CONSTITUTION AMENDED, Ratified June 2024 (Phyllis Hill, Jaime Cholden,)

ARTICLE I

NAME AND OBJECT OF THE SOCIETY

WHERE AS, The Suffolk County Youth Cheerleading Association, known from here on as SCYCA has found the need for a set of rules, guidelines and procedures to supplement and support the daily operations of volunteer not-for-profit members' league and competition standards and

WHERE AS, a Founding member, along with the Executive Board members of SCYCA, 2012, has met to reevaluate past Constitution and compile said rules, guidelines and procedures, and has presented a Constitution to a quorum of SCYCA members, and

WHERE AS, the voting quorum has ratified and adopted said Constitution, be it

RESOLVED, it is the objective of SCYCA to provide a community of support for youth recreational cheerleading leagues. This is inclusive of the Director/Coordinators, Head coaches, team parents, school age demonstrator-volunteers, their teams, ideals, and rights. The intent is to provide a level field for youngsters of approximate and equal age and ability to cheer, under volunteer adult supervision, with equipment and optimum conditions of health and safety. The high standards of sportsmanship and fair play shall be the first requisite of local league competition. To this end the following rules, guidelines and procedures are set down for leagues participating in SCYCA. Long Island youth recreational cheerleading has evolved into a sport requiring qualified supervising Directors and Coordinators and Program leaders. It is the Directors/Coordinators responsibility to foster the promotion and trends in cheerleading at the local level with respect to and national trends. SCYCA implements a competition calendar for Long Island to give leagues options and knowledge of all Youth Recreational and continuing education opportunities. SCYCA maintains safety rules based on what is acceptable for the average youth recreation team with regard to current trends locally, regionally and nationally. SCYCA adopted a standard score sheet for their competitions. A goal is for teams to compete with respect and regard for their competitors and for their coaches and Directors/Coordinators to continuously learn through judge's expertise, how contemporary cheerleading teams can effectively and efficiently lead the crowd. SCYCA relies on its members to operate within the "spirit or intent of the organizations philosophy" to be forthcoming with information about how they operate and ethical in giving factual information.

SCYCA reserves the right to determine and resolve all disputes as pertains to the scope of SCYCA jurisdiction. All final actions are within the absolute discretion of the majority of the Executive Board, if continuity of SCYCA's mission statement is compromised in whole or part.

SCYCA exists to give Directors/Coordinators a foundation for sportsmanlike behavior, techniques and procedures. Ethical standards shall be strictly enforced by SCYCA.

ARTICLE II

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS FOR MEMBERSHIP

A. LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP

-League membership is any group or organization that is a not-for-profit volunteer organization and represents youth sports in their community. Returning League Membership runs from June to June. A $100 fee per league/per year is due by the May membership meeting.

-Late membership: Any league joining SCYCA at or after the June SCYCA meeting date shall pay $150 in dues. SCYCA will not accept any membership after August 1st.

-Rolling Admission for membership of new leagues will be determined by the executive board. A letter of intent must be submitted along with a fee of $200.

- Each year a league must submit in writing up to three names of individuals who can represent their league at membership meetings.

1. On the membership form, the first two names are counted for voting, if they are in current good standing. If one person is listed, their vote counts twice. If one of the two is not in good standing, the 3rd persons vote counts. **On-Line voting may be allowed by the Executive Board- except when voting in new Executive Board positions, **provided that each vote comes from the e-mail provided on the membership form.** Membership meetings/safety clinics will continue to count for voting eligibility.

2. For Voting Purposes:
   a) Each league will be allowed 2 votes.
   b) If only one representative attends their vote counts twice.

   c) If there is no representation, you do not get a vote.

3. a) A league is in good standing and enjoys benefits of membership when dues are paid on time. previous year.
   b) A town forfeits its good standing and therefore loses voting privileges when its noted representative fails to attend two membership meetings/and or safety clinics in a row.

   c) Good standing is reinstated after the league representatives attend two consecutive meetings/and or safety clinics.
   d)Voting privileges are reinstated at the SECOND consecutive meeting.

e) A LEAGUE must also remain in good standing to be considered to host a SCYCA endorsed competition and/or to host a SCYCA meeting.

f) A good standing LEAGUE has at least ONE of said leagues representatives in good standing.

g)The majority of the Executive Board reserves the right to revoke league membership with a majority vote.

e) The status of a member or leagues standing carries over from the previous year.

B. AN INDIVIDUAL SCYCA MEMBER

A SCYCA member is a Founding member, Past Executive Board Member or an active Director/Coordinator aged 21 years or older of a recreational youth league. All SCYCA members agree to conduct themselves in a manner displaying good sportsmanship throughout the full year term (meetings, competitions, social media etc.). The majority of the Executive Board reserves the right to revoke individual SCYCA membership.

C. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES

1. The right to attend regular meetings, make motions, debate, and cast a vote. In voting an individual should decide upon what is in the best interest of their league as a whole rather than the benefit of the individual.
2. Serve on committees
3. Takes advantage of instructional/continuing education courses
4. Attending a SCYCA endorsed Safety/Rules Interpretation clinic
5. The right to host a SCYCA local competition.
6. The right to compete in all SCYCA competitions after having fulfilled Safety Clinic obligations.
7. League Board members/Team coaches of any age may attend a membership meeting with prior consultation and Executive Board approval. They may only address the membership when a member of the Executive Board addresses them. They may not directly speak.
8. On-line voting is allowed, only after discussion on a topic occurred at the previous meeting.

D. ETHICAL STANDARDS

1. SCYCA exists to give Directors/Coordinators a foundation for sportsmanlike behavior, techniques and procedures. This foundation is in effect for all other sports through PAL, Pop Warner, New York State Athletic Association for High Schools, and enforced by Section VIII and XI. SCYCA strives to follow their rules for athletes. A Director/Coordinator is expected to know rules. Rules are found on the SCYCA website, at each membership meeting, and Directors must share said rules with his/her teams. Good and sportsmanlike behavior is taught to student athletes through role model behavior and strict adherence to the rules. Ethical standards shall be strictly enforced by SCYCA.

2. A director, coach, parent, player, and spectator must not commit unsporting acts. (Competition, meetings, social media, etc…) This includes, but is not limited to, acts or conduct such as:

   A. Disrespectful addressing or contacting a competition judge or gesturing in such a manner as to indicate resentment.

   B. Using profane or inappropriate language or gestures

   C. Baiting or taunting an opponent intending to embarrass, ridicule or demean others under any circumstances including on the basis of race, religion, gender or national origin.

3. Revoking membership of a league or individual may take place with a majority vote of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE III

OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTION

A. The executive board shall consist of a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, parliamentarian, founding members and past presidents, providing that they are in good standing.

   1. President

      i. Shall be the Presiding officer of the organization.

      ii. Have general charge and supervision of the business and affairs of the association.

      iii. Sign and execute all contracts, agreements or other obligations in the name of the association.

      iv. Past Presidents shall remain as such indefinitely.

v. Past president will be offered the opportunity to chair the Nominating Committee.

vi. Position is a 3 year term (Initiated in 2014).

2. Vice President

i. Shall assist the President and head any Long-Range planning committees for further projects. The Vice President will assume the duties of President when he/she is unable to preside.

ii. The Vice President will chair the Ethics Committee.

iii. This is a 2 year term position (Initiated in 2007).

3. Treasurer

i. Have custody of all of the funds of the association.

ii. Keep a full and accurate account of the receipts and expenditures.

iii. Make disbursements as authorized by the President or association.

iv. Present a financial statement at every meeting of the association and other times when requested by the association.

v. Takes care of Secretary's responsibilities when he/she is not available.

vi. This is a 3 year term position (Initiated in 2007).

4. Secretary

i. To keep a register or roll of all members and to call a roll when required. They shall keep all pertinent information and identification.

ii. Maintain the record of member standings status.

iii. Determine whether a quorum is in place for voting/conducting business.

iv. Record the minutes of the meetings of the association and send minutes to members within 10 days of such meeting.

v. Manage website

vi. Shall act as Historian.

i. Shall have the duty to send out proper notices of all called meetings and other meetings as necessary and conduct correspondence of the society.

vii. Shall make out an order of business, agenda, showing exactly what is necessary to come before the assembly.

viii. This is a 2 year term position (Initiated in 2007).

5.Parliamentarian/Sergeant of Arms

i. Open and close meetings.

ii. This position will help facilitate the written word and the spirit of the constitution.

iii. Read past minutes and enter them into record.

iv. Keep records of Competition team rosters, Coordinator/Coaches roster and safety attendance records.

v. Vice Chair the Ethics Committee.

vi. This position is a 2 year term (Initiated in 2015).

vii. The Parliamentarian will chair the Constitution Committee

6. Past Presidents – Toni Genna

7. Founding Members- Lucille Mankowich and Toni Genna

B. The general board shall consist of no more than three representatives from each league. Two of which may vote. The league Director/Coordinator submits the three names, including their own, in order of voting privileges at the June meeting. Said representatives will remain constant from June to June.

C. Officers shall assume their official duties on June 1st. President and Treasurer shall serve for a term of three-year tenure and Vice President, Secretary and Parliamentarian shall serve for a term of two-year tenure. Past Presidents shall remain as such indefinitely.

D. All officers are eligible for reelection. If an officer must vacate his/her position during tenure, the Executive Board shall appoint that office. If an officer cannot fulfill all duties and obligations, that officer shall tender a letter of resignation to the President or Vice President.

E. A ballot of nomination will be decided by a nominating committee of 3 at the March/ April meeting and be presented/sent to the membership in the e-mail that precedes the May meeting. Since new Board members take over June 1st the voting

must take place in May. A maximum of three persons per office will be presented at the May meeting where secret balloting will determine who will hold the position. No on-line voting will be allowed for Executive Board positions. Members on the ballot MUST be at that May meeting.

F. No person shall hold more than one office at the same time unless the number of active, voting board members in good standing drops below 20.

G. No person under the age of 21 shall be eligible to serve on the general membership board.

H. To be eligible to run for office you must be an active representative, Founding member, or past Executive Board member in consistent good standing for the past two years.

I. Definition of Committee

i. Each Committee shall have a Chair, which is appointed by the executive board. The Chair will represent the committee and with the executive board chose 2 additional members and up to 4.

ii. List of Committees

a. Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee is a special committee and holds the key to a successful association/organization. Its responsibility is to present the best-qualified nominees for office. Committee work includes holding confidential meetings, reviewing nominations, and searching for the best-qualified candidates for leadership roles in SCYCA. Confidentiality is a must, as committee members will hold extremely honest discussions and must agree to only announce the names of the nominees, not the conversation around those choices or the names that were not submitted for nomination. Refer to: Section A. 1. V. Past presidents will be offered the opportunity to chair the Nominating Committee.

b. Safety/Rules Committee: the Safety Committee will meet a minimum of 3 times between April and September to review changes and additions to the National Federation of High School Sports (NFHS) yearly rules. Members of this committee need to be in constant communication with the chairperson due to time sensitive deadlines. The rules committee will effect appropriate changes to the SCYCA rubrics to reflect changes from NFHS updates. The safety committee will be available to review video submissions of stunts to answer questions and provide feedback on safety and legality of stunts. Video of stunts must include side, front and back views with clear lines of sight of hand grips, body positions, and movements.

c. Constitution Committee: The Constitution Committee is responsible for reviewing the Constitution to determine if updates are needed. The Constitution committee should meet every three years. The Parliamentarian will chair the constitution committee: (Refer to: Section A. 5. vii.The Parliamentarian will chair the Constitution Committee.)

d. Scholarship Committee: The scholarship Committee is convened to determine changes to the cost and method of the presentation of scholarships.

e. Ethics Committee: The Ethics committee is responsible for investigating, reviewing and adjudicating alleged violations of the SCYCA constitution and operational guidelines.The purpose of this committee is to ensure the rights of SCYCA and the membership. The Ethics committee if possible should utilize official documentation (ie. SCYCA documentation, Robert's Rules,NFHS, NYSPHSAA,etc.) as well as past history to facilitate discussions and formulate decisions. Once a decision is determined by the committee it will be presented to the Executive Board so that an order may be enacted or disseminated. Refer to: Section A. 2. ii.The Vice President will chair the Ethics Committee. Refer to: Section A. 5. v.The Parliamentarian will vice chair the Ethics Committee.

f. Officials/Judges Committee: The Officials Committee will determine the requirements for an individual to become a SCYCA judge. In an effort to assure a vast selection and variety of judges the SCYCA Officials Committee will formulate an annual list of qualified officials. The SCYCA Officials committee will provide judges with access to the SCYCA rules and scoresheets.

g. Finals Competition Committee: The Finals Committee will meet between April and September to review the yearly requirements that must be met to qualify to attend finals. Members of this committee need to be in constant communication with the chairperson due to time sensitive deadlines.Finals requirements should be presented to the membership by the September Membership meeting.

h. Fundraising Committee: the Fundraising Committee is tasked with suggesting, researching, and determining fundraising events, activities or materials. As fundraising is done at Finals this may be done in conjunction with the Finals Committee. The Fundraising Committee should remain in constant communication with the Treasurer.

i. Game Day Committee: The Game Day Committee is responsible for determining the rules and regulations for the Game Day Program. Information regarding game day shall be shared with the Officials

Committee so that updated information regarding rules and scoring can be disseminated to Officials. Note * The Game Day Program is currently a pilot program. (2017, 2018, 2022, 2023, 2024)

j. SCYCA Competition Host Committee: Formed to review the information required and shared with SCYCA competition hosts so they may safely and successfully host a competition. This may include updating the informational sheet shared with non-SCYCA hosts. The SCYCA Competition Host Committee may review the requirements that must be met to qualify to host a competition, this includes coordinating with the Officials/ Judges Committee to ensure conflicts in requirements do not occur.

k. Coaches Training Committee: Formed to research and organize potential training opportunities for the membership and the coaches of their league. The Coaches training committee will include any necessary requirements, materials, venue and cost needed to execute the training.

***Minutes/Attendance for Committee meetings should be submitted via a typed copy to the SCYCA official email. Updates should be presented to the membership during new business. All updates that require changes to the constitution or guidelines shall be submitted in the form of an official proposal.

iii Executive Board shall decide when a committee is necessary, choose its members and adjust numbers as needed.

Executive board members are expected to attend all scheduled and Ad Hoc meetings, safety clinics and when possible competition calendar. Full support of SCYCA events is expected. Chairpersons or a representative of committees shall also follow above attendance rules. All Executive Board members shall consider themselves representatives of all SCYCA directors and the association.

iv. The SCYCA membership shall present any concerns and appeals to the Board for consideration, prior to the membership meeting. The Board will then resolve any differences in a fair and equitable manner.

ARTICLE IV:

MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETY/BY-LAWS SHOULD INCLUDE ALL THE RULES THAT ARE OF SUCH IMPORTANCE THAT THEY CANNOT BE CHANGED IN ANYWAY WITHOUT PREVIOUS NOTICE

A. DATES

1. Safety/Rule Interpretation clinics shall be held in any combination of July/Aug/September they are to be sponsored by SCYCA and run by a reputable member of the Long Island Cheerleading community. If necessary, private clinics may be given by AACCA accredited/SCYCA approved personnel, and a fee is attached. Directors will still need to be represented at one SCYCA safety/rules interpretation clinic.

2. General Membership meetings shall be held April through September.

a. Membership meetings are to be posted on the website and announced regularly throughout the season to encourage attendance.

b.The April shall be for Membership to set goals for the upcoming season.

c. The May and June meeting shall be the venue for membership dues and Board voting.

d. The July/August is for Safety/Rule Interpretation clinics.

e. The September meeting shall serve to confirm the competition calendar.

f. During the competition season, October and November, host sites will be responsible to set aside time and location for attending members to attend an Ad Hoc meeting for general discussions.

g. Members will need to e-mail the Secretary for agenda additions at least one week prior to the scheduled meeting. New Business is intended to offer suggestions for further consideration.

3. In January or February the Executive Board shall meet to review the past season.

a.Coordinators are welcome to communicate openly with the Executive Board, in writing, about pertinent issues concerning the past season.

b. Coordinators may be invited to attend an Ad Hoc Executive Board meeting to discuss issues fully.

B. MEETING CALL TO ORDER: ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Roberts Rule of Order shall be the benchmark for procedure.
2. The Parliamentarian shall open the meeting after the secretary determines that a

quorum is present. A Quorum shall be considered at least 8 LEAGUES/BOARD MEMBERS/FOUNDING MEMBERS that are in good standing, with a standard of 51%. A good standing league is any member league that has at least one of said leagues representatives in good standing.

3.The Agenda shall be prepared by the secretary in consultation with the Executive Board. The agenda will be e-mailed to the members prior to the meeting.

4. Guests wishing to attend a meeting must do so with permission from the Executive Board. An E-mail must be sent at least one week prior to the scheduled meeting.

5. Members or vendors with products (personal or otherwise), or a service company cannot attend meetings without prior approval for the Executive Board. All vendors or members wishing to speak to the membership must contact the SCYCA Secretary who will arrange approval through the Executive Board. Upon approval, they may attend meetings, be introduced, but cannot use the meeting time as a platform to actually sell products. After completion of the meeting, members will be able to stay and meet with the vendors or members, to speak to them about their products.

C. SCYCA ENDORSEMENTS

1. SCYCA endorses competitions and is NOT a sponsor of them. All liability is the responsibility of the competing town and the host town.

2. SCYCA and its members cannot endorse nor receive personal compensation, nor can they have a sole affiliation with any gym. (not including league fundraising)

D. HOSTING A COMPETITION

A host town must be a member in good standing.

ARTICLE V:

HOW TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION

This constitution may be amended as needed. Amendment proposals shall be considered at any meeting and brought to a vote following Roberts Rules of Order. Proposals to the constitution or to the rules can be made through e-mail.

This constitution is written and intended for the benefit of all entitled Directors who are looking to a future of respect and recognition for themselves and their athletes. SCYCA exists as a resource for the education of coaches so they may be more effective teaches of the sport. Individually,

a Director can make a difference to his/her teams; together SCYCA can work towards a common goal.

Ratified this 17th day of June, 2024

President _____Phyliss Hill_____

Secretary _____Joanna Esposito_____

Vice President ____Shannon Philbin_____

Treasurer _____Millie Rivera_____

Parliamentarian _____Jaime Cholden_____

Ratification Delegates

____Ratified by vote of the membership after a proposal was presented and reviewed twice.

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____