Members of the Bylaw Committee used a) the most recent “best practices” template for writing bylaws provided by the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC), along with consulting advisors from the USOPC, b) the present USA Boccia Bylaws, and c) feedback from membership. These Bylaw Amendment Proposals were prepared and reviewed by a group of 11 members representing the USA Boccia committees. Thank you for taking your time to review the proposals. When you have questions or comments, please contact usaboccia@gmail.com, and a committee member will get back to you.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT CHANGE #1

ARTICLE THREE: Mission, Core Values and Purposes

This Amendment has no change to existing wording. It simply combines Articles 3 and 4 from the present bylaws and renames/repositions Article13 to become ARTICLE 4. These changes combine our organization’s philosophy and purpose sections while also aligning with the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC) template.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT CHANGE #2

ARTICLE Thirteen FOUR: Recognition as a High Performance Management Organization

Wording of this Amendment remains the same as in the present bylaws Section 13.1 with these exceptions/changes:

Corrects the name of the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act. (This Act states USA Boccia’s commitment to include athlete input at all levels of the organization and planning.)

#4 removes reference to organizational membership

Removes the paragraph vi. from present Bylaws, which referred to representation on the Board of Directors for any other amateur sports organization which governs the sport of Boccia. This section does not apply to USA Boccia.

Adds #12 which is from the USOPC template, including a paragraph directing that USA Boccia eligibility criteria aligns with the International organizations that govern the sport of Boccia (BISFed and IPC)

Finally, it states USA Boccia’s alignment with SafeSport policies as well as U.S. Anti-doping Agency (USADA) policies.
PROPOSED AMENDMENT CHANGE #3

ARTICLE FIVE: Membership.

This ARTICLE keeps the present bylaw wording saying members can vote at the Annual Assembly and that members maintain high standards. The changes remove the information in the current bylaws about affiliate memberships, since we do not offer these at this time. The Membership categories were taken from the USOPC template as follows:

1. **Athlete members.** Athlete members are those individuals who register as competitive athletes and are eligible for competition in Boccia.

2. **Coach members.** Coach members are those individuals who register as active coaches and who are certified as coaches by USA Boccia.

3. **Referee members.** Referee members are those individuals who register as active referees and who are certified regionally and nationally as referees by USA Boccia.

4. **Supporting members.** Supporting members are those individuals who register as supporting members and who are interested in the purpose, programs, aims and objectives of USA Boccia.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT CHANGE #4**

ARTICLE SIX: Dues and Membership Eligibility

Incorporates necessary SafeSport and USADA Anti-doping compliance procedures into ARTICLE SIX. The current paragraphs remain the same regarding membership and dues requirements as well as suspension and/or termination of USA Boccia membership.