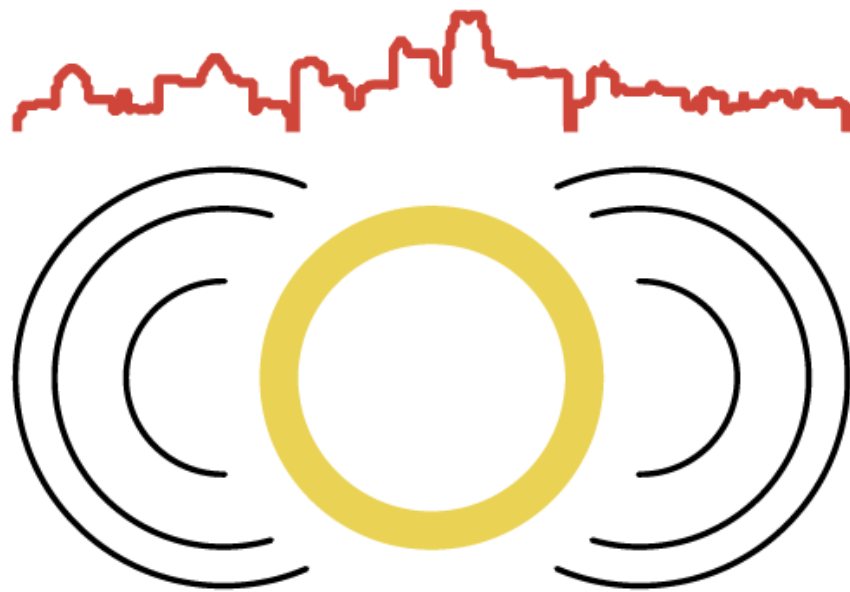


**Charter
for
North Carolina Air Hockey Association**



**NORTH CAROLINA
AIR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**

NCAHA

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Article I: Name, Purpose, and Definitions

Section 1. Name

- A. The name of this chartered organization shall be the "North Carolina Air Hockey Association" hereinafter referred to as the "NCAHA."

Section 2. Purpose

- A. The mission is to encourage the growth and recognition of air hockey.
- B. The vision is to have air hockey become a commonly recognized sport.
- C. The purpose of the NCAHA is
 - a. To promote and organize air hockey events, foster sportsmanship, and provide a supportive community for air hockey enthusiasts.
 - b. To recognize air hockey competitions in North Carolina that would lead to a change in the North Carolina ranks.
 - c. To raise funds and seek sponsorships in order to facilitate the growth of air hockey.
 - d. To publish player rankings & record, preserve, and collect records for the purpose of maintaining the history of air hockey.
 - e. To represent players' views and ideals regarding the advancement and evolution of the sport.
 - f. To solve player grievances regarding air hockey competitions, events, and/or issues in North Carolina.
- D. The NCAHA is not intended to create the set of rules for use in organized North Carolina air hockey events.

Section 3. Definitions

- A. "Member" includes Board Members and Non-Board Members.
- B. "Board Member" includes only those on the Board of Directors.
- C. "Non-Board Member" includes only those who are Dues-Paying Members and Honorary Members.
- D. "Dues-Paying Member" includes only those who are Dues-Paying Members.
- E. "Honorary Member" includes only those who have been distinguished as an Honorary Member.
- F. "Non-Member" includes a person who is not affiliated or associated with the NCAHA.

Article II: Membership

Section 1. Eligibility

- A. Membership is open to any individual who has an interest in air hockey.
- B. All but Honorary Members must be a resident of North Carolina.
- C. Residency is defined according to the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles by the list of approved documents that are recognized as proof of North Carolina residency.

Section 2. Membership Types

- A. Dues-Paying Members: All dues-paying, non-board members who actively participate in air hockey and are a resident of the state of North Carolina. *See Article II Section 1.C for Residency definition.*
- B. Board Members: Elected officials responsible for the administration of NCAHA.
- C. Honorary Members: Distinguished individuals or sponsors who support the NCAHA's mission.

*Membership will be considered for the calendar year from January 1st to December 31st

Article III: Board of Directors

Section 1. Composition

- A. The Board shall consist of seven elected Members:
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President
 - c. Secretary
 - d. Treasurer
 - e. Operations Director
 - f. Community Outreach Director
 - g. Player Advocate
- B. Board Members shall serve two-year terms and may be re-elected.

Section 2. Responsibilities

- A. Board Member responsibilities include but are not limited to the following:
 - a. President
 - i. Presides over meetings, represents the NCAHA, and provides overall leadership

- ii. Provides support to help all Board Members carry out individual responsibilities and delegates outside responsibilities as needed
 - b. Vice President
 - i. Assists the President in responsibilities
 - ii. Maintains constitutional documents
 - iii. Assumes duties in the President's absence
 - iv. Documents an independent record of treasury funds
 - c. Secretary
 - i. Records meetings and distributes minutes
 - ii. Maintains membership records
 - iii. Oversees the recording of game results (matches, sets, tournaments, etc.) that involve North Carolina players
 - iv. Prepares Articles of Impeachments
 - v. Records any and all amendments made to this Charter or its bylaws
 - d. Treasurer
 - i. Coordinates financial affairs, budgeting, sponsorships, and financial reporting
 - ii. Records and manages membership payments and reviews statuses of Dues-Paying Members
 - e. Operations Director
 - i. Advises all NCAHA-organized air hockey competitions
 - ii. Provides individual event goals and analytics to the Board
 - f. Community Outreach Director
 - i. Organizes outreach events within and outside of the community to grow the NCAHA mission
 - ii. Supports and promotes communication within the community and to the public
 - g. Player Advocate
 - i. Ensures player views across ranks/regions/age groups are represented.
 - ii. Documents views that are important to the entire North Carolina player base
- B. The Board shall be responsible for the formulation of a minimum of the following Committee:
 - a. Integrity Committee
 - i. Shall be composed of three Dues-Paying Members who are not current Board Members.
 - 1. For only the first election, the Integrity Committee shall be composed of one to three people who must be interested in membership but are not planning to run for a Board Member position.
 - ii. Responsible for coordinating candidate nominations and recording votes of Dues-Paying Members.
 - 1. Protects Member privacy by only releasing total votes for each candidate to the public but not who each Member has voted for.
 - iii. Manages any community-initiated proposal for Articles of Impeachment.
- C. The Board shall review proposals for the creation of additional Committees.

- a. Proposals shall be submitted in writing to the Board via electronic mail or letter outlining the purpose and procedures.
 - b. The Board shall vote by a simple majority to accept the Committee. This vote must occur within 14 days of when a Committee is filed.
- D. See Article VII Section 1 for Impeachment Procedures*

Article IV: Meetings

Section 1. Regular Meetings

- A. Regular meetings shall be held biannually, with additional meetings scheduled as needed.

Each biannual meeting must take place within the following date range of the year:

1st biannual meeting: January 1-June 30

2nd biannual meeting: July 1-December 31

Section 2. Special Meetings

- A. Special meetings may be called upon the request of at least three Board Members for urgent or special matters.
- B. Notice must be given to all Board Members.

Section 3. Annual Meeting

- A. An annual meeting must be held at any point.
- B. The Annual Meeting must be held separately from other meetings.
- C. The meeting shall consist of at least 20% of Dues-Paying Members and four Board Members.

Section 4. Quorum

- A. A quorum for any and all meetings shall consist of at least four Board Members.
- B. Quorum must be met at all meetings including but not limited to impeachments, amendments, biannual, and annual meetings.
- C. If quorum is not met, the meeting must be rescheduled to a later date.

Article V: Election and Voting

Section 1. Voting Eligibility

- A. All Dues-Paying Members in good standing are eligible to vote for Board Members.
 - a. Members in Good Standing have all current dues paid and have actively participated in the North Carolina air hockey community within the last 12 months.
 - i. Some examples of actively participating in the North Carolina air hockey community would be attending a challenge match or tournament.

Section 2. Candidate Eligibility

- A. Eligible members must be Dues-Paying Members in Good Standing. *See Article V, Section 1.A.a for Good Standing definition.*
- B. Any eligible member may be nominated or may enter their interest in candidacy to the Integrity Committee by November 1st.
- C. If a position becomes open due to resignation or impeachment, any eligible member may enter their interest within 2 weeks to be voted on within 14 days after nominations have been received.

Section 3. Election and Voting Procedures

- A. Board Members shall be determined by instant-runoff (ranked-choice) voting.
- B. All elections will be held via an electronic public ballot
- C. The election must be scheduled to take place before December 31st with a minimum of 2 weeks notice.
- D. The Votes shall be tabulated but an Integrity Committee. *See Article III, Section 2.B.a for Integrity Committee responsibilities.*
- E. The results of the votes must be provided within a reasonable time frame after the final ballot is cast.
- F. An election must consist of at least four Board Members and 20% of Dues-Paying Members.
- G. Dues-Paying Members will vote in accordance with the bylaws.
- H. Each Dues-Paying Members' vote is weighted equally.
- I. Non Dues-Paying Members and Honorary Members are not allowed to vote in elections.
- J. The Votes shall be securely stored.
- K. The Votes shall be destroyed prior to nominations for the next election.
- L. Objections to the election may be made. *See Article V Section 6.*
- M. A special meeting must be held should a position become open due to resignation or impeachment.
- N. Elected Members must be sworn in. *See Article V Section 5.*

Section 4. Oath of Office

- A. Newly elected Board Members and incumbent members must take an Oath of Office to ensure the elected Board member understands their responsibilities and obligations.
- B. All elected Board Members swear their obligation to this Charter and its bylaws.
- C. The Oath may be conducted by any person of the elected person's choosing. Including Non-Members, Honorary Members, or Board Members.
- D. The Oath is included in the bylaws. Amendments to the Oath can be made. *Any amended oath shall include its version of the amendment number and the office's obligation to the Charter.*

Section 5. Objections and Recounts

- A. An objection can be made to elections and amendments by Dues-Paying Members.
- B. All objections must be made in writing to the Board via electronic mail or letter.
- C. Objections can only be made due to logistical reasons such as counting error, quorum, or violation of Charter procedures.
- D. If an objection is made, the Board, excluding newly elected Board Members, must vote to accept the objection. This vote must occur within 14 days of when an objection is filed.
- E. If an objection is accepted, a recount of the vote must occur.
- F. An Honorary or Non-Dues Paying Member may not commence the recount.

Article VI: Finances

Section 1. Dues

- A. Membership dues are waived for a Member's first calendar year.
- B. Beginning January 1st, membership dues are 20 dollars annually (nonrefundable) and may be adjusted by the Board at the Annual meeting or a biannual meeting.
- C. Honorary Members are exempt from dues.
- D. Dues must be paid by February 1st each year to be considered a Member for the calendar year.
- E. You are still considered an active Dues-Paying Member in January for the calendar year if dues were paid in the previous year.
- F. If payment is not received by March 1st, that Member is no longer considered a Dues-Paying Member.
- G. If there is an interest in creating a Resource Support program, that program shall aim to compensate as many dues as possible in order of application.
- H. The Board is encouraged to provide incentives for individuals to become a Dues-Paying Member. *See Article VI, Section 2.*

Section 2. Dues-Paying Benefits

- A. If there is an interest in creating a Dues-Paying Member program, that program shall constitute at least one benefit that is separate from regular members.
- B. The Board is allowed to create time-sensitive incentives for people to become Dues-Paying Members such as discounted tournament fees, merchandise, etc.
- C. Dues-Paying Members are authorized to vote in elections.

Section 3. Financial Transparency

- A. The Treasurer shall provide biannual financial reports to the public.
- B. The Treasurer shall publicize the reports but has discretion over censorship of requested confidential information such names of individuals but not how funds are allocated.

Article VII: Impeachments and Removal

Section 1. Board of Director Removal

- A. Grounds for an Impeachment include but are not limited to:
 - a. Evidence of embezzlement
 - b. Unethical practices
 - c. Harassment
 - d. Abandonment of position/responsibilities
 - e. Violation of this Charter and its bylaws
 - f. Major violation of North Carolina and United States law
- B. An Article of Impeachment of a Board Director must be prepared by the Secretary. If the Secretary is being impeached, then the Vice President must prepare the Article of Impeachment.
- C. An impeachment must be proposed by a Board Member or by over 51% of Dues-Paying Members initiated through the Integrity Committee.
- D. A 3/4ths majority vote by Board Members is required for the Articles of Impeachment to be drafted against a Board Member.
- E. A Board Member will lose elected position and NCAHA membership status if removed.

Section 2. Non-Board Member Removal

- A. Grounds for an Impeachment include but are not limited to:
 - a. Unethical practices
 - b. Harassment
 - c. Violation of this Charter and its bylaws
 - d. Major violation of North Carolina and United States law

- B. An Article of Impeachment of a Non-Board Member must be proposed by a Board Member or by over 51% of Dues-Paying Members initiated through the Integrity Committee.
- C. A 3/4ths majority vote by Board Members is required for the Articles of Impeachment to be drafted against a Non-Board Member.
- D. A Non-Board Member will lose NCAHA membership status if removed.

Section 3. Articles of Impeachment

- A. The Articles of Impeachment shall include the name, position, and years in service with NCAHA.
- B. A reason for impeachment must be established in the Articles.
 - a. If it is a violation of the Charter/bylaws, the Article and Section must be cited.
- C. Once created, the Board must vote on the passing of the Articles of Impeachment.
 - a. If a Board of Director is being impeached, they must abstain from voting. A Dues-Paying Member must take their spot in voting for the passage.
 - b. If a tie occurs, a second Dues-Paying Member must vote.
- D. Three copies of the Articles of Impeachment must be made to the following:
 - a. The Member being impeached
 - b. The Board of Directors
 - c. Records
- E. Once an Article of Impeachment is provided to the person being impeached, a meeting to vote must be called within the following 90 days.

Section 4. Impeachment Procedures

- A. If it is a Board of Director Member, then a meeting must consist of at least four Board Members, not including the one being impeached, and 20% of Dues-Paying Members.
- B. If it is a Non-Board Member, at least five Board Members must be present, and 10% of Dues-Paying Members.
- C. If the Member being impeached is not present for unforeseen circumstances, they are allotted one reschedule to ensure their attendance even if it is passed the 90-day deadline.
- D. If the Member being impeached is present, they are allotted an eight-minute statement to argue for their alleged violations and actions.
- E. If the Member being impeached is not in attendance, the vote for their impeachment proceeds.
- F. The vote shall be held via secret ballot, each vote is collected by the secretary.
 - a. A supermajority vote must be obtained to certify the impeachment.
 - b. The vote must be announced at the end of the meeting.
- G. An objection can only be made if a recount is requested. One requested recount may occur.

Article VIII: Amendments

Section 1. Proposal

- A. Amendments to this charter may be proposed by any Member.
- B. Proposed amendments shall be introduced to the Board via the Secretary. The Board must prepare to call a meeting within 90 days to discuss the amendment.
- C. Proposed amendments shall be reviewed and voted upon at a regular or special meeting.
- D. If an Amendment is being repealed, a second amendment is required for it to be repealed.

Section 2. Approval

- A. Amendments require a two-thirds majority vote to be adopted.
- B. Voting must be recorded by the Secretary.
- C. If any objections are made, *refer to Article V Section 6*.
- D. All amendments must be available for the public to view.

Article IX: Dissolution

- A. In the event of dissolution, any remaining assets shall be donated to a charitable organization chosen by the Board.

Article X: Bylaws

- A. The Board shall establish, and amend as necessary, bylaws to govern specific operations of the NCAHA as well as recording a public rulebook for use in NCAHA-sanctioned events.
- B. The Bylaws shall be made readily available to the public.
- C. The signing of this Charter is the signing of any current and future bylaws established.
- D. Any amendments to bylaws must be recorded by the Secretary.
- E. Previous versions of bylaws must be stored publicly.

Article XI: Ratification

- A. This charter shall be considered ratified upon approval by a 3/4ths majority vote of the Initial Founding Members. Upon Ratification, an Election will be held.

Article XII: Effectiveness

A. This charter shall become effective immediately after the first Board Members have printed/signed/dated this Charter below and signed an individual Oath of Office.

B. Printed Names & Signatures of Elected Board Members:

- a. President
- b. Vice President
- c. Secretary
- d. Treasurer
- e. Operations Director
- f. Community Outreach Director
- g. Player Advocate

Date: ____/____/____

This charter is hereby ratified and adopted by the Initial Founding Members and Elected Board Members of the North Carolina Air Hockey Association (NCAHA).

Oath of Office:

I _____ hereby accept the duties, responsibilities, and obligations of my elected office position as _____. I have read and understood what is expected of my position and hereby agree to the rules, statutes, bylaws, and Charter of the North Carolina Air Hockey Association. I understand this position is a privilege and I may be impeached if I abandon, violate, or disregard my responsibilities and duties. I will ensure the continuance and growth of the North Carolina Air Hockey Association.