

BY-LAWS

Of the

DEEP SOUTH RUGBY UNION

ARTICLE I – NAME, LOCATION, AND NATURE

Section 1 Union

The Deep South Rugby Union (hereafter referred to as the Union) shall be comprised of all individuals and groups of individuals in the Deep South Region, comprised of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and the panhandle area of Florida, who have banded together for the purpose of playing, promoting, and officiating the game of rugby union football. Clubs within this definition may be exempted from membership in the Union upon mutual written agreement between the Union and the union, which the club chooses to join. Participation in the Deep South Rugby Union is voluntary.

Section 2 Offices

The principle office and place of business of the Union shall be Mobile, Alabama. All meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held in a city within the geographic region comprising the Union. The mailing address and annual meeting place may be altered, by the Union President or Executive Committee, at any time for the convenience of the Union members.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTS AND PURPOSES

Section 1 Amateur Not-for-profit Status

The game of rugby is an amateur game, and the Union shall strive to follow the Declaration of Amateurism as framed by the International Rugby Board (IRB). The Union shall take all steps necessary to organize and operate as a not-for-profit corporation or business entity. The Union may at any time seek to obtain and maintain status as a charitable nonprofit organization under the provisions of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. All charitable donations to the Union, unless specified otherwise by the donor, will be placed in the Union's general fund to offset operating expenses or to be allotted to projects as approved by the Executive Committee.

Section 2 Representative Play

All representative play shall be organized by and under the control of the Union. The Union shall organize the selection, scheduling and play of teams representing various groups, including but not limited to the Union as a whole, men, women, age levels, and geographical areas. The Executive Committee shall appoint managers, coaches, selectors, and other necessary officials to administer any representative side.

Section 3 Direction

The Union and its member clubs (hereinafter referred to as Members) shall adhere to and support all directives, rules and regulations of the United States of America Rugby Football Union (USARFU, USA Rugby) and its Territorial Union, USA Rugby South, in which it belongs.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Associate Club Membership

(1) Any Group of seventeen or more persons who have banded together to play rugby union football within the Union must apply for associate club membership.

(2) Applications shall be provided by the Union, and completed by the prospective Associate Club Member, by filling out and submitting to the Vice President a membership form. Applications submitted to any Officer or Director of the Union shall be forwarded to the Union Vice President. The application shall contain:

- a. Proposed name and permanent mailing address;
- b. Names, addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses of officers;
- c. Proposed colors and design of jerseys;
- d. Home field description, location and map;
- e. Financial arrangements;
- f. Full Club Member sponsor

(3) Applications received by any Union Officer or Director may be reviewed for accuracy and/or completion prior to submission to the Union Vice President. All applications shall be reviewed by the Vice President, may seek to obtain additional information necessary to make a recommendation. All applications shall be submitted with the Vice President's recommendation to the Executive Committee at its next scheduled meeting. The applicant shall be informed in writing or by electronic means by the Vice President of the time and place of the meeting. The Vice President shall have the power to serve the prospective application upon the Executive Committee by electronic means if time is of the essence.

(4) The Executive Committee shall act on the application at the meeting at which it is submitted, or as expeditiously as possible when submitted via electronic means. The decision shall be:

- (a) election of the applicant as an Associate Club Member;
- (b) request that the applicant become better established and resubmit the application later; or
- (c) rejection of the application for stated and specific reasons.

The result(s) of the majority vote shall be communicated to the applicant, and if elected, the new Associate Club Member may schedule and play matches with any other rugby club, which is in good standing with its Union.

(5) Any Full Club Member may sponsor a prospective Associate Club Member. The sponsor shall support the development and play of the Associate Club Member and submit a written report on the progress and status of that Club six months after approval, and as further directed by the Executive Committee.

Section 2 Election to Full Club Membership

(1) After two years as an Associate Member the Vice President shall bring the club's operation and participation to the Executive Committee for review. The Executive Committee may approve, disapprove, or postpone election to Full Club Membership. Upon Executive Committee approval, the Vice President shall recommend promotion to Full Club Member status at the next meeting of the Board of Directors, and shall notify the Associate Club Member in writing or electronic means, of the time and place of that meeting.

(2) Established teams formerly playing outside of the Deep South Union may apply directly for Full Club Membership status. This shall apply to all Men's Senior, Collegiate, High School and Youth teams as well as all Women's Senior, Collegiate, High School and Youth teams.

Section 3 Youth Rugby

High School or Youth rugby teams shall, whenever possible, be supported by the clubs of the Union. The Deep South Rugby Union Youth & High school Rugby Director shall be a voting member of the Executive Committee.

Section 4 Suspension(s)/Sanction(s)

(1) The Union shall immediately notify in writing or electronic means a Club Member and/or individual participant of suspension or termination and the terms of such suspension, including prerequisites for reinstatement. No suspended, terminated, or otherwise sanctioned Club Member and/or individual participant shall participate in any rugby match anywhere or have any voting rights in Union matters.

(2) No club and or member shall knowingly participate in a match with or against a suspended or terminated club and or member, or involving a player suspended pursuant to these Bylaws or rulings by the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Disciplinary Committee, or other Union body. Any club and or member who does so knowingly participate are subject to suspension or termination.

(3) Suspension or termination shall not excuse a club and or member from any debts or obligations, nor entitle the Member to a refund of any monies previously paid to the Union, its officers, directors or committees.

(4) The Union shall immediately notify in writing the USARFU, TU, and other interested parties of the suspension or termination of any club and or member.

(5) Any suspended club and or member may appeal in writing or electronic means to the

Disciplinary Committee for a review of the suspension. Such appeal shall state goals for reinstatement, including fulfillment of any reinstatement requirements. The Disciplinary Committee shall review the appeal, approve or disapprove by a majority of those entitled to vote, and so notify the club and or member. Once reinstated, the club and or member will resume all full membership rights.

ARTICLE IV - PERMANENT COMMITTEES

Section 1 Executive Committee

(1) The Executive Committee shall be responsible for overseeing the day- to-day operations of the Union. It shall consist of the following voting members, President, Vice President(s), Secretary, Treasurer, Chairman of Referees Society, Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee, and the various rugby Director(s) of the Union.

(2) The Executive Committee shall meet at least two times a calendar year, with at least one meeting in preparation for the Annual General Meeting. Notices of these meetings shall be included in the Master Schedule; written or electronic notice of any meetings called after publication of the Master Schedule shall be given to all Executive Committee members at least ten days before meeting. The President, or in their absence, the Vice President, shall call and chair all Executive Committee meetings. Meetings may be called at any time with proper notice. A meeting must be called within twenty days of receiving a written or electronic request from a majority of the members of the Executive Committee.

(3) The Executive Committee shall exercise all powers as set forth in the Constitution, By-laws, Rules and Regulations, and directives of the Board of Directors, including but not limited to handling, hearing and deciding any complaints from clubs and or, the Disciplinary Committee, the Referee Society, officers, and other Union bodies. The Executive Committee may appoint temporary committees, as it deems appropriate.

(4) All Executive Committee decisions shall be by a simple Majority of those Executive Committee members present. All decisions will be final and not subject for review, except as provided in the Constitution and these By-laws.

(5) The Executive Committee may impose penalties, including but not limiting to fines, fees, forfeits, cancellations, ordering matches played, and suspensions for violations of the Constitution, By-laws, Rules and Regulations, and other Union directives, guidelines, and rulings. The Executive Committee may establish routine penalty schedules, which shall be published periodically for the Clubs, and may appoint officers to oversee and impose penalties. Any Club adversely affected by a penalty may request a review at the Executive Committee's next meeting and may affirm or cancel, may modify or take no action at the Executive Committee's discretion.

Section 2 Disciplinary Committee

(1) The Disciplinary Committee shall be responsible for handling, hearing and deciding

all complaints submitted by clubs and or members, officers, and the Referee Society against clubs, players, coaches, and spectators involving violations of the Laws of the Game and directives of the International Rugby Football Board (IRB) and USARFU, TU and DSRU. It shall be composed of the Chairman appointed by the Executive Committee, the Men's Collegiate Rugby Director, the Women's Rugby Director, the Men's Senior Rugby Director and two at-large members appointed by the Chairman and approved by the Executive Committee. Members of the Disciplinary Committee shall serve until death, resignation or removal by the Executive Committee.

(2) The Deep South Rugby Union shall adopt the rules of USA Rugby and USA Rugby South as published in the USA Rugby South handbook. Should any part of the USA Rugby South or Deep South Rugby Union procedures violate the USA Rugby procedures as amended from time to time by USA Rugby, USA Rugby procedures shall supersede only those parts of the USA Rugby South or Deep South Rugby Union's procedures that violate the current USA Rugby procedures.

(3) The Disciplinary Committee shall exercise all powers set forth in the Constitution, By-laws, Rules and Regulations, and directives of the Board of Directors including, but not limited to, issuing warnings, levying fines and forfeits, and awarding temporary or permanent suspensions against any clubs, players, coaches and spectators. The Disciplinary Committee shall establish and as needed amend, all with approval of the Executive Committee, a set of Rules, Regulations, and Procedures for handling disciplinary proceedings.

(4) All decisions shall be by majority vote of the Disciplinary Committee members. Notification of all disciplinary actions shall be given immediately to the President, clubs, individuals involved, and all other involved parties. The Chairman shall report at each meeting of the Board of Directors on all actions and decisions taken and pending since the last meeting.

(5) Any expulsion from a playing enclosure shall be reported to the Disciplinary Committee Chairman by the match referee and the club(s) involved. Penalties for expulsion are as follows:

- a. Any individual (hereafter intended to include: participants, players, coaches, spectators, on or any involved party) expelled from a match is automatically suspended from further play for eight (8) days or one (1) match, whichever is greater, commencing on the day of the expulsion. Suspension shall include any matches that are considered friendlies, tours, select-sides, tournaments or championship matches.
- b. Any player or coach subjected to Disciplinary Committee sanction three times within a twelve-month period is automatically suspended from further play for a minimum of six months from the date of the third sanction, unless reviewed and reversed by the Disciplinary Committee.
- c. Any individual ejected from the playing enclosure for verbal abuse of the referee is automatically suspended from attending or participating in rugby matches for a minimum of thirty (30) days from the date of ejection, unless reviewed and reversed by the Disciplinary Committee.

- d. Any individual subjecting the referee to physical abuse is automatically suspended from participating in rugby matches as a player or observer for a minimum of one calendar year from the date of ejection, unless reviewed and reversed by the Disciplinary Committee and this in addition to any legal action brought by the referee or other parties involved.
- e. Any individual or observer not part of an original confrontation who then joins in and attacks any of the players in the dispute shall be automatically suspended from participating or observing rugby for a minimum of six (6) months from the day of the ejection and shall not be permitted to petition for a reduction of penalty until (3) months of the suspension have expired.
- f. Any rugby club or member that causes physical damage to any personal property of any individual during any rugby or rugby related function (including but not limiting to such things as overnight lodging, restaurants, bars, private residences, etc.) shall be suspended for a period of not less than fifteen (15) days, and all restitution shall be assessed and paid for prior to resuming play.
- g. All suspensions shall be fulfilled during the playing season in which it was assessed. If the sanction is not completed during the playing season in which it was assessed then the sanction will carry over to the next playing season and then be completed.
- h. Any individual or club not observing these sanctions shall be subject to further penalty including, but not limited to fines, forfeits, suspensions, and termination by the Disciplinary Committee or Executive Committee.

(6) Any individual or club subject to Disciplinary Committee action may submit a written statement to the Chairman of the committee concerning the incident in question.

(7) The individual or club may request that the Executive Committee review the sanction(s). Such review will be granted only if the request is received in writing within five days of official issuance of Disciplinary Committee sanction(s). The player shall not be allowed to play or participate in rugby until the appeal is decided. The Executive Committee may choose not to review the action without further input, in which case the action stands without change. If the Executive Committee reviews the action, it may affirm, cancel, increase or reduce, or otherwise alter the action. The Executive Committee shall have the sole right to determine the manner of review, including the use of written or oral statements alone, hearing witnesses, and personal or telephone interviews.

Section 3 Committee Jurisdiction

All disputes and complaints shall be submitted to the Executive Committee or Disciplinary Committee. In case of doubt, notice should be sent simultaneously to the Union President and the Disciplinary Committee Chairman. Upon receipt of such notice or upon observation that the issue may fall under the other's jurisdiction, the President and Disciplinary Committee Chairman shall consult and determine which committee has authority, notify the appropriate parties and proceed to take action. If jurisdiction cannot be established, the Executive Committee shall handle the original dispute.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

Section 1 Duties of the President

The duties of the President shall include but not be limited to:

- (1) General and active supervision over the business of the Union, its officers and committees;
- (2) Calling and supervising all meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee;
- (3) Addressing any issue(s) regarding any Union office or committee;
- (4) Appointing temporary committees as appropriate;
- (5) Representing the Union in matters before the TU (USA Rugby South) and USARFU.
- (6) Representing the Union in all other contacts with entities and organizations both related and not related to rugby.

Section 2 Duties of the Vice President

The duties of the Vice President shall include but not limited to:

- (1) Serving as the interim President of the Union should the elected President be unable to serve temporarily or permanently;
- (2) Supervising applications for full and associate memberships and making recommendations to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors;
- (3) Coordinating and overseeing all tours into and out of the Union involving any Member, club, select side or organization;
- (4) Coordinating and overseeing all Union-sponsored tournaments;
- (5) Collecting and maintaining a current list of all club names, abbreviations, colors and uniform.

Section 3 Duties of the Secretary

The duties of the Secretary shall include but not be limited to:

- (1) Keeping the minutes of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee;
- (2) Keeping current and distributing to Members, officers, and organizations the Constitution, By-laws, Rules and Regulations, and other documents;
- (3) Publishing written notices of meeting of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, at the direction of the President;
- (4) Coordinating, developing, and publishing the Master schedule;
- (5) Notifying Members and other parties of actions taken by the Union;
- (6) Keeping record of match results and publishing standings;
- (7) Generating and distributing all official Union correspondence;
- (8) Maintain and publish the Master Contact List of all officers, clubs and club contacts.

Section 4 Duties of the Treasurer

The duties of the Treasurer shall include but not be limited to:

- (1) Maintaining custody and responsibility for all Union funds;
- (2) Supervising written notification and collection of all dues, deposits, fees, fines and assessments owed to the Union;
- (3) Paying all dues, deposits, fees, fines, assessments, and other debts owed by the Union;

- (4) Writing annual reports of the Union's financial status to be presented at each Board of Governors meeting and any other time the President requests;
- (5) Preparing recommended budgets for Executive Committee review prior to each Board of Directors meeting and preparing budgets and financial statements as requested by the Executive Committee.

Section 5 Duties of the Disciplinary Committee Chair

The duties of the Chair of the Disciplinary Committee shall include but not limited to:

- (1) Conduct disciplinary matters for the Union;
- (2) Conduct disciplinary hearings, as needed, for the Union;
- (3) Insure that suspensions and fines, as dictated in the Constitution, are correctly levied and carried out;
- (4) Keep a database of all persons ejected from games or sidelines and a database of all persons sin binned;
- (5) Liaise with other LAUs, TUs or national disciplinary chairs in disciplinary matters of concern between the relevant organizations;
- (6) Such other duties as delegated by the President, Board of Directors or Executive Committee.

Section 6 Duties of the Director(s)

A. The duties of the Director of Men's Senior Rugby, Men's Collegiate Rugby, Women's Rugby and Youth/High School Rugby shall include but not be limited to:

(1) Maintain communication with all member clubs in his/her division(s). Serve as a liaison between rugby clubs and the Union and assisting them with problems or issues as may arise. The clubs, which shall fall under the responsibility of a Director, shall be determined by the role of that specific Director and the geographical region comprising the Union.

(2) Serve as a member of the Executive Committee and attend meetings of the Union. He/she shall strive to ensure all directives of the Executive Committee are carried out with regard to those clubs falling under their responsibility.

(3) Promote and encourage the growth of new rugby clubs and the game of rugby union within the LAU. Also, promote and encourage participation in championship and select side play.

(4) Assist the Union in the collection of fines, fees, membership dues or other monetary obligations, which are or may be owed to the Union.

B. The duties of the Director of Coaching shall include but not be limited to:

(1) Act as the liaison between the various select-side coaches and representational coaches and the Union.

(2) Promote and encourage participation in select-side programs and the goals of the Union with regard to those programs.

(3) Help to ensure the success of and monitoring the progress of those individuals within the Union who have or who are seeking to gain coaching certification through USA Rugby.

Section 7 Duties of the Team Representatives

The duties of Team Representatives shall include but not limited to:

- (1) Convey information from the Board to the teams and individual players;
- (2) Insure the assimilation of rule changes and procedural changes that affect their respective segment.
- (3) Acts as point of contacts to the clubs and players for their respective segment.
- (4) Represents the Board on behalf of the segmented organization and players.
- (5) To represent Rugby as a whole and in sure growth in their respective segment.
- (6) Acts to protect the segment and insure actions are beneficial to all involved.
- (7) Such other duties as delegated by the President, Board of Directors, or Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI - SCHEDULING

Section 1 Divisions

The Union shall be divided into Divisions for divisional play in accordance with divisional play formats and requirements established by the USARFU; the Executive committee shall determine, in accordance with the USARFU divisional play format and requirements, the make-up, playing requirements, and promotion-relegation procedures.

Section 2 Division Requirements

(1) Unless otherwise required by the USARFU divisional play format and the Executive Committee, each side in each division shall play each other at least once during the calendar year. These matches shall be in accordance with regulations set forth by the IRB/USARFU. Failure to fulfill these requirements will make the offending club ineligible for its division championship.

(2) The division champion, and, if applicable, the Union representative to the National playoffs will be the club with the best wins-ties-losses record in its division at the end of the year or matrix season. If a tie exists and both clubs have met all other requirements set for by the Union, then the tied clubs will play one regulation match, at a preferably neutral site selected by the Executive Committee. If the score is tied at the end of regulation time, then overtime periods of ten minutes each, not sudden death, will be played until a winner is determined. The Executive Committee will handle extenuating circumstances.

(3) Promotion and Relegation

The Deep South Rugby Union shall adopt and follow all promotion and relegation criteria as set forth by its Territorial Union, USA Rugby South. The Executive Committee and/or Board of Directors shall reserve the right to adopt further criteria for the determination of rugby club promotion and relegation as it deems necessary to further the goals of the Union.

Section 3 Master Schedule Preparation

The Secretary shall prepare a master schedule of Union rugby events and meetings. The master schedule shall refer to those games scheduled in order to qualify for LAU, TU and USARFU championships, commonly known as matrix games. Each year by November 1, the Secretary shall submit to each Club a form for special scheduling requests, that must be presented by the AGM or they will not be honored. The Secretary shall take these requests into consideration, compose a schedule as specified by these By-laws, and publish the proposed master schedule by January 1st. Clubs may then request in writing or electronic means changes to this schedule. The Secretary will incorporate as many of these changes as possible and publish the final Master Schedule by February 15 of each year.

Section 4 Master Schedule Changes

Once the final Master schedule has been published, Clubs may submit in writing to the Secretary requests for schedule changes. No fee is required for requests submitted at least fourteen days (14) days prior to the scheduled event. A \$50 fee must accompany any request submitted less than 14 days prior to the scheduled event or the request will not be honored. If the request is submitted properly and both the Secretary and Referee Society can accommodate the change, then it will be allowed. If the changes cannot be accommodated, the fee will be returned.

Section 5 Master Schedule Deviations

(1) Any team or side that fails to play any match as scheduled on the Master Schedule, except for weather cancellations, shall forfeit the match and be penalized as follows:

- a. For the first offense, \$50 fine to both the Union and the referee's society.
- b. For the second offense within any twelve-month period, \$100 fine to both the Union and the referee's society.
- c. For the third offense within any twelve-month period, \$200 to the Union and the referee's fee and such other penalties as may be deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee or Board of Directors. In addition, the offending club shall not be permitted to travel out of the Union under any name for any rugby function, or to participate within the Union in any rugby function involving a non- Union side, for a period of one year from the date of the third forfeit.
- d. For any further forfeits, \$500 fine to the Union and the referee's society, plus suspension from all rugby activities for a period of one year. Players from the suspended club are ineligible for participation with any other Union club or select side during the period of suspension.
- e. There may be double fines and forfeits when both clubs fail to play a match as it appears on the Master Schedule.
- f. The Deep South Rugby Union Referee's Society may impose additional fees and/or fines in addition to those listed above.

(2) The Fines in (1a) through (1c) shall be doubled if a club fails to notify its scheduled opponents, the Secretary, and the Referee Society of a cancellation, except for adverse weather conditions, at least 24 hours before the match is scheduled.

(3) All fines are due to the Treasurer within 5 business days of the scheduled date of the

forfeited match. No club may play matches with its fines in arrears; any attempt to do so will subject the club to additional fines and forfeits as specified in these By-laws.

(4) The Secretary shall supervise the Master Schedule and any deviation there from. Any club wishing to appeal a forfeiture or fine must nevertheless pay the fine and submit a written request for review to the Secretary within 5 business days of the date of the match in question. All sanctions shall be in effect unless and until specifically modified. The Secretary shall determine if the penalty will stand, be canceled, or be modified and will so notify the affected clubs. Clubs may petition the Executive Committee for further review within 48 hours of the Secretary's notification. The Executive Committee may affirm, increase, decrease, cancel or modify the Secretary's decision. If canceled, the fines submitted shall be returned.

(5) Matches shall be canceled by the Union or clubs when adverse weather conditions render playing the match unsafe for the players or harmful to the pitch, or traveling to the match unduly dangerous. The host club is responsible for canceling a match due to adverse weather conditions at the game site. The club canceling shall notify its scheduled opponents and the Referee Society by 8 am or four hours prior to the match, whichever is earlier. Failure to so notify shall result in an automatic fine of \$50 and the Union may award a forfeit if circumstances warrant. The Deep South Rugby Union Referee's Society may impose additional fees and/or fines in addition to those listed above.

ARTICLE VII - FINANCES

Section 1 Annual Budget

(1) The Treasurer shall purpose an annual budget having sufficient income to meet anticipated expenses, and shall present it to the Executive Committee by its last meeting before the Annual General Meeting. The Executive Committee shall review, modify as appropriate, and submit the budget to the Board of Directors. At the Annual General Meeting, the Board of Directors shall review, modify, as appropriate, and approve the final budget prior to adjournment.

(2) If anticipated income is not sufficient to cover existing debts, than the Executive Committee shall determine other methods to raise funds, set payment priority for outstanding debts, and modify the budget as necessary to meet its obligations. If fund raising fails to cover expenses, the Executive Committee is authorized to assess all Clubs as required to eliminate the shortfall.

Section 2 Financial Obligations

(1) The Treasurer shall send out timely notices of subscriptions, dues, fines, assessments, or other financial obligations to Clubs with deadlines for payment. Any Club arrears of any financial obligations will not be permitted to vote at any meeting or play in any matches or tournaments until such obligations are fulfilled.

(2) Any Club may request that the Executive Committee review its financial obligations

by submitting a written request the funds owed, and a copy of the Treasurer's notice within seven days of receipt; if not so submitted, the request will not be honored and the Clubs right to review will be voided. The Executive Committee shall review properly submitted request and may affirm, increase, decrease, cancel or modify the obligations and so notify the petitioning club. The Executive Committee's decision is final.

Section 3 Member Dues

(1) The Union will assess each member club with dues as set by a popular vote at the Annual Board of Directors Meeting. These dues must be in correspondence with the budget passed at this Board of Directors Meeting. All member dues are due no later than January 1st of each calendar year and shall be considered delinquent after March 1st of the same calendar year. The Union reserves the right to impose a \$100.00 fine upon all delinquent clubs.

(2) The Union shall publish and disseminate, through the Secretary, a schedule of LAU and TU dues.

(3) Each member club, its individual players, and coaches must register in accordance with USA Rugby South and USARFU standards including team registration, individual registration, and CIPP registration.

Section 4 Disposal of Assets

In the event that it should become necessary to discontinue the activities of the Union the net assets of the Union (after making provision of all liabilities) shall pass intact to the United States Rugby Football Union. Should no such Union exist then the assets of the Union shall pass to the United States Olympic Committee or similar body engaged in the active development and support of amateur sport, as decided by the Board of Directors. Under no circumstances shall the assets of the Union pass directly or indirectly into the hands of its members.

ARTICLE VIII - PLAYER REGISTRATION

Section 1 Administration

All persons participating in Rugby within the Union shall be fully compliant with the USA Rugby Club and Individual Participation Program (CIPP), TU and LAU registration regulations.

Section 2 CIPP Registration and Administration

All rugby teams participating in any Union-sanctioned match shall utilize the uniform USA Rugby South Match Report Form. This form shall be supplied by the Union or the TU to all teams. At each match, the home team shall fill out the form and then give the form to the opponent to be completed, listing player names and CIPP numbers. The form, fully filled out and signed by the captains of both teams, shall be submitted to the Referee at least ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled kick off. All clubs shall maintain

and have available for inspection all applicable forms and documents required by the Union, USA Rugby South, or USA Rugby. Documents should include but are not limited to: a copy of each player CIPP card, photo ID, University ID, Insurance card, and Alien status as applicable, to present to the Referee prior to the match, in the event of a dispute. If this form and notebook is not present or not filled out completely and properly (i.e. names, CIPP numbers, etc) then the Referee shall have the option to not officiate the match.

If there are any disputes about the eligibility of any player, then this question or questions must be presented and notated by the protesting team on the form prior to the match. The Referee will not be the judge of the eligibility of any player. The Union, TU, or USA Rugby will decide if the player or players in question are eligible. If the dispute about the player or players in question is not raised and notated on the form before the match, then the team bringing up the eligibility question after the match must submit the eligibility party/parties to the Executive Committee or Disciplinary Committee in writing within twenty-one (21) days of the match or else the protest will not be allowed. Any player, administrator, or club that abuses any section of these By-laws or the Rules and Regulations, including: Falsifying documents, presenting non-validated cards or substituting valid CIPP numbers for non-registered players will be subject to penalty which can include, but is not limited to forfeitures of the match, a fine, suspension, expulsion from play or involvement in DSRU sanctioned rugby activities or events.

ARTICLE IX - RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section 1 Description

There shall be a set of Rules and Regulations to address the day-to-day operation of the Union consisting of decisions, orders, rules, regulations, and other directives of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. Failure to comply with the Rules and Regulations shall subject the club, player, coach or administrator to fines, suspensions, or other sanction as set forth in the Constitution, By-laws, Rules and Regulations and other Union directives.

Section 2 Maintenance

The Secretary will compile additions, deletions, modifications, or other amendments to the Rules and Regulations, and publish them for the Union clubs by February 15th of each year. If the Rules and Regulations are modified during the year, the Secretary will compile changes and distribute them to the Clubs within fifteen days. Each Clubs shall maintain a current copy of the Constitution, By-laws, Rules and Regulations, and other Union directives and documents, and shall pass them on to succeeding club administrations. If additional copies are required, other than the notifications described in these By-laws and the Constitution, the requesting club must submit a \$5 fee per paper copy otherwise it will be sent electronically.

ARTICLE X – REFEREE’S SOCIETY

All matches shall be officiated in accordance with all Union, USA Rugby South, USA Rugby, IRB and Deep South Referee Society’s guidelines. Any modifications or deviations shall submitted by the Deep South Referee Society and enforced by its designated officers or match officials.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

These By-laws may be amended as set forth in the Constitution. The Secretary shall organize and update the by-laws as appropriate when amended, and published to the Clubs any changes within sixty days of such change.

These are the Bylaws of the DSRU, drafted 23 February 2008, adopted November 7, 2008, amended November 7, 2008