

THE CONSTITUTION

OF THE

BAHAMAS LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION

NAME

1. The Association shall be called "The Bahamas Lawn Tennis Association" hereinafter referred to as "the Association."

OBJECTS

2. The objects of the Association shall be:
 - a) To uphold the laws of the game as at present adopted by the ITF.
 - b) To make, maintain and publish regulations for the management of Prize meetings, interclub matches, Cup Competitions and Tournaments.
 - c) To regulate, arrange and manage all matches and any other competitions from time to time promoted by the Association including the dates thereof.
 - d) To make, maintain and publish bye-laws for any of the purposes above.
 - e) Generally to advance the interest of the game of Tennis in The Bahamas.

MEMBERS

3.
 - 1) The membership of the Association will be composed of Clubs, as well as individual members who agree with and are in support of the objects set forth above.
 - 2) The membership will also be composed of non-resident individuals who will be entitled to all rights and privileges of other individual members except those rights and privileges which refer to voting under this Constitution.
 - 3) No person who is a non-resident of The Bahamas shall be eligible to represent the Association and vote on its behalf at an Annual Meeting of the ITF.
 - 4) The Council may invite as honorary members shall not be qualified to be Officers or members of the Council or to vote as members.
4. The Association shall be managed by a Council consisting of a President, a Vice President, an Honorary Secretary, an Honorary Treasurer, an Assistant Treasurer

and an Assistant Secretary (hereinafter referred to as “the Officers”) and Councillors to be elected or appointed as hereinafter provided in Article 14.

5. Each member of the Council shall have one vote and **six** shall form a quorum.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

6. Any person over the age of eighteen and residing in The Bahamas or not residing in the Bahamas but qualified under paragraph 3 (2) and any Tennis club in The Bahamas shall be eligible for membership in the Association. All applications must be completed on the official application form and sent to the Secretary. Applications of new members will be considered by the Council at their next meeting after the receipt of the application. A simple majority vote of those members present will be sufficient. A person under eighteen (18) may join as a junior member but will not be entitled to any voting privileges. Applications for Club membership must be accompanied by a copy of the Constitution of the club and a list of the paid up members of the club.
7. The first annual subscription to the Association shall be payable upon receipt of notice of membership, and thereafter the annual subscription shall be payable on the first day of January in each year. The entrance fee if any and the annual subscription will be approved each year by the Council.
8. Any Member whose first subscription remains unpaid for one calendar month after the receipt of notice of affiliation, or whose annual subscription remains unpaid for one calendar month after notification in writing, shall cease to be a member of the Association unless the Council shall otherwise determine. Any such Member shall only be eligible for re-election on the payment of a penalty of \$5.00 in addition to the regular fees.

ACCOUNTS

9. The financial year of the Association shall end on 31st December in each year, and an annual statement of accounts shall be prepared by the Honorary Treasurer, and duly audited by an auditor to be appointed annually by the Council and who shall not be a member of the Council

GENERAL MEETINGS

10. An Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held at such place as the Council shall decide not later than 30th April for each year when the accounts for the

past year duly audited shall be presented, the Officers and other members of the Council at the end of the 2nd-year term elected and any general business transacted.

Each Club shall be entitled to nominate in writing representatives to attend every General Meeting and each such representative shall have one vote. The individual Members shall also be entitled to attend and shall each have one vote at every General Meeting. Five representatives representing not less than two Clubs or 15 members shall form a quorum for every General Meeting.

Every nomination of a representative to a General Meeting shall remain valid for every adjournment of such meeting and every such nomination may be cancelled or changed by written notification delivered to the Secretary of the Association at any time prior to the commencement of the meeting to which such nomination relate or any adjournment thereof.

If within half-an-hour of the time appointed for such meeting there shall be no quorum present, the meeting shall stand adjourned for the same time and place seven days thence, and if at such adjourned meeting there shall not be the prescribed quorum the meeting shall nevertheless be deemed fully constituted.

11. An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called at any time at the discretion of the Council, and shall be called by the Honorary Secretary within fourteen (14) days after the receipt of a requisition in writing to that effect given by two or more Clubs or five (5) individual members of the Association. Such requisition shall state the business for which the meeting is to be called.

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETING

12. Notice in writing of every General Meeting stating the business to be transacted thereat and accompanied in the case of the Annual General Meeting by a statement of account for the past year and at the end of the 2nd year term, the names of the retiring Officers and Councillors, shall be distributed to all individual members and to the Secretaries of all Clubs, at least 14 days prior to the date fixed for such meeting, and notice convening every such meeting may be advertised in any paper or papers which the Council may think desirable.

NOTICE OF RESOLUTIONS FOR GENERAL MEETING

13. Particulars of resolutions to be brought forward at the Annual General Meeting shall be sent to the Secretary within seven (7) days of the Annual General Meeting.

PRESENTATION

14. Each individual member shall be eligible for election as a Councillor at the Annual General Meeting at the end of the 2nd-year term, including representatives duly nominated by a Club for such meeting.

Each Club shall have the power to appoint Councillors as follows:

- a) A club of a paid up membership of 50 members to the Council.
 - b) A club of a paid up membership of more than 50 members but less than 100 members shall be entitled to appoint two members to the Council.
 - c) A club of a paid up membership of more than 100 members shall be entitled to appoint three members to the Council.
 - d) The meeting shall be entitled to elect five members to the Council.
 - e) In the event a Councillor appointed by a Club is elected as an Officer of the Association then the club will have the power to appoint another Councillor.
15. Any duly appointed Club representation or individual member shall be eligible for election as an Officer and the Officers shall hold office for two years from the date of election, after which they shall retire but shall continue to hold office until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting at which their successors are elected and shall themselves be eligible for re-election.
 16. The Councillors shall retire after two years but shall continue to hold office until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting at which their successors are elected, and shall, if qualified, be eligible for re-election.
 17. The Officers and five (5) Councillors shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting (at the end of 2nd-year term). Each Club shall have power to appoint Councillors according to the provisions set out in Article 14.
 18. Election (end of 2nd-year term) at an Annual General Meeting shall be by secret ballot.
 19. The Council shall have the power to appoint any member to fill any Vacancy occurring among the Officers or Councillors until the next Annual General Meeting. During the temporary absence from the Island of any Officer or Councillor the Council may appoint any member to act in his or her place during such absence.
 20. No member whose subscription is in arrears shall be entitled to nominate any representative to a General Meeting or to requisition an Extraordinary General Meeting.

At all General Meetings and meetings of the Council the President shall be Chairman and in his or her absence the Vice-President, and in the absence of these, a Chairman shall be elected by the members present and the Chairman of any meeting shall have an original as well as a casting vote.

RESIGNATION FROM ASSOCIATION

21. Any member wishing to retire must give notice in writing to the Secretary before the 30th day of November in any year, and in default will be held liable for the subscription for the ensuing year.
22. The Council shall meet at such times and places as it may from time to time decide, but it shall meet once at least every quarter.
23. Notice of every meeting, stating the business to be transacted thereat, shall be sent to each member of the Council at least seven days prior to the date fixed for such meeting.

POWERS OF COUNCIL

24. The Council shall exercise all powers and do all such things as may be exercised or done by the Association and (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) shall have power:-
 - a) To make or alter regulations for Tournaments and Competitions from time to time promoted by or held under the auspices of the Association.
 - b) To sanction and regulate the dates of the holding of all cup matches and Club tournaments.
 - c) To prohibit any act or practice by Associations, Clubs, Committees or players which in the opinion of the Council is detrimental to the interest of the game and to deal with any Association, Club or player disregarding such prohibition in such manner as it may in its absolute discretion think proper.
 - d) To reinstate upon terms or otherwise as it may think proper any Club, Association, Committee or player penalized for any offence hereunder.
 - e) To inflict penalties on Associations, Clubs, Committees or players for any infringement of the laws of the game or of the rules and regulations of the Association.
 - f) To decide all doubtful and disputed points in connection with the game and the laws thereof, and the rules and regulations of the Association and any decision of the Council shall be final; subject, however, to a right to appeal to the International Tennis Federation.

- g) To consider and deal with all applications for affiliation and memberships.
- h) To do all such other things in the interests of the game and the Association as it may deem expedient.
- i) To delegate all or any of its powers to its duly appointed Sub-Committees.
- j) To borrow money for any of the purposes of the Association.

PROPERTY

- 25. The property of the Association (other than cash which shall be under the control of the Treasurer and all moneys that may from time to time become the property of the Association) shall be vested in the Officers for the time being as Trustees for and on behalf of the Association and they shall deal with the property of the Association as directed by resolution of the Council.

ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS, ETC.

- 26. The laws of the game and the rules and regulations of the Association for the time being in force and the decisions of the Council on all doubtful and disrupted points arising in connection therewith, shall be binding on all affiliated Clubs and members of the association.

ALTERATIONS IN RULES AND LAWS

- 27. No alterations shall be made in these rules or the laws of the game except at a General Meeting, notice whereof containing particulars of the proposed alterations shall have been given to the affiliated Club and members at least fourteen (14) days before such meeting, and unless the resolution embodying such alteration shall be carried by a majority of at least two-thirds of the members present and voting at such meeting. Any alteration made shall take effect as from the first day of January following unless the meeting shall by the like majority decide otherwise.