**CODE OF CONDUCT OF THE SOUTHERN UTAH OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION**

**Declaration of Policy:**

Schools and institutions have entrusted this association to assist them in the development of their students or participants through athletics. The proper accomplishment of such a process requires that officials be independent, impartial, and responsible to the people they serve and to each other. Every member of the officiating profession carries the responsibility to act in a manner becoming a professional person. The conduct of an official influences the attitude of the public toward the profession in general, as well as toward the official in particular and the association to which he is a member. In recognition of these expectations there is hereby established a Code of Ethics and Rules of Conduct ("the Code"). The purpose of the Code is to establish guidelines for ethical and professional standards of conduct for all officials who are members of this association. Ethics and Rules:

A member shall devote sufficient time, thought, and study to the rules of the game and the mechanics necessary to carry out those rules so that one may render effective and creditable officiating services in a professional, fair, and unbiased manner. Superior performance is expected of each member. Such performance requires more than reading the rule book and passing a written exam. Superior performance requires an ongoing devotion to self improvement through rigorous physical conditioning, attendance at clinics and training meetings, and constant study of the rules and mechanics of the game.

**All Members / Officials will be required to meet the following Criteria for Post Season Assignments. Officials must meet all UHSAA and SUOA Individual Sport criteria as listed below.**

**UHSAA Postseason Criteria for all Sports**

Pass Part I test for that sport at the UHSAA required level, Confirmed Completed Pass Part 2 Test, if required by UHSAA, Confirmed Completed

Attend or watch online Rules Clinic as presented by UHSAA, receive conformation - Attend one (1) SUOA approved or provided Camp every 3 years SUOA Postseason if camp is available for that specific sport.

**Criteria by Sport**

Basketball

- 66 % Attendance at general and area basketball meetings.

- Rank and status of a varsity official, being listed on Board approved post season list - In good standing as a member of SUOA

- Attend one (1) SUOA approved or provided Camp every 3 year

Football

-66% Attendance at general and area football meetings

-Must officiate a minimum of 5 Varsity games during the season

- Rated as a Varsity Official, being listed on Board approved post season list - In Good Standing as a member of the SUOA

- Attend one (1) SUOA approved or provided Camp every 3 years

Baseball

-66% Attendance at general and area baseball meetings

- Rated as a Varsity Official, being listed on Board approved post season list. - In Good standing as a member of the SUOA

- Attend one (1) SUOA approved or provided Camp every 3 years

Softball

-66% Attendance at General and area Softball meetings

-Rated as a Varsity Official, being listed on Board approved post season list. -In Good Standing as a member of the SUOA

Attend one (1) SUOA approved or provided Camp every 3 years

Volleyball

-66% Attendance at the General and area Volleyball meetings

-Attend the State Required UTAH High School Academy and have verification of participation.

-Rated as a Varsity Official, being listed on Board approved post season list. -In Good Standing as a member of the SUOA

Wrestling / Soccer – as required by the UHSAA – SUOA does not over see those sports

If a member desires to attend a camp or clinic scheduled for another area, he/she may obtain approval from the board of directors. Written documentation must then be submitted to the Director in order to credit a SUOA member for attending a camp or clinic other than ones already approved by the board. Attendance at a camp/clinic does not guarantee varsity game assignments, but without attendance you will only be considered for varsity game assignments at the discretion of the Director. An outside SUOA sanctioned camp must have at least two days of officiating and classroom instruction. SUOA Officials that work at the camps as Evaluators or Advisors, Administrators, will be credited with attending that specific camp.

To be assigned games as a 1st or 2nd year official, you are required to attend the SUOA Clinic for that sport each of those years; if you do not attend the clinic for that sport you will only be assigned games at the discretion of the Director for that sport

**Violations for Enforcement (1-13)**

**1.** Improper Uniform worn at game.

**2.** A member shall work with fellow members, officials, school and institutional administrators, and the Utah High School Activities Association in a spirit of harmony and cooperation in spite of differences of opinion that may arise during debate of points

at issue. A member shall adhere to all policies and procedures of the regarding officials as published from time to time in the Official’s Guidebook of the UHSAA

**3**. A member who for any reason ejects a player, coach, fan, or other participant from any contest shall within 24 hours following the contest file a written report of the ejection. The report will contain the sport, the teams involved, the contest site, the date of the contest, the name of the person ejected where possible, the name of the school, the calling officials name and phone number, and a description of the circumstances and the actions taken. Such report will be sent by fax or electronic format to the Director. When the contest involved high school teams such report will also be sent by fax or electronic format to the offices of the UHSAA. Immediately following the contest the crew chief will determine the details, facts, and circumstances of the ejection, and will telephone the Director of that sport, and when involving a high school team the UHSAA office, with such information within 24 hours of the contest.

**4**. A member shall not, regardless of circumstance, use one's position as an official benefit to oneself. A member shall avoid promoting the special interest of any person or group of persons other than the athletes we serve.

**5.** A member shall constantly uphold the honor and dignity of the avocation in all personal conduct and relations with student athletes, coaches, athletic directors, school and institutional administrators, colleagues, and the public.

**6.** A member will be a good and law abiding citizen and shall commit no crime or engage in any conduct which might subject the member to being convicted of a crime, felony, or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude.

**7**. A member will be prepared both physically and mentally, dress strictly according to the prescribed officials uniform for the sport he or she is officiating, and maintain the proper professional appearance that is befitting the importance of the game.

**8.** A member shall pay all required membership fees, assessments, and dues on or before the end of the first general membership meeting of each sport a member may officiate. After the date of such meeting and until such time as payment in full has been made to the Treasurer, no game assignments will be made to members who have failed to pay such fees, assessments, and or dues.

**9.** A member shall remember and recognize that it is important to honor game assignments regardless of possible inconvenience or financial loss.

A. A member shall keep the assigner informed in advance of any dates he or she is unable to accept game assignments in blocks of at least 30 day periods ("closed dates"). Any additional dates that become closed due to unforeseen circumstances within that thirty day period block will be communicated to the assigner immediately. B. A member who receives a game assignment for an open date shall be deemed to have accepted such assignment.

C. A member who accepts a game assignment and thereafter is unable to work the game assigned shall turn it back to the assigner by communicating with the assigner immediately upon becoming aware of his or her inability to work. The assigner shall determine if the turn back is justified. If the assigner deems the reason for the turn back not justified the assigner shall report it to the Supervisor of Officials for referral to the Board of Directors for appropriate action. The second turn back by the same member in a single sport season shall be reported to the Supervisor of Officials regardless of the reason for such turn back.

D. A member who accepts a game as crew chief shall make voice contact with the other members of the crew 48 hours before the scheduled game to arrange transportation and to confirm the assignments. If the crew chief has not made contact with a member of the crew at least 48 hours before the scheduled game, said member shall contact the crew chief.

E. A member who accepts a game assignment shall report to the game site well before the scheduled start of the game so that sufficient time can be taken to dress and properly prepare mentally and physically for the game. The Supervisor of Officials of each sport shall determine the minimum arrival time for officials. A member who misses an assignment or who reports to the game site later than anticipated by this Code shall be reported to the Supervisor of Officials for referral to the Board of Directors for appropriate action.

**10.** A member shall not use the news media, social media or other means of public communication to vent his or her anger or to disparage or berate this association, any coach, school, team, player, administrator, or other game official.

**11**. A member shall neither smoke or use any form of tobacco on or in the vicinity of the game site, nor drink any alcoholic beverage or use any drug on the day of the scheduled game.

**12.** A member shall not officiate any game with a non-certified official. A member shall not officiate any game with a certified official who is not a member of this association without the prior approval of the Board of Directors, state and region playoff games and college games exempt. Request for such approval shall be made to the Supervisor of Officials who shall forward such request to the Board for its action.

**13**. A member shall not accept game assignments by sports officiating organizations other than this association without the prior approval of the Board of Directors, state and region playoff games and college game assignments exempt. Request for such approval shall be made to the Supervisor of Officials who shall forward such request to the Board for its action.

**Enforcement:**

1. Suspected violation of this Code shall be reported to the Director and or Board in writing or and within a reasonable time not to exceed twenty (20) days after discovery of such suspected violation. Such report will contain the name of the member involved, the

date and time of the alleged violation, a description of the facts and circumstances surrounding the suspected violation, and any other information deemed pertinent. 2. Reported violations of this Code shall be heard by the Board of that sport in session held either during the next duly called Board meeting after receipt of such report, or during a telephonic conference meeting called for the purpose of considering such report. In any case, the Board shall consider such reports no later than thirty (30) days following the Board's receipt thereof.

3. No action shall be taken by the Board on any reported violation of this Code until such time as all the circumstances have been heard and taken into account. Upon prior written notice, the Board may require a written statement from the member or members involved or may require that said member appear in person before the Board to present an

explanation of the facts and circumstances involved. Such written notice shall contain the date and time and place of the Board meeting, a statement of the provision of these Rules suspected to have been violated, and a statement of the alleged facts and circumstances of such violation.

4. Any violation of this Code may be penalized by the Board in the form of revocation of membership in accordance with Article IV, Section 5, of the Constitution and By-Laws, suspension of membership for a specified period, probation with or without conditions, withholding of game assignments for a specified period, a fine not to exceed two (2) times the prescribed game fee, formal or informal reprimand, or any combination of the foregoing.

5. The following shall constitute general guidelines for imposing disciplinary action against a member who violates this Code:

• Failure to make voice or electronic contact prior to assignment: Fine of $25.00. • No show at a game assignment: Fine of $50.00.

• Late arrival at a game: Fine of $10.00. Arrives 15 Min. of Start time of game. After 15 Minutes, forfeiture of Game and Fee if another official is working game, in addition to a $30.00 fine.

• Assigned turn back within 24 hours of game: Fine of $50.00.

• Assigned turn back prior to 24 hours of game: Fine of $15.00.

• Assigned turn backs of two or more $25.00

• Improper uniform: Fine of $25.00, Also level 1 Violation

**Disciplinary Penalty Guide**

**Levels:**

1. Violation of codes 1, 3, 7, 9D or 13

2. Violation of codes 2, 12 or two or more from level 1

3. Violation of codes 4, 5 or any combination from level 2

4. Violation of code 10 or any combination from level 3

5. Violation of codes 6, 11 or any combination from level 4

Note: Violation of codes 8, 9A, 9B, 9C & 9E are subject to fines and wouldn’t fall under a particular level.

**Offense to: Player/Coach: Applies to that sport to which one officiates.**

First Offense:

Level:

1. Letter of Reprimand

2. One Week Suspension

3. One Week Suspension Regular Season Probation

4. Two Week Suspension Full Season Probation

5. Three Week Suspension One Year Probation

Second Offense:

Level:

1. One week Suspension

2. One Week Suspension Regular Season Probation

3. Two Week Suspension Full season Probation

4-5. Three Week Suspension One Year Probation

Third or More Offenses:

Level:

1. One week Suspension Full Season Probation

2. Two Week Suspension One Year Probation

3. Three Week Suspension Two Year Probation

4-5. Membership Revoked for one year or more Length of suspension may carry from one season to the next of that sport.

**Offense to: Fan/Player Parent/Administration/Other: Applies to all sports officiated.**

First Offense:

Level:

1. Letter of Reprimand

2. One Week Suspension

3. One Week Suspension Regular Season Probation of current sport 4. Two Week Suspension Full Season Probation of current sport

5. Two Week Suspension One Year Probation

Second Offense:

Level:

1. One week Suspension

2. One Week Suspension Regular Season Probation

3. Two Week Suspension Full season Probation

4-5. Three Week Suspension One Year Probation Disciplinary

Third or More Offenses:

Level:

1. One Week suspension Full Season Probation

2. Two Week Suspension One Year Probation

3. Three Week Suspension Two Year Probation

4-5. Membership Revoked for one year or more Length of suspension may carry from one season to the next of all sports.

**Offense to: SUOA / Fellow Official/Observer: all offenses must include letter of reprimand**

First Offense

Level:

1. One Week Suspension

2. One Week Suspension Regular Season Probation

3. Two Week Suspension Full Season Probation

4. Two Week Suspension One Year Probation

5. Three Week Suspension One Year Probation

Second Offense:

Level:

1. One Week Suspension Regular Season Probation

2. Two Week Suspension Full season Probation

3-5. Three Week Suspension One Year Probation

Third or More Offenses:

Level:

1. Two Week Suspension One Year Probation

2. Three Week Suspension Two Year Probation

3-5. Membership Revoked for one year or more Length of suspension may carry from one season to the next of all sports. In cases where applicable (as determined by the Board) an apology letter must be sent to the offended party.

**If any offense is committed by a member who holds a leadership position, the Board may increase the penalty by one level**.

Start date of Suspension carried from one sport to the next may be determined by the Board and the Assigner of the affected sport(s).

“Regular Season Probation” includes preseason and league play contests. “Full Season Probation” includes Regular Season and all Post Season contests.

“One Year Probation” or more is a calendar year probation time and includes all sports officiated.

. 6. Action of the Board shall be reported by the Director in writing to the member involved. Such report shall be mailed regular mail or by electronic format to the member at the most current membership information listed on Arbitersports.com roster. Said contact shall be accomplished no later than forty-eight (48) hours following the Board meeting in which such action is taken. In those cases outlined in Paragraph 6 below, such report shall also contain a statement of the member's right to appeal the action of the Board.

7. Any action of the Board taken in a case where the member involved did not have an opportunity to either present a written statement in his or her behalf or to appear personally before the Board may be appealed in writing to the Board or by personal appearance before the Board. Request for appeal must be in writing directed to the Director within seven (7) days following the notification of the Board's action. Fourteen (14) days following the action of the Board, and no appeal having been received, such action will become final and the right of appeal expired.

8. Appeal will be considered by the Board and if upheld buy the Sport Specific Board, the appeal will go directly to the UHSAA Supervisor of Assigners for appeal. The decision of the UHSAA will be final and no appeal is available after the UHSAA has made a ruling.