

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS  
OF  
NEW YORK TRADITIONAL KARATE LEAGUE**

**Article I  
Name and Status**

- 1.1 Name.** The name of this organization shall be the "New York Traditional Karate League," hereinafter referred to as "the Corporation." The Corporation shall also be known as the "NYTKL" or other suitable acronym as may be here-after adopted by the executive members.
- 1.2 Status.** The Corporation shall be a charitable and non-profit organization chartered and licensed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York without capital stock. The Corporation shall apply for, and when approved, maintain a tax-exempt status pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code and the rules and regulations of the Internal Revenue Service, as amended.
- 1.3 Affiliation.** The Corporation shall do and perform the functions of the league as that term is defined and used in the Constitution and Bylaws of the NYTKL as amended.

**Article II  
Objective and Jurisdiction**

- 2.1 Objectives.** The purpose of the Corporation shall be to foster, develop, promote and coordinate recreational and competitive amateur Karate activities and opportunities for all member athletes and supportive participants, to supervise such other amateur Karate matters as may properly come with this purview and to promote social interaction and community service.
- 2.2 Jurisdiction.** The Corporation shall have jurisdiction over the administration, eligibility, sanctioning, representation and rules of competition for men's, women's, and youth amateur Karate competition under the NYTKL.
- (a) NYTKL retains the right to claim original jurisdiction in disputed matters that may reflect adversely on the NYTKL programs or activities. In the event disputes are irreconcilable, the Corporation reserves the right to seek a resolution of the issues by invoking a vote by the active club members at large of the NYTKL.
- 2.3 Definition.** Karate-do denotes the practice of athletic skills based upon the traditions of Karate as a martial art, as well as those skills developed by the individual practitioner which effectuates the formation of character development.

*Karate* includes the study of the physical mechanics of the human body, the application of which enables the practitioner to successfully defend himself or herself against violent attack. These skills are manifested through the perfect coordination and focus of timing, speed, power, distance, and technique.

*Karate-do* is distinguished from the mere study of Karate as a training for fighting purposes. It is the *Do* which requires the practitioner to use the martial arts training or purposes of character development and self-defense only. "*Do*" indicates the antithesis of violent action. The mastery of Karate-do demands not only physical technique, but holds as paramount the acquisition of such qualities as:

1. Respect
2. Compassion
3. Fairness
4. Humility
5. Diligence
6. Veracity

Karate-do skills are manifested through principled action, emotional control and decorum, and honesty, which are together commonly referred to as "good sportsmanship" and appropriate citizenship and leadership qualities.

Karate competition as used herein is the opportunity for competitors and officials to practice and display their individual mastery of Karate-do in a controlled, sporting environment.

### **Article III Membership**

**3.1 Membership.** The members of the Corporation shall consist of:

- (a) Club members accepted by the executive board of the NYTKL.
- (b) Individual members. Amateur athletes, coaches, officials, and life members, and other individuals actively involved in Karate.
  - (1) *Athlete members* are those individuals who register with the NYTKL as Athletes, are deemed amateurs and are eligible for competition in non-professional Karate.
  - (2) *Coach members* are those individuals who register with the NYTKL as Coaches. To serve as a Coach or Assistant Coach at any sanctioned event, the Coach must be a member of the Corporation.
  - (3) *Official members* are those individuals who register with the NYTKL as Officials and participate in Karate events as officials or administrators.
  - (4) *Volunteer members* are those individuals who are interested in the purpose, programs, aims and objectives of the Corporation and are registered with the NYTKL as Volunteers.

(5) *Life members* are those individuals who contribute a set amount to the NYTKL for furtherance of its aims and objectives.

(6) All individual members shall be registered with NYTKL.

(e) Club members. For an organization to qualify to register for a club membership, that club or organization must have the same objectives as stated herein, agree to be bound by the Bylaws of this Corporation and the Bylaws of the NYTKL, as amended and also:

(1) Be currently registered as a Club with the NYTKL.

(f) Conditions of membership. All categories of group, individual and club memberships must agree to all NYTKL sport rules, regulations and policies, unless otherwise stipulated in a written membership agreement.

**3.2 Dues.** All members shall pay any and all annual dues established by the NYTKL.

**3.3 Eligibility.** Each Club member in good standing with this Corporation shall have one vote in all general and special meetings of this Corporation. Each registered Athlete, Coach, Official and Booster member will have a voice in any general or special meeting of this Corporation, but no vote.

(a) Only residents of the Tri-State area ( NY, NJ, Conn) are eligible for membership in the Corporation.

#### **Article IV Board of Governors**

**4.1 Function.** The Board of governors shall serve as the legislative body of the Corporation, and shall have the ultimate responsibility for all matters and business of the NYTKL. Its powers and authority should include, but not be limited to:

(a) Determination and acceptance of membership in the Corporation, and the fees, procedures, and regulations relating thereto;

(b) Amendment or change to the Constitution or Bylaws of the Corporation;

(c) Ratification of the annual budget of the Corporation;

(d) Implementation and enforcement of these Bylaws;

(e) Creation and regulation of any and all Committees in the Corporation;

(f) Ratification of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of any committee;

- (g) Ratification of any actions taken by the Board of Directors at the annual or semi-annual meeting;
- (f) Create sub-committees to further the concept of good traditional sport karate. and community service as to the guidelines set forth in Article IV of this document.

**4.2 Membership.** The Board of Directors shall be comprised as follows:

- (a) President
- (b) Vice President
- (c) 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
- (d) Treasurer
- (e) Secretary
- (f) In addition, an athlete delegate will be appointed by the Board of Directors. The athlete delegate must be active registered Athlete members of the NYTKL engaged in amateur karate within the preceding 5 years without subsequent professional Karate participation.
- (g) Each member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation shall be a club member of the NYTKL.
- (e) President shall attempt to preserve the balance of representation between voting NYTKL club members. The Board of Directors can seek the advice and input of the other club members and/or the membership at-large.
- (f) Each member of the Board of Directors must be a member in good standing with the Nytkl.

**4.3 Term.** Each member of the Board of Governors shall remain such as long as the said member continues to be named as set forth in this document and until a successor is duly named.

- (a) NYTKL Athlete delegates shall serve a term of 2 years with no limitation.
- (b) Board of Director members shall serve a term consistent with the terms of their office as listed in section 5.3 of this document.
- (c) At-large delegates appointed by the President shall serve a term of 2 years.

**4.4 Annual meeting.** The annual meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held in December of each year or after the annual awards celebration.

**4.5 Special meetings.** Special meetings may be held upon the request of the President with 30 days written notice, or by a majority request of the Board of Directors with 30 days written notice, or within 60 days after the President receives a petition reflecting the signatures of at least 50 percent

of the club membership. Any such request for a special meeting shall include a specific location for such meeting.

**4.6 Votes.** Each member of the Board of Directors present shall have one vote. Write-in or proxy votes will be permitted.

(a) The Board of Directors shall be comprised of the following:

(1) Active Club members that hold a sanctioned NYTKL tournament. If a . . . . position is vacant it will not be counted/included to establish a quorum;

(2) In the event that a quorum can't be reached the Athlete delegate shall be called . . . upon to vote.

(b) If a member of the Board of Directors, DSO delegate, athlete delegate, or at-large . . . member, serves in dual or more roles, those votes will not be recognized in . . . . . establishing a quorum.

(c) Board of Directors, DSO delegates, athlete delegates, and at-large members cannot delegate their votes to an alternate, unless written notice including the name of the alternate, the date the alternate will represent the member and the signature of the member he/she will be representing is received by the Secretary 5 days prior to the vote. E-mail notice with phone call approval to the President or the Secretary will be accepted as notification.

**4.7 Quorum.** A majority (50% plus one) of the voting members of the Board of . . . . . Directors shall constitute a quorum.

**4.8 Meeting minutes.** The Secretary shall mail or cause to be mailed the minutes of the board of Directors meetings (annual, semi-annual, special) to the Board of Governors within 30 days after the conclusion of the meeting by mail, email or in-person.

**4.9 Mail vote.** Any action which may be taken at any regular or special meeting of members of the Board of Directors, except elections and amendment of these by-laws, may be taken without a meeting. If an action is taken without a meeting, the Secretary shall distribute a written ballot to every member entitled to vote on the matter. The ballot shall set forth the proposed action, provide an opportunity to specify approval or disapproval of any proposal and establish a time-certain for response. Approval by written ballot shall be valid only when the number of votes cast by ballot within the time period specified constitutes a majority of the votes entitled to be cast.

(a) Email or other written electronic communication is considered a written ballot and is covered under this section.

## **Article V Officers**

**5.1 Officers.** The elected officers of the Corporation shall be the President, Vice- . . . president, Secretary, Treasurer, and one Athlete member.

**5.2 Nominations/elections.** The officers shall be nominated and elected by Club members at the annual meeting. The voting shall be by written ballot and administered by the current Secretary. The results of the election shall be made public once the elections are concluded. .

**5.3 Term.** The President, Vice-president, Secretary, and Treasurer shall serve a term of four years, beginning one month after the date of the elections. This should allow for a smooth and cooperative transition of officers. The Athlete representative shall serve a term of two year.

**5.4 Officers and duties.**

(a) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors, be an ex-officio member of all committees and exercise all the duties normally ascribed to that office.

(b) In the event that the President is unable to serve, the corporation Vice President shall act on behalf of the President until the President is able to serve or until a successor is duly elected.

(c) With the exception of Section 5.4 (b) of this article, should any officer be unable to serve, the Board of Directors shall appoint a member of the corporation to fulfill the duties of the officer until such officer is able to serve or until a successor is duly elected.

(d) The Treasurer shall be the chief financial officer of the Corporation. The Treasurer shall serve as chairperson of the Finance Committee and perform the duties normally ascribed to that office or as directed by the board of Directors.

(e) The Secretary shall keep the records of the Corporation, supervise the taking of minutes, attend to the publication of official reports, attest documents and perform such other functions as usually pertains to such office. The Secretary shall discharge such other duties as may be assigned by the or the Board of Directors.

(f) Removal for cause. Any officer of the Corporation may be removed from office for cause by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

**Article VI  
Committees**

**6.1 Standing Committees.** The standing committees of the Corporation shall be the Athlete's Committee, Coach's Committee, Referee Committee, Technical Committee, Finance Committee, Registration Committee and Development Committee

**6.2 Chairpersons.** The President shall submit the names of proposed chairpersons and vice-chairs for the standing committees to the Board of Directors for ratification by a simple majority vote. In the event a proposed chairperson is rejected, the President shall continue to submit names until ratification is accomplished.

**6.3 Membership.** Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution and By-laws, the President, in concert with the Board of Directors and with the advice of the respective Chairperson, shall appoint all members to the standing committees and to such special committees as he/she deems necessary or as directed by the Board of Directors.

(a) The Chairperson will appoint a recording secretary who is responsible for the taking, composing and promulgation of all minutes, actions, etc., of said committee.

(b) Removal from committees. Any member may be removed by the same appointing authority for cause. The President and Secretary of the Corporation shall be officially notified. Vacancies will be appointed by the same authority.

**6.4 Compensation.**

(a) Each standing committee chairperson shall prepare an annual committee budget and submit it to the Treasurer 45 days prior to the annual meeting.

(b) Estimated cost for annual and committee meetings must be included in the committee budget.

**6.5 Athletes Committee.** The Athlete's committee shall be composed of athletes currently active in amateur karate competition within the last 2 years. The Council shall be constituted to represent the diverse membership of the athletes of the Corporation. The Council shall report to the Board of Directors on issues relating to athlete participation within the Corporation and at sanctioned events.

**6.6 Coaches Committee.** The Coaches Committee shall schedule and organize coach training camps approved by the Board of Directors. They shall also be responsible for the issuance of annual coaches passes.

**6.7 Referees Council.** The Referees Council shall organize and provide on-going education, opportunities and advancement possibilities to the members, with the ultimate goal of developing a referee corps of highest professional standards.

**6.8 Technical Committee.** The Technical Committee shall be responsible to insure that the standards of performance of technical aspects of karate within this Corporation are consistent with the standards which are, or may be established, by or for the NYTKL. The committee shall develop and implement standards for technical proficiency and recognition of technical karate expertise by members of this Corporation.

**6.9 Registration Committee.** The Registration Committee shall have jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to sanctions, registration and (re)certification of athletes and non-athletes, the amateur status and eligibility of athletes, and other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors.

**6.10 Finance Committee.** The finance committee shall consist of three individuals: the Treasurer who shall serve as Chairperson, one member appointed by the Treasurer, and one member selected by the Board of Directors. This committee shall be responsible for internally reviewing the Corporation's financial transactions and comparing expenditures as they relate to budgeted funds on a semi-annual basis. It shall review the proposed annual budget, making its recommendations to the board of directors. Its findings shall be an integral part of the Treasurer's report.

**6.11 Development Committee.** The Development Committee shall develop and sustain those programs and activities which will improve and enrich the quality of karate in the Corporation.

## **Article VII**

### **Club membership and NYTKL sanctioned tournaments**

**7.1 Boundaries.** The Board of Directors shall determine the time boundaries of Club Members holding competitions. A Club member holding may petition the Board of Directors for time boundary changes by submitting a written request to the Secretary signed by a majority of the club members effected by the request. The Board of Directors will designate NYTKL sanctioned tournaments so that representation of the Corporation and the development of Karate will best be effected. The Board of Directors will take into account the number of club members and individual members when creating a NYTKL sanctioned tournament.

(a) The following permanent NYTKL sanctioned tournaments shall be established:

1. New York Liberty Classic
2. Kai Leung's Shotojuku
3. LaPuppet Memorial Classic
4. Cleve Baxter's Tournament
5. Georges Aschkars Tournament

(b) Competitors in geographical areas not qualified by section 7.2 shall be accepted as competitors. However, competitors outside of the competition geographical areas will be allowed to compete in NYTKL sanctioned competitions but will not earn points leading to NYTKL awards.

**7.2 Qualifications.** Each Club member shall maintain the following annual minimum standards:

- (a) Have at least 10 registered athletes, 2 coach and/or official members and (2) staff volunteers.
- (b) Participate in the NYTKL Annual Dinner/awards affair
- (c) Conduct annual referee clinics
- (d) Support and participate in NYTKL events and the Tournaments.

**7.3 Selection.** The NYTKL will elect from club members in the established geographical boundaries members to serve on the Board of Directors and one athlete representative from athlete members in the NYTKL to serve on the Board of Directors.

(a) A simple majority (51%) of the registered club members in the NYTKL must be assembled to hold the elections of the Board of Directors.

**7.4 Non-compliance and jurisdictional disputes.**

(a) Club members not in compliance with minimum requirements of this Corporation and not conducting their business matters according to their Constitution and By-laws are ineligible to vote.

(b) Club members having jurisdictional disputes can:

(1) Petition the Board of Directors for a hearing to resolve the issue.

(2) The Board of Directors will establish a "cooling" period and allow not more than 60 days for the Club members to solve their own disputes.

(3) If the Club Members cannot work out their problem(s), the grievance procedure shall be followed.

**Article VIII  
Board of Directors**

**8.1 Make-up.** The Board of Directors shall consist of 5 members:

- (a) President
- (b) Vice President
- © 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
- (d) Treasurer
- (d) Secretary
- (e) Athlete Representative

**8.2 Selection.**

(a)The Board of Directors will be nominated and elected by Club members at the Annual Meeting, held in conjunction with the Annual awards affair as outlined in Article 5.2

**8.3 Vacancy.** In the event that any member of the Board of Directors, other than the President, should become unable to serve section 5.4(b) will be followed.

**8.4 Meetings.** The Board of Directors shall meet at the annual meeting, at any special meetings and at a minimum of two other meetings held during the year. At least seven days notice must be given each director.

## **8.5 Jurisdiction.**

(a) The Board of Directors shall manage the Corporation's business and affairs in accordance with this constitution and By-laws and as directed by the Board of Governors.

(b) The Board of Directors shall have authority to act for the corporation; They may amend or alter the Constitution and By-laws.

(c) All actions by the Board of Directors must be ratified by the Club Members at the next annual or semi-annual meeting.

(d) The Club members cannot take any action which shall supersede actions taken by the Board of Governors.

(e) The Board of Directors shall establish any and all offices or positions for which an employee of the Corporation receives remuneration.

**8.6 Compensation.** No member of the Board of Directors shall receive compensation for any services rendered as a Director. The Corporation may make reimbursement for reasonable expenses incurred in the course of the Director's duties.

**8.7 Quorum.** The presence of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

**8.8 Voting.** Each member of the Board of Directors shall have one vote. There shall be no proxy or substitutions permitted. In the case of a tied vote on any question before the Board, then the President shall abstain from voting on the questions and the President's vote shall not be counted.

## **Article IX Financial**

**9.1 Fiscal year.** The Corporation shall have a fiscal year for tax and accounting purposes commencing on the first day of January each year, and ending on December 31st.

**9.2 Tax returns.** The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the preparation of returns required of non-profit organizations by Section 6056 of the Internal Revenue Service Code of 1954 or the subsequent superseding tax laws and those required by any other local, state, or federal laws.

**9.3 Financial reports.** The Treasurer shall present interim and annual financial reports of the Corporation to the Board of Directors and make them public as legally required.

**9.4 Audit.** The Board of Directors shall retain a certified public accounting firm to conduct a certified audit of the Corporation's monetary transactions not less than once every four years.

**9.5 Other income.** Any and all funds or other assets held in a trust, endowment, or other income perpetuating account shall be administered by the Board of Directors.

**9.6 Budget.** The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the preparation of the proposed annual budget.

## **Article X Right to Participate**

**10.1 Right to participate.** No amateur karate athlete, coach, manager, trainer, administrator or other official qualified within the reasonable rules of this organization shall be denied nor threatened with the denial of the opportunity to qualify for selection or, after selection, to compete and/or participate in any international competition defined in Article IX of the United States Olympic Constitution. Any individual so abused may seek redress as specified in said article.

**10.02 Grievances.** Individuals similarly abused in relation to competitions may seek redress through grievance procedures outlined in the Bylaws of the NYTKL.

## **Article XI Rules of Order**

**11.1 Rules of Order.** All rules meetings of the Corporation, its boards, committees and other subdivisions shall be governed by the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

## **Article XII Dissolution of Corporation**

**12.1 Dissolution of Corporation.** If deemed advisable by the Board of Directors, the Corporation may be dissolved pursuant to the provisions of the Corporation laws of the State of New York.

**12.2 Terms of dissolution.** Upon dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all assets of the Corporation exclusively for the purposes of the Corporation, or to such organization(s) organized and operated exclusively for the charitable, educational, literary or scientific purposes in accordance with Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the subsequent superseding provisions of any future Internal Revenue Law.

### **Article XIII Amendments**

- 13.1 Submission of proposed legislation.** Any Club Member of the Corporation may submit proposed legislation to Board of Directors. Legislation shall be submitted in the following manner:
- (a) Must be submitted in writing
  - (b) Must be submitted at least 90 days prior to the annual meeting.
  - (c) Must include the author's name and rationale for the legislation.
- 13.2 Requirements for passage.** Legislation will require a majority vote, unless the proposal is to amend these Bylaws or the Articles of Incorporation, in which case 2/3 majority shall be required for passage.
- 13.3 Effective date of approved legislation.** Approved legislation becomes effective 60 days following the annual meeting or upon official notification to the Club Membership, unless the legislation includes an effective date.

### **Article XIV Savings Clause**

- 14.1 Saving clause.** Failure of literal or complete compliance with the provisions of this Constitution and By-laws in respect to dates and times of notice, or the sending or receipt of the same, or errors in phraseology of notice of proposals which, in the judgment of the members at meetings held, do not cause substantial injury to the rights of members, shall not invalidate the actions or proceedings of the members at any meeting.

### **Article XV Sanctions**

- 15.1 Authority to sanction.** All amateur Karate contests of any kind where athletes compete in amateur Karate under the jurisdiction of the NYTKL must be sanctioned by the NYTKL if held within the Tri-state area.
- 15.2 Special Events.** A sanction may be issued for special events such as multi-sport activities. These events cannot be conducted in conjunction with events precluded by Karate's rules or other activities which are not approved by an official organization. The request must be submitted forty-five (30) days prior to the event to the NYTKL President, who will then forward it to the NYTKL Board of Directors.
- 15.3 Requirements.** Sanctions are issued, withheld or withdrawn in accordance with the rules and regulations established by the NYTKL.

- 15.4 Application and sanction forms.** The form of application for sanction and of the sanction itself will be established by the NYTKL, and such form(s) shall be the only forms used by the NYTKL.

**Article XVI  
Eligibility/ Disqualification**

- 16.1 Eligibility.** Eligibility to compete and Disqualifications in Karate competitions sanctioned by the NYTKL is determined by the sponsor.
- 16.2 Eligibility to compete when disqualified.** A person shall cease to be eligible to compete in amateur Karate events given or sanctioned by this Corporation while disqualified or under suspension of the United States of America National Karate-do Federation.

**Article XVII  
NYTKL Sanctional Tournament**

- 17.1 Sponsor.** The Sponsor shall be the Member Club hosting the tournament the NYTKL sanctioned Tournament. The sponsor will be responsible for, but not limited to, the following:
- (a) Ensuring the sanction of the tournament with the NYTKL
  - (b) Promotion and advertising of the tournament
  - (c) Ensuring an adequate facility for the competition, including proper space, changing facilities, restrooms, and spectator seating.
  - (d) Ensuring proper security for the tournament including a barrier to separate spectators from the competition area.
  - (e) Ensuring a qualified Referee pool to officiate the tournament
  - (f) The design and ordering of all awards and medals
- 17.2 Location.** The sponsor will be responsible for setting a venue for the tournament. The host should take into consideration when determining a location, the location in which the greatest number of athlete members will participate.
- 17.3 Fees.** The entry fees charged to competitors will be determined by the Board of Directors. The entry fee charged to spectators will be determined by the sponsor.
- 17.4 Proceeds.** The profit from the tournament shall be dispersed as follows:
- (a) All proceeds from the entry fees gathered from the tournament will belong to the sponsor
  - (b) All proceeds from the spectator fees, concession stand or other secondary sources of income such as equipment sales or T- shirt sales will be given to the host.

- (c) All proceeds from NYTKL promotions shall be given to the NYTKL for deposit into the corporation account.

**17.5 Expenses.**

- (a) Expenses directly related to the hosting of the tournament including but not limited to the following shall be the responsibility of the sponsoring group:
  1. Facility
  2. Awards
  3. Referee incentives, if applicable
  4. Referee lunch
- (b) Expenses related to secondary sources of income such as concession stands, t-shirt sales, equipment sale or other items specifically for the benefit of the host will be the sole responsibility of the host.

**17.6 Athlete Incentive Program.** In an effort to encourage athletes to participate in the USA-NKF National Championships and to reward an athlete's performance, the Corporation shall establish an Athlete Incentive Program.

- (a) Any Advanced athlete who receives a gold medal in the 18 – 34 year old divisions shall be entered into a drawing to receive a minimum of \$150.
- (b) Any Advanced athlete who receives a gold medal in the 12-17 year old divisions shall be entered into a drawing to receive a minimum of \$150.
- (c) Any Beginner athlete who receives a gold medal shall be entered into a drawing to receive a minimum of \$150.
- (d) Any Novice athlete who receives a gold medal shall be entered into a drawing to receive a minimum of \$150.
- (e) Any Intermediate athlete who receives a gold medal shall be entered into a drawing to receive a minimum of \$150.
- (f) Any 35+ athlete who receives a gold medal shall be entered into a drawing to receive a minimum of \$150.
- (g) Any Advanced athlete who receives a gold medal in an 11 or under age division shall be entered into a drawing to receive a minimum of \$150.
- (h) The names will be drawn at the end of the year dinner and entered onto the NYTKL website.

- (i) Payment to the recipients will be made by the NYTKL via the Treasurer upon proof of registration for the NYTKL and the USANKF Championships by the recipient. Such proof may include but is not limited to, travel arrangement documents, proof of registration payment to the USA-NKF or verified via the NYTKL website.
- (j) In the event a recipient does not go to the USA-NKF National Championships, the amount will be forfeited back to the Corporation for general use.

**17.7 Referee Incentive Program.** To encourage members of the Corporation to become Official members and to improve the Referee core of the Corporation, the Corporation shall establish a Referee Incentive Program.

- (a) Each Official who attends the Referee Licensing course held in conjunction with the RSO Qualifying Tournament and attempts to certify or a NYTKL referee clinic , will receive a \$5 discount on the course fee.
- (b) This discount will not exceed the course fee and will not be applied for any other item or service.
- (c) This discount will not be carried over to the next year and is payable only from the NYTKL.

## **Article XVIII Hearings and Appeals**

**18.1 General.** NYTKL has exclusive jurisdiction to establish the procedures for hearings and appeals. This incorporates all such provisions, resolutions, rules and regulations of the NYTKL into these Bylaws by reference as though fully set forth herein.

**18.2 Statute of limitations.** Any charges brought against any member of the Corporation, must be filed within six months of the date of discovery.

**18.3**

**18.4**

**18.5 Bill of Rights.** The NYTKL, in accordance with the Articles herein, shall respect and protect the right of every individual who is eligible under national and applicable international amateur athletic rules and regulations to participate as an athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or other official representing the NYTKL competition, so long as such competition is conducted in compliance with the NYTKL requirements.