

# DELAWARE TECHNOLOGY STUDENT ASSOCIATION BY LAWS

*Adopted: Spring 1997*

## ARTICLE I. NAME

The official name of this organization shall be the Delaware Chapter of the Technology Student Association and may be referred to as "Delaware TSA."

## ARTICLE II. PURPOSES

Section 1. The general purposes of this organization are to:

1. Assist local school chapters in the growth and development of TSA.
2. Assist local school chapters in the development and leadership in social, economic, educational and community activities.
3. Promote increased the knowledge and understanding of our technological world.
4. Assist technology education students in the making of informed and meaningful career goals.

Section 2. The specific purposes of this organization are to:

1. Develop, through individual and teamwork, the ability of members to plan, organize, and use a variety of resources to solve problems.
2. Explore technology and develop an understanding of technological literacy.
3. Promote creativity and high standards of learning through curricular resource activities.
4. Provide career opportunity information pertaining to a broad range of occupations, including training requisites, working conditions, salaries or wages, and other relevant information.
5. Assist in providing guidance and counseling for students enrolled in technology education programs in making informed and meaningful career choices.
6. Expose students to the responsibility of representing members in local chapters..
7. Instill desirable work habits and attitudes toward the positive way of life in students and foster a deep respect for the dignity of work.
8. Prepare individuals for enrollment in advanced or highly skilled vocational and technical education programs.

### **ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION**

Section 1. The Delaware Chapter of the Technology Student Association is the organization of local school chapters in the state of Delaware that operate in accordance with a charter granted by TSA, Inc.

Section 2. Each local school delegation of TSA will be responsible for maintaining good standing with TSA, Inc., and will operate under the direction of the State Supervisor of Technology Education or an appointed representative.

Section 3. Membership in Delaware TSA shall be concurrent with membership in TSA, Inc. Each chapter will consist of individual members as described below:

- A. Active. Active members shall be students who are presently enrolled in or have been previously enrolled in technology education programs. An active member shall pay dues as established by the TSA, Inc., Board of Directors, and may be declared eligible to hold a local, state, or national office, to participate in national competitive events or projects, to serve as a national voting delegate, or to otherwise represent their delegations in National TSA affairs as may be approved by their delegations.
- B. Associate. Associate members shall be students who are enrolled in related fields of instruction with emphasis in technology education or who have been previously enrolled in technology education programs. An associate member shall pay dues as established by the TSA, Inc., Board of Directors. Associate members shall not vote or hold office.
- C. Alumni. Alumni members shall consist of those individuals who have completed an industrial arts/technology education program (have been former active or associate TSA members) and who have graduated from or left school. Alumni members shall pay dues as established by the TSA, Inc., Board of Directors. Alumni members shall not vote, compete in competitions, or hold office.
- D. Professional. Professional members are those individuals engaged in education, business, and industry who have interest in TSA and in the welfare of technology education. Professional members shall pay dues as established by the TSA, Inc., Board of Directors. Professional members shall not vote or hold office.
- E. Honorary/Honorary Life. Honorary/Honorary Life members may be individuals who have made or are making contributions to the advancement of technology education as may be approved by the TSA Executive Committee and shall be exempt from annual dues.

Section 4. Annual membership dues shall be determined by the TSA, Inc., Board of Directors. There shall be no dues charged by Delaware TSA. Members who have not paid the current dues prior to the Delaware TSA Annual Conference shall be automatically dropped from active membership in TSA.

Section 5. The membership year shall be August 1 to July 31.

## **ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS**

Section 1. The Delaware TSA officers shall consist of a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, sergeant-at-arms, reporter, historian, and parliamentarian. No individual may serve more than one term as a state officer in the same office. These officers and the Delaware TSA advisor(s) will be known collectively as the Executive Committee of Delaware TSA.

### Section 2. Duties

- A. President: It shall be the duty of the president of TSA to preside at all meetings; to make necessary committee appointments including the designation of a committee chairperson; to develop with the Executive Committee a program of work for the term of office; and to be available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of TSA.
- B. Vice-President: It shall be the duty of the vice-president to serve in any capacity as directed by the president; to accept the responsibility of the president as occasion may demand; to serve as chairperson of the Delaware TSA Membership committee; and to be available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of TSA.
- C. Secretary: It shall be the duty of the secretary to serve in any capacity as directed by the president; to record proceedings of all meetings; and to be available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of TSA.
- D. Treasurer: It shall be the duty of the treasurer to serve in any capacity as directed by the president; to keep records and see that financial obligations are met promptly; and to be available, as necessary, promoting the general welfare of TSA.
- E. Sergeant-at-Arms: It shall be the duty of the sergeant-at-arms to serve in any capacity as directed by the president; to assist in the preparation and control of the meeting place; in the event that the parliamentarian is not available, to assist in conducting all meetings according to parliamentary procedure as set forth by the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*; and to be available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of TSA.
- F. Reporter: It shall be the duty of the reporter to serve in any capacity as directed by the president; to prepare articles for TSA publications, professional magazines and journals, newspapers and other news media; to contact other association members concerning news items for publication; to coordinate the publication of Delaware TSA newsletters; and to be available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of TSA.
- G. Historian: It shall be the duty of the historian to serve in any capacity as directed by the president; to accumulate and keep up-to-date information on the history of the association; to prepare articles for TSA publications; to collect and catalog all document for the current TSA year; and to be available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of TSA.

- H. Parliamentarian: It shall be the duty of the parliamentarian to serve in any capacity as directed by the president; to assist in conducting all meetings according to parliamentary procedure as set forth by the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*; and to be available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of TSA.

Section 3. Qualifications for a Delaware TSA office

- A. Only an active member of TSA will be eligible to run for a state office. Students must have at least one year of high school eligibility remaining to run for office. A student elected as a state officer at the annual meeting may not hold a national TSA office concurrently with the term as state officer.
- B. A student must be a member of TSA for at least one year before seeking a state office. A TSA member must have served as an officer of the individual's local chapter to be qualified as a state officer candidate.

Section 4. Nominations

The Delaware TSA president shall appoint a credentials committee consisting of the state advisor(s); a state officer(s) not seeking re-election; and a local chapter advisor. This committee shall review all officer candidates and their qualifications and will submit to the voting delegates a slate of all candidates declared eligible for office. There will be no nominations from the floor.

Section 5. Elections

- A. Delaware TSA officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the voting delegates at the annual business meeting.
- B. Election of officers shall be by ballot vote.
- C. If there are more than two candidates for an office and a majority is not reached on the first ballot, the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped, and the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes on each succeeding ballot will be dropped until a majority is reached.

Section 6. The Delaware TSA Executive Committee may fill by appointment any vacancy occurring among the state officers for the un-expired term except the office of president, which shall be filled by the vice-president.

Section 7. Officers' terms will begin at the close of the annual conference banquet.

Section 8. Failure to fulfill the obligations of a state office without legitimate cause will result in the removal from office by the Delaware TSA executive committee.

Section 9. If no one applies for a particular office by the official deadline date for state officer candidate application, the Delaware TSA Executive Committee will appoint a qualified TSA member to fill the position.

## **ARTICLE V. MEETINGS**

Section 1. A State TSA Leadership Conference will be held each year with the time, date, and place designated by the Delaware State Supervisor of Technology Education or an appointed representative.

Section 2. Each chartered delegation in attendance at the annual meeting will be entitled to two voting delegates.

Section 3. Each current state officer in attendance at the annual meeting will be entitled to one vote.

Section 4. A majority of the registered voting delegates for the annual state leadership conference shall constitute a quorum.

## **ARTICLE VI. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Section 1. The TSA Executive Committee shall consist of the Delaware TSA officers and the Delaware TSA Advisor(s).

Section 2. Meetings can be requested by the president and must be approved by the Delaware TSA advisor(s).

Section 3. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum.

Section 4. The TSA Executive Committee shall appoint standing and special committees as deemed necessary.

## **ARTICLE VII. THE LOCAL TSA ADVISOR**

It is recommended that a technology education teacher serve as a chapter TSA advisor; however, in cases where there is no such interested teacher, a state certified educator may be appointed by the school's principal. The appointed advisor would have all the rights and privileges of a regular advisor as long as that chapter is in good standing.

## **ARTICLE VIII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall govern Delaware TSA in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the organization may adopt.

## **ARTICLE IX. EMBLEM AND COLORS**

Section 1. The TSA emblem is a rectangular shape with three parts. The middle section and largest part of the emblem contains the letters TSA in a very large, bold print. The letters are white on a blue background. Below these letters and about 1/3 the size, is the name of the association—Technology Student Association—in white letters on a red background. The top portion of the emblem is a red, rectangular shape, the same size as the bottom area. The word DELAWARE in white letters shall be centered in this top red section.

Section 2. The colors of TSA shall be scarlet (red), white, and blue (navy). Scarlet (red) represents the strength and determination of the technology education students and teachers to obtain their goal. White represents high standards, morals, and religious beliefs. Blue (navy) represents the sincerity of the technology education students and teachers in obtaining a greater knowledge of our technological world.

## **ARTICLE X. MOTTO AND CREED**

Section 1. The motto of the Technology Student Association will be "Learning to live in a technical world."

Section 2. The creed of the Technology Student Association will be:

I believe that Technology Education holds an important place in my life in the technical world. I believe there is a need for the development of good attitudes concerning work, tools, materials, experimentation, and processes of industry.

Guided by my teachers, artisans from industry, and my own initiative, I will strive to do my best in making my school, community, state, and nation better places in which to live.

I will accept the responsibilities that are mine. I will accept the theories that are supported by proper evidence. I will explore on my own for safer, more effective methods of working and living.

I will strive to develop a cooperative attitude and will exercise tact and respect for other individuals. Through the work of my hands and mind, I will express my ideas to the best of my ability.

I will make it my goal to do better each day the task before me, and to be steadfast in my belief in my God, and my fellow Americans.

## **ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS**

1. To amend these bylaws, the proposed amendment(s) must be submitted in writing to the President of Delaware TSA at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting.
2. The Delaware TSA executive committee will review all proposed amendments. All approved amendments will be submitted to the chapter delegates prior to the annual business meeting.
3. The proposed amendment(s) must be approved by two-thirds of the voting delegates present and voting at the annual meeting.
4. Each chartered delegation will be entitled to two votes for their chapter Delaware TSA State Advisor will be responsible for notifying in writing the chartered chapter delegations of adopted amendments within sixty (60) days of the annual meeting.

Amendments will become effective on July 1<sup>st</sup> following approval, unless a different time period is stipulated in the amendment.