETD), Secretary, Treasurer, and 2 regional board members: one for Chicago and suburbs (Cook, Will, Kendall, Kane, DuPage, Lake and McHenry counties) and one for remainder of the State.

The following organizations: Illinois Drill Team Association/"IDTA", TEAMDance Illinois/"TDI", Universal Dance Association/"UDA" and the Illinois Dance Coaches Association/"IDCA" will be offered the opportunity to appoint one representative each to the Alliance Board. Upon Board approval, additional organizational appointees with a vested interest in the activities of AIDA may request the opportunity to appoint a representative to the Board.

All elected members shall serve two-year terms. Each may serve 1 consecutive term per position. In efforts to promote continuity in the primary years of the Alliance, the President, Education and Training Director and Treasurer will serve an initial three-year term. Vice-President, Secretary and regional board member elections will then alternate annually with the President, Education and Training Director and Treasurer elections.

Appointed members shall serve one-year terms. Appointed positions do not have voting privileges. Consecutive terms are allowed. The nominating organization shall determine choice of appointee and appropriateness of serving consecutive terms. Official business of the AIDA BOD will be shared with dance organizations only thru their named appointee.

Section 2

Only elected Board of Directors positions are permitted to vote on the business that comes before the Board of Directors; however, liaison board members will be strongly encouraged to be active participants in the discussions and debate of Alliance matters brought before the Board.

Section 3

The Board of Directors shall meet a minimum of three times annually. The first annual meeting of the fiscal year shall be held in July at the summer IHSA Officials Conference, the second meeting shall be held in October and third meeting will be held in March after the IHSA dance state tournament series concludes. Any business that is pertinent to the Alliance may be

brought up and acted upon at these meetings. Acceptable methods of meetings include in-person, telephone conference call and on-line video conferencing.

Section 4

At the primary annual meeting the Board of Directors will be voted into office by the membership. All nominations for elected Board of Directors positions must be submitted in writing to the previous President no later than midnight CST on the first Friday in May. Members may self-nominate. All accepted nominations must submit a written statement to the President of their rationale and experience supporting their wish to be an Alliance Board member via email by the second Friday in May at midnight CST. These statements will be submitted along with the online ballot to the membership from the current board Secretary no later than the third Friday in May, along with specific instructions and deadlines for voting.

In order to be eligible for an elected position, a nominee must have been an active IHSA licensed dance official in the current competitive season. Nominees may belong to other associations.

Names of appointees for liaison positions from recognized Illinois dance organizations are due in writing to the President no later than midnight CST on the last Friday in May. Failure to submit a name of an appointee for a Board of Directors liaison position may result in loss of representation for that organization for that fiscal year.

Section 5

The Board of Director terms shall begin with their election at the primary annual meeting. Terms shall end at the conclusion of the next primary annual meeting two years following their election. The newly elected Board of Directors, with the assistance of the previous officers, shall jointly conduct the business of the annual primary meeting.

Four of the seven voting members present at a meeting of the Board of Directors shall constitute a Quorum for the transaction of business of the Alliance.

Section 6

In the event that the office of the President of the Board of Directors is vacated during the term of office, the Vice-President shall succeed to the office of President. If any other vacancy occurs during the term of any elected office of the Board of Directors, a current member of the Board of Directors shall be appointed to the office by the President until, if deemed necessary, a special election is called by the Board of Directors.

Section 7

The President, or in the President's absence, the Vice-President, shall preside at all meetings. This officer shall be the primary representative of the Alliance to the IHSA, state/governmental agencies, dance organizations, Illinois high schools, coaches and athletic directors.

All official outgoing communications representing the Alliance must be approved by the President.

The president is responsible for submission of scholarship and educational grant requests to the IHSA.

The president is responsible for the submission of all Not for Profit applications and paperwork necessary to maintain in good-standing with the State of Illinois.

When inquiries or requests are made to the Alliance for dance judging needs, the President, in conjunction with the Education and Training Director, are responsible for the coordination of official assignments (outside of IHSA Dance Tournament Series). Every attempt will be made for fair standards of assignments to the membership based on, but not limited to: needs and specific requests of contest host, regional representation, travel time, strength of panel vs technical official, current number of confirmed contests, availability, potential conflict-of-interest and consistency with AIDA mission statement, philosophy and goals.

Section 8

In addition to Article III-Section 8, the Vice-President shall be responsible for the oversight and administration of the AIDA website and communications to the membership via all Board-approved social media (e.g.: Facebook, Twitter and mass email vendor).

Section 9

The Secretary shall be responsible for conducting all Board correspondence, providing a meeting agenda, recording meeting minutes, issuing Board notices, keeping a roll of members, maintaining and updating contact lists in all associated databases, and submission of membership database to IHSA upon request.

Section 10

The Treasurer shall maintain a current record of the finances of the Board of Directors of the Alliance, collect the per capita tax (if applicable), and disburse funds. Funds may only be disbursed after appropriate submission of expenses approved by the Board. The Treasurer shall deposit the funds of the Board of Directors in a bank or trust company approved by the Board. All checks issued by the Board of Directors shall bear the signature of the Treasurer. The Board shall examine the Treasurer's accounts at the annual meeting. The Treasurer shall be the custodian over all associate funds and shall be over the collecting of dues, depositing of funds,

check writing, payment of bills and all reports as deemed by the Board. He/she provide a summary of accounts each year at the July meeting. The summary of accounts will be comprised of an itemized balance sheet.

Section 11

The Education and Training Director shall be responsible for the oversight of the mentoring and observers programs, the timely dissemination of competition-relevant information and updates to the general membership during the sport season, and the coordination of continuing education clinics in dance. He/she will provide an annual report to the Board with a summary of the participants in the mentoring and observation program(s). This position, along with the President, shall serve as the main collaborator with IHSA administration in identifying the active needs of the dance officials during the competitive season and when appropriate, assignment of AIDA officials to non-IHSA dance state series events.

Section 12

Liaison Board Members are responsible for the facilitation of open communication both to the Alliance Board of Directors and back to their prospective dance organization.

Section 13

In the furtherance, and not in limitation of the powers conferred by statute, the Board of Directors is hereby expressly authorized to:

- A. Authorize the collection and expenditure of Alliance funds.
- B. At the annual meeting, based on the reports of Budget Committees and/or Treasurer, the Board shall declare initiation fees and annual dues.
- C. If needed, assess a per capita tax. The per capita tax shall be paid to the Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Alliance not later than the annual meeting date.
- D. Make affiliations and working agreements with other organizations of a kindred nature and purpose that, in its judgment, it may deem fit for the good and welfare of the Alliance.
- E. The President of the Board of Directors shall ensure that the Alliance maintains a current, valid registration with the Office of the Secretary of State of Illinois as a **General Not for Profit Organization**.
- F. In the event of any question arising on any matter not specifically covered by the Articles of Incorporations, this Constitution and By-Laws, the action thereon by the Board of Directors shall be conclusive.
- G. Carry out the mandates and policies of this association as determined by the membership.
- H. Enforce the by-laws of this Alliance.
- I. Have the power to bestow honorary memberships and to extend IHSA Dance Official Licenses to 2 new dance officials annually as a Recognized IHSA Officials Organization.

- J. Appoint an individual or call for a special election to fill the vacancy of an elected office as set forth in Article 6 of these by-laws.
- K. Review all appeals of the disciplinary committee. Determine the procedure for reinstatement once a member is no longer in good standing.
- L. Create and disseminate an AIDA-sponsored Dance Invitational Manual to potential IHSA dance invitational contest hosts.
- M. Reviewing and approving AIDA-sponsored Dance Officials Evaluation forms.

Article IV – Election of Officers

Section 1

Only persons nominated in accordance with Article III, Section 4 may be placed on the ballot and voted upon for the purpose of holding elected office in the Alliance.

Section 2

No person shall be nominated for more than one elected officer position.

Section 3

Each active member of the Alliance shall be entitled to one vote per office.

Section 4

Members are not permitted to cast either multiple or fractional votes.

Section 5

Members may only vote via an online ballot. Individuals running for Board positions may not be involved in the counting and assembling of votes, or announcement of winners. The Board will appoint a current AIDA member with the least conflict-of-interest to serve as tabulator. The tabulator will be responsible for reporting results to the current President and IHSA Executive Director overseeing dance within 48 hours of final vote deadline.

Section 6

In the event of a vacancy, the seat shall be filled by appointment from the President or special election.

Article V – Membership

Section 1

Alliance members must meet the following requirements:

- A. Apply for membership by completing an application.
- B. Applicants must either be licensed or actively seeking licensing with the Illinois High School Association in the sport of dance.
- C. Receipt of payment of annual dues.
- D. Agree to participate in AIDA Observers and Mentoring Program at recommended intervals.

Section 2

Alliance members are defined as Independent Contractors. Members shall not be considered as employees of the Alliance.

Section 3

The Alliance shall not be responsible for employment tax withholding, unemployment insurance, social security taxes, workers' compensation or similar employee-like benefits.

Section 4

Honorary memberships may be bestowed upon individuals by the Board of Directors. Honorary members may participate in all AIDA-related activities, but are not eligible to vote.

Section 5

Individuals who have been offered IHSA new official licenses on behalf of AIDA are still responsible for annual AIDA membership dues.

Article VI – Initiation Fees and Dues

Section 1

The Board of Directors shall approve the initiation fees. The initiation fee must accompany the application for membership. In the event an applicant should be rejected for membership, the full initiation fee shall be returned.

Section 2

No membership card shall be issued, nor shall the right to vote or be nominated to office be provided until full payment has been made of the dues and initiation fees to the Alliance for the current season.

Section 3

The annual dues shall be established by the Board of Directors. Dues are to be paid once annually on or before October 1st.

Section 4

A thirty day grace period shall be allowed for past outstanding dues before a member is no longer considered in good standing.

Article VII – Resignation/Suspension/Termination of Members

Section 1

Resignation of the Alliance membership shall be made in writing to the Secretary.

Section 2

A member may be offered a written warning or suspended by vote of the Board of Directors for violation of any of the requirements specified in Article IX, Section 3. A written warning may be offered for first-time or more minor offenses, and will remain on file with the Secretary for one year. Suspension shall be defined as deprivation of all active membership privileges including membership meetings and potential contest assignments.

Section 3

Written warnings or suspension may result from any of the following events:

- A. Non-payment of dues.
- B. Failure to fulfill the membership requirements specified in Article V.
- C. Conduct unbecoming of an Alliance member.
- D. Behavior inconsistent with IHSA Mission Statement and Beliefs.
- E. Flagrant neglect of IHSA conflict-of-interest standards for officials.

Section 4

A member who has been suspended may either remove the reason for the suspension or file an appeal citing extenuating circumstances to the Secretary of the Board. Filing an appeal of suspension shall not entitle the member to retain rights belonging to a current member status. An emergency meeting shall be called of the Board to review the appeal within 10 days of

received request. The member's rationale for appeal will be presented to the officers by the Secretary. The officers will then vote to accept or reject the appeal. If the appeal is rejected the member shall be terminated. The Board of Directors shall be required to review all suspensions at the next annual meeting.

Section 5

Termination is defined as final and permanent separation from the Alliance.

Article VIII – Order of Business

Section 1

Roberts Rules of Order shall be used to govern the conduct of all Alliance Board of Directors meetings.

Section 2

A Quorum for a meeting of the general membership shall consist of at least 10 active members.

Section 3

Regular membership meetings, including the annual meeting, shall be held on dates designated by the Board of Directors and communicated to the general membership at least 10 business days prior to the date of the event.

Section 4

Special meetings may be called at any time upon request of the President, or on the written request of twenty percent of the active membership. The request must state the purpose of the special meeting. The representative shall e-mail a notice, stating the purpose of the special meeting, to the Alliance members at least ten (10) days before the date of the meeting. No other business shall be considered or transacted at a special meeting called under this provision.

Section 5

A special meeting of the Board of Directors may be held at the call of the President of the Board of Directors or at the written request of four members of the Board of Directors for any purpose. The Secretary shall email a notice, stating the purpose of the special meeting, to all Board of Directors members at least ten (10) days before the date of the meeting. No other business shall be considered or transacted at a special meeting called under this provision.

Article IX – Committees

Section 1

Special or temporary committees may be created at any time for any purpose authorized by the Board of Directors. Committees formed under this provision shall elect their own Chairperson.

Section 2

All expenses incurred by a committee shall be itemized and presented to the Treasurer. Before payment, the itemized bill with receipts shall be reviewed and approved by the President.

Article XI – Representatives or Delegates

Section 1

In the event that the Alliance sends a representative or delegation to any meeting, conference or convention, where either the full or partial expenses of the trip are to be borne by the Alliance, the representative or delegation shall be approved by the President.

Section 2

The representative or delegation must provide the Treasurer, upon their return, with an itemized statement with receipts of their expenses within 10 business days in order to be considered for re-imbusement.

Article XII – Amendment Adoption Procedures

Section 1

Proposed amendments to the AIDA Constitution and By-Laws must be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors by the March, or Spring Board of Directors meeting. The secretary is responsible to notify the general membership of the date of this meeting and give a call out for new or changed By-Law proposals no later than 10 days prior to said meeting, either by posting on the website and/or by email.

Proposed amendments must include:

- The submitter and sponsor name(s);
- Cite the original by-law;
- The proposed change worded exactly as if change is accepted;
- The rationale for said proposal.

No by-law proposals will be accepted from anonymous sources. After discussion, the Board of Directors will vote whether or not to consider the proposed amendment. A simple majority is needed to bring a proposed amendment to the general membership for a vote.

Section 2

A listing of BOD-approved proposed amendments will accompany the Board of Directors election ballots to the general membership in May. A copy of the existing constitution will also be included with this mailing.

Section 3

The proposed amendment will be adopted if it is approved by a two-thirds vote by the general membership. Passed amendments will be announced along with the election annual Board of Directors election results. Adopted Amendments to the Constitution become part of the Constitution at the conclusion of the first fiscal meeting of the year, in July.

Article XIII – Adoption Procedures

Section 1

The Constitution shall take effect immediately upon ratification by the existing Board of Directors.

Section 2

Prior to the ratification meeting, copies of the Constitution shall be made available to all members. A Quorum for a ratification meeting shall consist of thirty percent of the members, which may occur in person, via telephone conference call or online meeting. In order for this Constitution to be ratified, a two-thirds majority vote of those present shall be required.

Article XIV – Observer Program

Section 1

The Alliance shall design and implement an IHSA Dance Officials Observer program. Observers shall be appointed by the Education and Training Director utilizing the following preferential criteria:

- A. Certified, then Recognized IHSA dance officials
- B. Experience in State, then Sectional IHSA Dance Tournament Series
- C. Special significant dance experience within a sub-caption, technique, skill, genre or category.

Observers must be in good standing with both the Alliance and the IHSA as active or inactive dance officials.

Observer appointee status is to be communicated to the membership annually by the ETD, along with specific details on how to get observed. Observations are a benefit of AIDA membership.

Section 2

The observer shall attend a contest that the official to be observed has either been contracted to officiate or via practicum as detailed in Article XV-Officials Mentoring and Training Program. The observer shall record their observation on a designated AIDA Officials Evaluation form. The completed AIDA Official Evaluation form is intended to be an interactive learning and feedback tool to be shared with the official being observed. This form shall be submitted to the Training and Education Director and to the IHSA. A copy of each completed form shall be retained by the Alliance.

Section 3

It is recommended that each first year member of the Alliance, regardless of IHSA licensing level, participate in an observation event within one year of becoming an Alliance member. Following that, it is recommended that all Alliance Registered level officials be observed at minimum once every three (3) years. It is recommended that all Recognized and Certified level officials be observed at minimum once every five (5) years.

Section 4

Observers may be a contracted technical or panel official at the contest in which they are observing. Additionally, they may be directly assigned to a contest by either the President or the Education and Training Director in an observer-only capacity.

Article XV – Officials Mentoring and Training Program

Section 1

The Alliance will provide a training program for both novice and veteran officials to shadow, score and/or obtain additional dance-specific learning opportunities with AIDA-designated dance mentors during invitational contests, officials' conferences and AIDA-sponsored clinics. Examples include, but are not limited to: observational shadowing, real-time scoring, spirit rule/technical officiating management, focused sub-caption evaluation, technique evaluation, and genre-specific dance education.

Section 2

The Education and Training Director (ETD) will send to the membership potential sites, dates, name of mentor(s) and topic(s) of training opportunities both prior to and during the regional invitational season via email, social media and/or website. Officials requesting to participate in a specific-AIDA training session must respond to the Education and Training Director by the date identified in the ETD outgoing communication. These opportunities will be filled on a first come, first served basis, and are for AIDA members only.

New IHSA Dance Officials that are members of the Alliance are strongly encouraged to participate in a minimum of ½ day, or 4 hours of shadowing and ½ day, or 4 hours of real-time scoring prior to participating in a contracted assignment. Alliance members who have observed a minimum of 4 hours of IHSA dance competition will be given preference for real-time scoring opportunity events.

The mentor/trainer will be responsible to submit the participants' completed Official Evaluation form to the Training and Education Director and to the IHSA.

Section 3

The Alliance will be responsible for the compensation for the mentor/trainer at an hourly rate equal that of the paid scoring official for that day. The amount of approved contact hours to be paid, compensation rate, as well as specific goals and content of training event shall be communicated in writing from the Education and Training Director to the trainer/mentor along with the formal request of services.