

# United States Deaf Golf Association Bylaws

## Article 1 Title

The name of the Association shall be “United States Deaf Golf Association” (USDGA), hereinafter referred to as USDGA or the Association; and it shall operate pursuant to the laws of the State of Maryland and the United States of America. The USDGA is very much committed to the operations and ideals of the USA Deaf Sports Federation (USADSF) and fully acknowledges USADSF’s role and responsibilities as a national sports federation in the following areas: a) establishing performance criteria and affiliation requirements; b) assessing our organizational performance and compliance, and c) revoking, with cause our status as an affiliate.

## Article 2 Purpose

The purpose of the Association is to receive, administer and distribute funds for educational, and charitable purposes, all for the public welfare, and for no other purpose. The Association intends to provide funds in scholarships for needy deaf golfers that are attending college. And to raise funds by holding biennial golf tournaments at alternate sites in the United States of America. To sponsor clinics for aspiring young deaf golfers who want to improve skills for the game. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the Association shall not carry on any other actives not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the internal Revenue Code or the corresponding provision of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding provision of any future federal tax code.

## Article 3 Membership

Deaf and Hard of hearing golfers are eligible for regular membership. The Board of Directors shall determine biennial regular membership dues. Regular members who are in good standing may be elected to the Board and serve on committees.

## Article 4 Board of Directors

### Section 1

Composition. The Board of Directors of the Association shall consist of nine (9) members. Membership election of Board members are held in conjunction with the

United States Deaf Golf Championships; date, time and place to be determined by the Board biennially. Voting shall be done by secret ballots by the members present at the biennial Championships. The membership election results shall be determined by plurality count; the board candidates who receive the highest number of votes shall be deemed as newly elected members of the Board for the next four-year term. At every biennial U.S. Deaf Golf Championships, either four (4) or five (5) USDGA Board members shall be elected for term of four (4) years.

## **Section 2**

Officers. The members of the board shall elect the officers of the board. The officers shall be comprised of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Team Director.

## **Section 3**

Duties. The Board of Directors shall have control of the Association and all of its assets. They shall approve and execute all leases, contracts, or other documents necessary for the operation of the Association. They shall approve all contributions to be made by the Association to deserving charities.



### **Article 5 Term of Officers**

The board officers shall be elected to a term of two (2) years as officers. Thereafter all board members shall be elected every four years on a staggered basis to a term of four years. No board member may serve in more than one office during the same term.

### **Article 6 Meetings**

## **Section 1**

The Board of Directors shall have its annual meeting during the autumn season. Additional meetings within the year from the autumn annual meeting will be held as deemed necessary by the President or when requested in writing to the Secretary by three (3) Board members.

## **Section 2**

Special and Standing Committees may be established by the President or by a majority vote of the board. The committees shall meet in accordance with their objectives as deemed necessary.

### **Article 7 Quorum**

A quorum for the official transaction of business at any Board of Directors meeting shall consist of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors, at least one of who shall be an officer as described in article 4 hereof.

## **Article 8 Vacancies**

### **Section 1**

In the event the office of president becomes vacant for any reason, The Board of Directors shall elect a new President by majority vote to serve out the balance of the vacated term. The Board of directors shall also elect a new member to the board to fill this newly created vacancy.

### **Section 2**

In the event of a vacancy in any other office, the Board of Directors shall appoint a Board member to complete the term of the vacated office, as well as a new Board member to fill the Board vacancy thereby created.

### **Section 3**

In the event of a vacancy in the position of at large board member, the Board of Directors shall appoint a new Board member to complete the vacated term of office.

## **Article 9 Duties of Officers**

### **Section 1**

President: It shall be the duty of the President to direct and oversee the day-to-day operations of the Association. He/she also serves as Chairman of the Awards Committee. He/she runs the regular and special meetings of the Board of Directors. The President shall vote only when necessary to make a tie or break a tie.

### **Section 2**

Vice President: It shall be the duty of the Vice President to assist the President in the administration of all Association duties and activities. He/she shall act as President in the absence of the President.

### **Section 3**

Treasurer: It shall be the responsibility of the treasurer to receive all Association funds and at the earliest practical date, deposit it into appropriate Association accounts. The

Treasurer shall keep a written accounting record of all financial transactions, showing in full detail the receipts and disbursements. The Treasurer shall maintain complete and accurate record of accounts, and report financial results to the Board of Directors at least annually and/or upon special request. The Treasurer shall prepare operating statements at least annually, and supervise timely preparation of all required tax documents. The Treasurer shall act as President in the absence of the President and Vice President.

#### **Section 4**

Secretary: It shall be the duty of the Secretary to notify all board members of all meetings, to keep minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors and to conduct all necessary correspondence of the Association as directed by the President, or by vote of the members of the Board of Directors. It also shall be responsible to correspond with USADSF and World Deaf Golf Federation (WDGF).

#### **Section 5**

Director of U.S. Deaf Golf Teams: It shall be the responsibility of the Director of U.S. Deaf Golf Teams to oversee the U.S. Deaf Golf Championships for men, women and seniors. The Director shall monitor the members of USA Deaf Golf teams to adhere to the deadlines in preparations for the USA team's trip to the World Deaf Golf Championships (WDGC). The Director shall be the focal person for consultations with the Chef de Mission and the Logistics Officer, and leadership and support to the members of the USA Deaf Golf teams in readiness for, and during the World Deaf Golf Championships.

### **Article 10 Bank Accounts**

All Association bank accounts shall be in financial institutions, which are members of the FDIC, FSLIC, SPIC or a similar federal insurer or guarantor, and no account balance shall at any time exceed its insured amount. Checks drawn on all checking accounts and withdrawals from any other accounts shall require the signature and countersignature of at least any two (2) of the officers described in Article 4, Section 3.

### **Article 11 Committees**

There shall be one standing committee, namely the "Awards Committee".

#### **Section 1**

The Awards Committee shall recommend to the Board of Directors the names of deserving individuals and organizations to which the Association should present the material awards or and the amount of such proposed contributions. The Board of

Directors shall approve or reject those recommendations made by the Awards Committee. Only upon the approval of a majority of the Board of Directors shall the Association be authorized to make material and/or financial awards to deserving individuals and qualified organizations, provided these organizations have met the provisions of section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended.

## **Section 2**

The President recommends, and the Board of Directors shall vote to approve on whether to create a new additional committee, either ad-hoc or standing as deemed necessary for the proper functioning of the Association. The Board shall name a chairman, preferably an existing Board member and to have another two Board members to serve on any of these committees.

### **Article 12 Dissolution**

Upon dissolution of the United States Deaf Golf Association, all assets must be distributed to the United States Deaf Sports Federation. Upon dissolution of the Association, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

### **Article 13 Non-Discrimination Policy**

The USDGA makes every effort to conduct its official business regarding USA representation in world competition play, Board service, athletes, members, officials, and any other related issue on the basis of skill, training, ability, attitude and character without discrimination with regard to age, gender, sexual orientation, color, race, creed, national origin, religious persuasion, marital status, political belief and disability.

### **Article 14 Rules of Order**

All procedural matters not specifically covered herein shall be governed by the rules of procedure as described in Robert's Rules of Order.