

**Constitution  
Of the  
SUFFOLK COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC**

**In order to:**

**PREAMBLE**

- a. Promote the establishment, maintenance and implementation of the highest standards of integrity, honesty and efficiency in the administration, policies and scope of football officiating by the members of the Suffolk County Association of Football Officials.
- b. Promote uniform interpretation of football rules, to maintain a uniform standard of qualification for officials and to promote the highest standard of integrity and sportsmanship among officials, coaches and players in Section XI of New York State.
- c. Render services in the aid of administration of schools, coaches, athletic administrators and players by open forums, rules of interpretation clinics and field demonstrations.

**ARTICLE 1 – PURPOSES**

The purposes of the Suffolk County Football Officials Association, Inc.; are those stated in the foregoing Preamble and such other or additional purposes as maybe from time to time adopted and approved at the meetings of its' members as authorized under the Constitution of the New York State Association of Certified Football Officials, Inc.

**ARTICLE 2 – OFFICERS**

The officers of the Association shall consist of the President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and the Secretary-Treasurer to be elected at the biennial election.

The term shall be for (2) two years. Election shall be by ballot and a majority shall elect. Each election shall be held on the odd number years. Any candidate must be a SCFOA member in good standing.

If an officer is unopposed a vote by the Secretary or highest ranking officer shall be cast by a motion from the floor and seconded for final approval.

## ARTICLE 3 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Section 1:** The business and operations of the Suffolk County Football Officials Association, Inc. shall be directed by a body to be known as its' Board of Directors, which shall be constituted as follows:

- President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President and the Secretary-Treasurer.
- Shall be members of the Board of Directors
- The outgoing President shall be a member and six (6) other elected members.

**Section 2:** At each annual election meeting of the members, the terms of office of one or more members of the Board of Directors will expire, and at the same meeting a member or members shall be elected for the term of five (5) years, but any member of the Board of Directors whose term expires upon the date of the annual election meeting shall be ineligible for re-election for a period of one (1) year.

Election of members in the Board of Directors shall be upon nomination and vote of the voting membership of the body by closed ballot and a plurality shall elect. Any candidate must be an SCFOA member in good standing.

Vacancies in membership of the Board of Directors occurring between annual election meetings shall be filled by the President with the approval of a majority vote of the members of the Board of Directors. Such appointee shall server until the next annual election. Any individual elected by the membership at the annual election to fill an expired term is eligible to seek re-election.

It is the purpose of the provision to maintain full membership on the Board of Directors at all times.

**Section 3:** The Board of Directors shall have the power and duty to direct the affairs and policies of the Suffolk County Football Officials Association, Inc., to bring in effect and maintain its' purposes as set forth in the Constitution and may be directed by an act of the members taken at meetings thereof. It may exercise these powers and duties by its' own acts or through supervision of activities of the President.

**Section 4:** It shall conduct meetings as set forth by the President throughout the year, l the exercise of the above delegated powers and the performance of the above delegated duties the full authority and power of the Association, excepting that as hereinafter especially provided; it shall have NOT the power:

- To elect or expel members
- To execute agreements with affiliated organizations.

**Section 5:** Six (6) members present constitute a quorum for a meeting of the Board of Directors to take place. No business may be taken either real or implied unless a Quorum is present.

All meetings are open to the membership.

Six (6) Aye votes are needed for Approval of any action taken by the Board of Directors.

**Section 6:** Board of Directors is responsible for selecting the Rules Interpreter to a two (2) year term. To be considered for the Interpreter position:

- The member must be in good standing with the Association
- Have a minimum of five (5) years Varsity Level experience
- And must apply to the Secretary in writing by February 1<sup>st</sup> of even numbered years.
- Chaired by the President, the Board of Directors will conduct interviews for each candidate, and select the Interpreter based on a majority vote.

## **ARTICLE 4 – AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1:** This Constitution can be amended at any Business meeting by two-thirds vote of the voting membership that is present for said meeting, provided a written notice and/or email notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to each member at least ten (10) business days in advance of the date of the meeting.

**Section 2:** The Board of Directors may at any time, request the Secretary-Treasurer to have the voting members vote by either mail and / or email, providing all other conditions as to proper notification has been met.

## **ARTICLE 5 – QUORUM**

**Section 1:** A quorum to transact business at any regular or special meeting shall consist of a majority of the voting membership at the time of meeting call to order. A simple majority of membership present is needed to approve any business NOT mention in Article 4, Section 1.

## **ARTICLE 6 – DUTIES of the OFFICERS**

**Section 1:** The officers of the Association shall assume their duties following the biennial election meeting unless the number of absentee ballots could change the final election outcome. Should the number of absentee ballots outstanding have an effect on the final outcome of said election; officer or officers elected by said vote will assume duties at the conclusion of the annual dinner meeting. Absentee ballots may be requested up to ten (10) business days prior to the election meeting.

**Section 2:** The President shall preside at all the regular and special meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors. He shall preside for the preparation of the Candidates Examination. The President, whenever a vacancy exists on the Board of Directors, shall nominate a member in good standing to fill said vacancy until membership can elect someone at the next annual election meeting, as set forth in the Constitution. Article 3, Section 2.

**Section 3:** In absence of the President, the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President shall assume the duties of that office.

**Section 4:** It shall be the duty of the Secretary-Treasurer to:

- Keep the records of the proceedings of every regular and special meeting of the Association, and/or the Board of Directors.
- Receive and distribute Association funds, and keep an account of such transactions.
- Maintain a classified directory of the individual membership
- Distribute such material as may be available to the membership, including examinations, rule books, case books, etc...
- To provide for the promotion from "Candidate" to "Associate" to "Active" membership in the accordance with ratings earned through a written examination on the rules and mechanics, successful experience in a specified number of games and regular attendance at meetings.

## **ARTICLE 7 – MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1:** A Suffolk County Football Officials Association member "in good standing" can either be active or inactive. However, they must meet all the requirements set forth by the New York State Officials Association and the SCFOA Constitution and Bylaws. Membership of this Association shall consist of Active, Associate, Candidate and Honorary members according to the requirements set up hereinafter for the respective classifications of membership.

**Section 2:** Active and Inactive members, who are in good standing, shall have the right to hold office. Active, Associate and Candidate Members, who are in good standing, have the right to vote. Any member who will not be present for the annual Election Meeting, with just cause, must make a request to the Attendance Chairman either by mail or email no less than ten (10) business days prior to the Election Meeting in order to receive and absentee ballot. Said ballot must be returned to the Secretary-Treasurer no later than ten (10) business days after the date of the Election Meeting.

**Section 3:** Members shall be considered "In Good Standing" if their financial obligations are up to date, they have attended current mandatory meetings and they have no obligations due to the Ethics Committee business.

## **ARTICLE 8 – COMMITTEE AND THEIR DUTIES**

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

The duties of the Membership Committee (Secretary and Interpreter), shall be to obtain new members for membership in the Association. New members can be transfer members from other acceptable Associations or Applicants who have completed our Candidates School. The Membership Committee shall be governed by the following, which shall be considered as the minimum requirements for membership:

**CANDIDATES:** Football Officials who are desirous of affiliating with this Chapter may make applications to the Membership Committee showing any experience they have had as a Football Official. That individual who is accepted as an Applicant for membership, must pay his application fee, must attend the Candidates School (where applicable), must pass the Associations Candidate Examination, must agree to take the National Federation Part 2 Exam, pass the field test and must attend the Junior High Rules Interpretation Meeting.

**ASSOCIATES:** A Candidate who has:

- Received a satisfactory score in the
  - Annual National Federation Part 2 Exam
  - Mechanics Exam
- Presently, a Member in Good Standing in the Association.
- Been approved by a majority vote of the membership

**ACTIVE:** An Associate who has:

- Received a satisfactory score in the
  - Annual National Federation Part 2 Exam
  - Mechanics Exam
- Officiated satisfactorily as an Associate member in at least twenty (20) games within the last five (5) years.
- Been approved by a majority vote of the membership.
- Been recommended by three (3) Active Members who have worked games with said member.
- Presently, a member in Good Standing in the Association.
- All Candidates for Active Membership must have the approval of the Chapter's Board of Directors.

**HONORARY:** Honorary Members shall be members of the Association, who cease to be an Active Inter-Scholastic Football Official in our Association, provided they have been a member in Good Standing, shall be considered for Honorary Membership upon retirement. Honorary Membership Chairman (Secretary) will present a listing of members that have retired from our Association from the previous year to the Board of Directors at the annual Election Meeting, and by majority vote, the Board will select past members for Honorary status.

**APPROVED:** To be an "Approved" member in any of the established classifications, a member shall have met the requirements of the "Five Point Plan" as established by NYSPHSAA.

**INACTIVE:** A Member may be placed on the inactive list providing the member has applied for such Classification and the reasons given are approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. A member who resigns must return as a Candidate Member.

- Any Member who has been on the "Inactive List" for two (2) consecutive years shall be recommended for dismissal from this Association if he does NOT become active for the

third years. Such Members maybe re-admitted as a Candidate Member upon successful completion of the Chapters Candidate School.

- Any Member, who does NOT accept and works a season's schedule of at least five (5) inter-scholastic football games, shall be placed on the "inactive list". Such Members shall be eligible to hold office and to vote in Chapter Elections only if he/she is a member in Good Standing during the inactive status.
- Any Member incurring physical disability or extended illness shall have the same status as members on military leave.
- Any Member recalled to military service shall automatically be placed on the "Inactive List" and will not be subject to loss of status or pay dues, but must attend the Candidates School upon his return.

## **ARTICLE 9 – ETHICS**

**ETHICS COMMITTEE:** The duties of the Ethics Committee shall be to investigate the conduct of members of this Association and also the conduct of participants and the conditions of any game officiated by the members.

Effective 1990, the President shall appoint the Chairperson of the Ethics Committee. The Ethics Committee shall be comprised of a Chairperson from the Board of Directors and at least two (2) active members in Good Standing.

### **ETHICS CODE AND PROCEDURE:**

The purpose of the Ethics Code and Procedure is to state the philosophy of the Suffolk County Football Officials Association in regards to the desired and acceptable behavior of its members. Also, to establish procedure to evaluate and resolve alleged violations of this code.

### **Ethics Violation – OFFICIALS NOTICE**

- An allegation of unethical conduct maybe lodged against any member for engaging in the conduct that is in violation of the prohibitions that are not listed but not limited to those identified in the Policy Section.
- An allegation of unethical conduct shall be made in writing to the President and shall be postmarked within 6 months of the occurrence of the alleged unethical conduct. The allegation shall be specific and shall include the nature of the conduct, the date of occurrence, the location of the game and names of the persons involved.
- The President shall refer the allegation of unethical conduct to the chairperson of the Ethics Committee, and the Ethics Committee shall convene to review the allegation. The President MUST refer allegations to the Chairperson within thirty (30) days of notification of said allegation.
- The Ethics Committee shall evaluate the allegation and determine whether the conduct complained of is prejudicial to the interests of the Association or otherwise in violation of the Ethics Code. The Ethics Committee must convene within thirty (30) days of notification from President to evaluate is said allegation needs further investigation.

## **HEARING:**

- Once the Ethics Committee determines a hearing is warranted, the Ethics Committee Chairperson shall contact the person or persons involved in the pending allegation in writing and summon them to a hearing of the Ethics Committee to be conducted no later than (15) business days after the initial evaluation.
- The Chairperson of the Ethics Committee shall preside at the hearing and shall make all the determinations as to the proper conduct of the hearing.
- All parties may present evidence and/or witnesses in support of their position and the Ethics Committee may, on its own motion, seek the attendance of witnesses or the presentation of evidence which the Committee, in its discretion, deems material to the proper determination of any issue,
- Question of fact at the hearing shall be determined by substantial evidence.
- The decision of the Ethics Committee shall be a majority vote of its members.
- Upon finding that a member is guilty, the Ethics Committee shall recommend a reprimand and/or suspension, depending upon the nature of the unethical conduct and records its decision to the Board of Directors at the next scheduled Board Meeting, which must be within thirty (30) days of decision. Any penalty must be approved by a majority vote of the Board.
- The Secretary shall notify the complaining party and the member(s) concerned in writing of the decision of the Ethics Committee.

## **APPEAL:**

- A member or members found to be in violation of an Ethics Code shall have the right to present newly acquired evidence to the Chairperson of the Ethics Committee within fifteen (15) business days of the post marked notification. Such evidence shall be described fully and presented in writing. The Chairperson of the Ethics Committee shall determine whether meeting of the Ethics Committee shall be convened to consider the new evidence.
- The Ethics Committee shall, upon being convened, consider the new evidence and may either affirm or overrule its prior decision and penalty. The Ethics Chairperson shall report to the Board of Directors and by a majority vote, the Board can either affirm or void the prior decision rendered. The Secretary shall notify the member(s) in writing no more than ten (10) business days from the Meeting of the Board of final decision.
- Upon failure to present new evidence as provided in the above listed procedure, the decision of the Ethics Committee shall be final and be considered the decision of the Association.

## **ARTICLE 10 – DISCIPLINE**

- A member of this Association maybe cited for conduct unbecoming to an official or for conduct that may bring discredit or disgrace upon this Association.
- A member maybe cited for failure to attend the mandatory rules interpretation meeting, and/or for unwarranted and excessive absence from regular scheduled meetings.

- A member maybe cited for failure to take the State Part 2 Examination and for attaining a satisfactory grade in the exam.
- The Board of Directors, by a majority vote, may fine ant member of this Association and amount, not to exceed a Varsity Game fee for that current season, for the above mentioned items, but not limited to said mentioned items, without citing an Ethics Violation.
- A member maybe cited for expulsion from this Association by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. A member shall not be expelled except by actions of the members at regular or special meetings, and to expel shall require a quorum and a two-thirds majority of all voting members at the meeting.
- Discipline under this section shall not be imposed unless and until written specifications of the violation are delivered to said member(s) against which the complaint is made, nor until the member charged has an opportunity to make written answer to the complaint. With his answer, the member(s) charged may include a demand to be heard at a meeting of the members, the demand will be accepted and the member(s) heard.

## **ARTICLE 11 – EXAMINATIONS**

**Section 1:** It shall be the duty of the Membership Chairperson to conduct ALL Examinations held by this Chapter. They shall draft the Candidates Exam.

**Section 2:** The Membership Committee shall collect all examination fees and turn said fees over to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Chapter.

**Section 3:** All examination fees shall be retained by this Chapter.

## **ARTICLE 12 – Dues**

The Treasurer shall collect annual dues from each individual member of this Association.

**Section 1:** The amount of the dues, as established by a vote of the Voting Membership shall include the cost of the Association annual dinner/

**Section 2:** Annual dues are payable in advance by November 1<sup>st</sup> of the preceding year.

- Failure to remit by said date shall result in a \$5.00 a month fine.
- Any payments post marked after January 1<sup>st</sup> of the new year will be charged an additional (\$50.00) late fee.
- On January 1<sup>st</sup> – Treasure will report to Board Members, said members of the Association who's current dues have NOT been paid.
- Last date of payment of dues is March 31<sup>st</sup> of the new year.
- Any members who have not paid current years dues will be dropped from the Membership roll as of that date.
- The Board of directors will make exceptions for special provisions if that member supplies the Board with a reason for non-payment.



**Section 3:** The Treasurer shall be responsible for our Association's individual membership dues being paid to the New York State Association.

**Section 4:** The Membership may vote an assessment to cover any expense not provided by the annual dues.

## **ARTICLE 13 – Meetings**

ALL members are required to attend a minimum of 75% of the regularly scheduled meetings of the Association.

**Section 1:** The date, time and place of all meetings shall be established by the Board of Directors.

**Section 2:** Special meetings can be called at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

**Section 3:** To be a member in Good Standing on the Board of Directors a member must attend a majority of the scheduled Board Meetings in a calendar year. Failure to attend the required number of meetings will result in said Board Member being dropped from the Board, and also from his/her elected position in the Association.

**Section 4:** All members are required to attend the mandatory Part 2 Exam held each year in September.

**Section 5:** All members are required to attend at least one (1) Mandatory Rules Interpretation Meeting held each calendar year. Members can attend the Association Rules Interpretation Meeting held in September or attend one of the Coaches Rules Interpretation Meeting held in August for Varsity and J.V. Coaches or in September for Jr High Coaches.

## **ARTICLE 14 – AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to the By-Laws may be made by a majority vote of the voting membership present at either of the two (2) business meetings held in June and or November of each calendar year.

## **ARTICLE 15 – SAFETY**

If only one (1) Official is present at a Junior High School assigned Football Contest, the game will be played as a SCRIMMAGE with a coach from both teams on the field at all times. Said rating from the contest WILL NOT be given nor will it be used in the official's year end rating or rankings, and said official will be compensated at a rate of one and one-half the current rate, according to the Associations contract with Section XI.

## **ARTICLE 16 – NEW REFEREE**

A newly appointed Referee, appointed prior to the scheduling for the current season has the right to select a new team from the list of ALL eligible Varsity Officials.

A newly appointed Referee, appointed after the completion of the schedule for the current season, with Section XI, MUST keep the team he receives for the said upcoming season

## **ARTICLE 17 – ADVANCEMENT POLICY**

### **Varsity Eligible List:**

Consists all Varsity Officials from the previous year listed on the varsity Replacement List. Also all Varsity Officials who were inactive from the previous year and declare to be reinstated as eligible. All Varsity Officials from any Varsity Crew that has been disbanded for whatever reason. All J.V Officials from previous year provided said official has met all requirements regarding games worked and ratings.

### **Varsity Replacement List:**

- Any Varsity Official not selected for a crew for the current year shall be placed on this list.
- Any J.V. Official not selected for a crew can be placed on the Varsity Replacement List if the Board decides movement is needed.
- Any Officials on this list MUST declare prior to August 1<sup>st</sup> of said year his position for Varsity Games.
- No official can select the Referee Position.
- Secretary will notify officials on this list so said official can submit his selection to the Association. The Board of Directors retains the right to review all selections.

### **Advancement for Jr. Varsity Officials:**

- Any J.V. Official who worked a J.V. schedule the previous season, and met all requirements, will be placed on the Varsity Eligible List.
- Any J.V. Official NOT selected for a crew will return to the J.V. Official pool for the upcoming season, unless promoted to Varsity by Board of Directors.

### **Advancement for Jr. High Officials:**

- Need determined by the Board of Directors
- Movement will be based solely on ratings. If a Jr. High Official works five (5) J.V. games in a season, he will advance to the J.V. Level provided his rating is at or above 4.15.
- To be eligible for advancement a Jr High Official must establish a Jr. High two (2) Year Rating, based on the last two (2) consecutive years Jr. High games assigned.

**OFFICIAL RATINGS:**

Officials must maintain a Varsity Rating of 3.75 or higher for two (2) consecutive years. Failure to do so will result in the Official being dropped to the J.V. Level.

**SCHEDULING:**

Section XI has sole discretion on scheduling of officials to fill openings on Varsity Crew for games either Friday or Saturday. Section can use Varsity Officials from other crews or officials from the Varsity Replacement List.

## **REFEREE DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAM:**

### **ELIGIBILITY:**

- A Candidate must be recommended to the Board of Directors by three (3) Varsity Referees.
- This Recommendation must be in a letter addressed to the Chairman of the Referee Developmental Program
- A Candidate MUST be or have been a Varsity Official with five (5) years' experience, with at least two (2) of those years on a Varsity Crew.
- The Candidate, once approved for the Program, will perform the duties of a Referee on the J.V. Level., as assigned by Section XI.
- A Candidate WILL NOT have to leave his Varsity Team to be involved with the program.

### **SELECTION:**

When a Varsity Referee position becomes open, prior to the scheduling of games by Section XI, a referee will be selected from the Referee Developmental Program by the Committee, with the approval of the Board of Directors, based on the following:

- Official's ratings as a referee on the J.V. Level.
- Officials ratings as a Varsity Official
- Completed evaluation forms from other member officials who worked J.V. games with Referee Candidate.

### **APPROVAL:**

The Board of Directors will have the FINAL APPROVAL of all new Referees. The Board has the right to alter this program, at any time, to correct any wrongs or to fill scheduling problems.

### **VARSITY REFEREE REPLACEMENT:**

If a Varsity Referee is unable to officiate as assigned Varsity contest, the position of Referee will be filled in by one of the following matters:

- Each Varsity team can select a crewmember, who can work the position of Referee should the regular crew Referee be unable to work.
- Varsity Referees from other crews who are available and are not a scheduling conflict.
- Section XI and the President will have and make the final decision regarding the replacement for the Referee position, including but limited to switching games for crews due to the absence of the Referee.

## **BOARD POLICY ENACTMENTS**

### **September 1973: Candidates School**

Any Officials, who attend the Candidates School Field Test for the purpose of assisting the instructor with the field mechanics, will be given credit for attending meeting for the current football season.

### **May 1979: Corporation**

It is agreed our Association, Suffolk County Football Officials Association will seek to become incorporated.

### **April 1983: Playoff Team Qualification August 2008: Amended**

To be considered for a Playoff or Championship Game, a Varsity Official Team MUST officiate a minimum of six(6) Varsity games where ALL positioned team members for that season are present due to player and working their assigned positions.

### **March 1985: Applicant Officials**

No Applicant Official is permitted to officiate an assigned game without a certified official due to player safety and Applicant lack of Liability Insurance.

### **January 1987: Playoff Officials**

All Playoff and Championship Officials will be awarded plaques at the annual dinner. Officials who are substituted for prior to playing of said Playoff or Championship Game will be awarded a plaque, along with the substitute official.

### **June 1988: Scrimmage Games**

Varsity and Jr. Varsity pre-season scrimmages will now be assigned by Section XI and officials will be compensated by the fee as per the Officials contract. No crew or official shall officiate said scrimmages unless assigned by Section. Jr. High scrimmages can be officiated by members of the Association without payment. All in school Alumni games, regardless of level can be officiated without payment. Officials must contact the Association Secretary prior to contest, with names of said officials working above unpaid contest for purpose of insurance coverage.

## **September 1988**

## **Candidates School**

Interpreter or a Board Member MUST conduct the Candidates School in the event that the Interpreter is not available, the Interpreter will appoint a Board Member to conduct the school. This appointment must be approved by the President.

## **May 1990**

## **Varsity Team Openings**

The Board will determine how many openings exist on the Varsity Team Level for the upcoming season, and the Chairman of the Advancement Committee will supply a listing of eligible officials to fill said team openings.

- Lowest rated teams from the previous season's rankings will pick first starting with Team #24, then Team #23, then Team #22, etc...
- Teams pick in reverse order of last seasons' Team ranking.
- If more than one(1) new Referee is given Team, the order that the new Referees will be ranked, will be determined based on personal ratings from last seasons' Varsity Rating List for said new Referees.

## **Amended June 2008**

## **Varsity Team Openings**

If needed, there will be four (4) rounds for selecting Varsity Team members with the rounds consisting of:

- Round 1 – All teams needing four (4) members picked in this round, in reverse order of last seasons' ranking,
- Round 2 – All teams needing three (3) members picked in this round, in reverse order of last seasons' ranking,
- Round 3 – All teams needing two (2) members picked in this round, in reverse order of last seasons' ranking,
- Round 4 – All teams needing one (1) members picked in this round, in reverse order of last seasons' ranking,

## **Amended May 1990**

## **Varsity Team Openings**

Any Official or Officials who remain after all Varsity Team openings have been filled, will be placed as follows:

- Varsity Officials: Will be placed on the Varsity Replacement List after each said official has declared a position that he will work for the upcoming season.
- J.V Officials – Will be returned to the J.V. Listing, and will be promoted as outlined in the Advancement Policy of this Constitution.

## **Amended May 1990 Varsity Team Openings: (Cont.)**

- Jr. High Officials – Will be returned to the Jr. High Listing and will be promoted as outlined in the Advancement Policy of this Constitution.
- Once selected to a Team, the Official MUST serve one (1) year with said team before moving to a new team the following season.
- If an official wishes to move to a new team for the upcoming season, the Officials must send a request, in writing, to the Secretary before May 31<sup>st</sup> of said year, requesting that he/she be added back to the pool of Eligible Varsity Officials for team openings.
- Once selected for a team, if the official DOES NOT wish to accept the assignment to the team that selected him, he will be returned to the Junior Varsity Level.
- Any eligible Varsity Official or any Varsity Team Referee who makes any arrangements or agreements to obtain a particular official for his team, from the pool of eligible Varsity Officials, prior to the June Business Meeting, will be considered in violation of our Association's Ethic Policy, and will be recommended for disciplinary action from the Ethics Committee.

## **May 1994:           Game Films/Coaches**

Any official or crew that meets with a coach or coaches from any school which is serviced through Section XI, for the purpose of picking up or viewing game films, will be considered in violation of this Association Ethics Policy. Any crew that wishes to view a game film shall contact either President or Interpreter, who will have sole responsibility for securing game film. If coach wishes a crew or an official to view a game film, he MUST contact either Section or Association President who will secure game film from the school.

## **ETHICS POLICY**

- Soliciting of additional games from Section XI shall be considered unethical behavior.
- Dress Code- The proper uniform shall be:
  1. Black hat with white piping and approved patch
  2. White hat with approved patch for Referees
  3. Black and White striped Federation Approved shirt
  4. White Knickers or white shorts with black belt
  5. Solid black shoes
  6. Black choker and rain gear maybe worn during inclement weather.
- Officials should arrive at least one (1) hour before game time, If you know you are going to be late due to distance traveled, work hours, car problems, etc... you must notify the other officials working said game with you.
- If Officials of equal ranking are working together, they will agree on what positions each official will work. Senior Official has final say as to position of Officials should any problems arise.
- Officials must be supportive of each other. Negative comments, facial expressions and gestures concerning each other's calls are unacceptable. Remember you are a team, Stick together.
- If a problem arises the Officials should meet, if any discussion takes place, it will be done quietly, away from players, coaches and spectators. The Referee shall announce the final ruling and the other Officials shall be supportive.
- Any Official who is spectator at a game will refrain from making any statement to the coaches, players, spectators or media concerning said game.
- If a problem arises with the school/coach, call the President of our Association. The President will take the next step or advise you on what course of action to take; you are not to contact the school/coach or athletic director yourself. You are NOT to call Section XI unless an Unsportsmanlike form will be completed.
- An Official who is unable to attend a mandatory meeting shall notify the Secretary or Attendance Chairman prior to said meeting.
- The Ethics Committee Chairman shall notify the complaining party and the members concerned in writing of any allegation as per outlined in our Ethics Policy. The Ethics Chairman shall also inform the President of any Ethics Concerns that he receives prior to beginning any formal ethics procedure.
- The Board of Directors shall have the right to amend and or add to the above listings of Ethics, at any time, shall it deem needed.

### **RECORDS OF ETHICS:**

A complete record of all actions taken under the Ethics Code and Procedures shall be made by the Ethics Committee Chairman, and forwarded to the Secretary of our Association upon completion of the matter in question.



### **Statement of Revision:**

This Constitution and By-Laws of the Suffolk County Football Association has been amended, as per article 4 of this said Constitution, and this amended Constitution as it now appears. Was approved, by a majority vote of the membership, at a business Meeting held on June 19<sup>th</sup> 2008.