

JOURNAL OF SPORTS LAW, POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

CONSTITUTION*

* Prepared by Manvendra Singh Jadon

Courtesy and Inspiration: **Nima Mersadi Tabari (IALS)**

ARTICLE I – NAME AND OBJECT

The name of this non-profit journal is the Journal of Sports Law, Policy and Governance (JSLPG). Its primary objective is to contribute to legal scholarship within the domain and regime of International Sports Law and Allied Issues (ISLAI) through offline and online set of publication in association with specific partners. (**Appendix-VI**). JSLPG comprises of four panels in total:

- a) Advisory Board (AB): Jurists, Acclaimed Academicians, Practitioners (Minimum 10 years of Experience)
- b) Executive Board (EB): Academicians, Practitioners and Corporate Professionals of repute.
- c) Editorial Board (EDB): Other Academics and Practitioners as per the decision of the Organizing Board.
- d) Student Board (SB): Undergraduate Law students and Post-Graduate Law students at the National Law Schools and other premier law schools all over the world.
- e) Organizing Board (OB): Members of the North East Students for the Furtherance of International Law (NESFIL) and other such members as nominated by a general meeting of the NESFIL or by the International Law Students Association (ILSA) Governing Board or as nominated by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of the National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam (NLUJAA) in consultation with the incumbent board members of the NESFIL.

ARTICLE II – ELECTIONS TO THE BOARD PANELS

SECTION 1. Election to the Board Panels.

- (a) The Advisory Board and Executive Board are permanent in nature.
 - (i) All AB and EB members term is to be governed by a rotation policy as laid down in the Constitution.
 - (ii) All the AB and EB members would hold their position for a period of three years after which One-Third members would retire as per their seniority and the vacant positions would be open to new board members.
 - (iii) For the purpose of the rotation policy, the term of AB and EB is three years from the publication of the first immediate issue after their induction.

Explanation: There would be no notice or call for applications for the vacant positions in the AB and the EB board. Nominations to the vacant positions in the AB and the EB board would be made at the sole discretion of the OB in consultation with the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of NLUJAA. The decision coming out of this consultation would be final and not open to any dispute.

(b) The membership of the JSLPG consists only of the Editorial Board, Student Board and other such panels not including the AB and the EB. All members are renowned academicians, litigators, corporate professionals, current or former staff of NLUJAA, fellows and students (Only for SB) in good standing with the NESFIL, ILSA and NLUJAA.

SECTION 2. JSLPG Academic Editors.

- a) Selection. The JSLPG (herein, the OB) appoints two Academic Editors from the staff of NLUJAA to the Editorial Board.

- b) Duties. The Academic Editors works closely with the dedicated EDB on the content and development of the journal.

ARTICLE III –EDITORIAL BOARD

SECTION 1. Composition of the Board.

The Editorial Board (the Board) consists of the JSLPG Academic Editors, the Editor-in-Chief, Deputy Editors and the Member Editors.

SECTION 2. Period of Office.

The Board takes office no later than the first week of the issue released in that particular period subsequent to their selection and serves no later than the last week of the final issue in the following year.

SECTION 3. Quorum and Voting Power.

The members of the Board have equal votes of equal weight on all matters. In the case of an impasse the Editor-in-Chief has the final decision. A quorum of the Board consists of at least three Editors.

SECTION 4. Editorial Selections.

A. Founding Board. The first Editorial Board (the Founding Board) of the JSLPG consists of the individuals as laid down in **Appendix IV**.

B. Election and Appointment. The selection of a new Board is conducted at a meeting called by the incumbent Editor-in-Chief by issuing a prior notice of 14 days to the OB. The Selection Meeting is called no later than the penultimate week of the issue being released before the term end of the preceding board and is held no later than the last week of the issue being released before the term end of the preceding board . There is no bar on re-election or re-appointment.

C. Eligibility. Election and appointment to the Board is limited to renowned academicians, litigators, corporate professionals, current or former staff of NLUJAA, fellows and students (Only for SB) in good standing with the NESFIL, ILSA and NLUJAA.

D. Method of Selection. Each candidate presents his/her programme for the furtherance of the goals of the JSLPG in an expression of Interest and providing there Curriculum Vitae to the Organizing Board. All such application would then be shortlisted by a panel consisting of at least one AB member and two EB member after which the shortlisted applicants would be able to represent themselves in elections. The Editor-in-Chief and Deputy Editors are elected by a simple majority of votes of the incumbent OB, EB and EDB present at the selection meeting (See **Appendix V** for further information). The candidate with the most votes is the Editor-in-Chief. The Editor-in-Chief elect after consultation with the new Deputy Editors and the incumbent OB, EB appoints the other Editors.

E. Vacancies. Vacancies on the Board are filled for the remainder of the unexpired term of the vacating Editor by a majority vote of the incumbent OB, EB and EDB Board.

SECTION 5. Duties.

The Editorial Board serves as the officers' body of the JSLPG. The Editorial Board must:

- a) accept submissions at their absolute discretion and assign to the appropriate editor for review
- b) ensure the integrity of the double blind peer review policy of JSLPG;
- c) obtain appropriate copyright agreements;
- d) promote the JSLPG in the legal academia;
- e) maintain relations with JSLPG and NLUJAA;

- f) supervise the work of the Member Editors, and;
- g) Arrange at least 2 Editors meetings if required (See **Appendix V** for further information) in each academic year.

Note: Duties in detail are mentioned in **Appendix III**.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBER EDITORS

SECTION 1. Selection.

All academicians and practitioners in good standing with JSLPG are eligible to become Member Editors. (See **Appendix IV** for details about who is serving in the first instance)

SECTION 2. Duties.

Member Editors are submission editors of the JSLPG and are assigned by the Board to edit submissions made to the JSLPG on specific subjects within their expertise. Member Editors must:

- a) be present in at least one of the Editors' Meetings held in each year if required,
- b) review the assigned submissions within the timeframe set by the Board, and;
- c) maintain the standards of the JSLPG blind review policy in the conduct of their duties.

SECTION 3. Term.

There is no limit on the term of office of a Member Editor.

SECTION 4. Voting.

The Member Editors do not have voting privileges except in the Selection Meeting.

SECTION 5. Impeachment.

An impeachment proceeding can be initiated against a Member Editor on an application presented by at least two editors and the said Member Editor may be subsequently removed by a simple majority of the Board only after serving a 14 days prior notice to the said Member Editor for filing a detailed reply in the editor's failure to perform the duties of the Member Editor.

ARTICLE V – SUBMISSIONS FOR PUBLICATION

SECTION 1. Scope.

The submissions made to the Journal must be based on issues revolving around sports law, policy and other allied areas. Content of articles must be suitable for readership among students, practitioners and academicians alike. Submissions using offensive language and defamatory references will be rejected. The details of the JSLPG Submissions Policy are addressed in the Submissions Guidelines.

SECTION 2. Copyright.

Unless otherwise indicated, each article, essay, comment, or other work published in the JSLPG is copyright (c) by its author(s). Also unless otherwise indicated, the authors and the journal grant permission to reproduce and distribute for non-profit educational uses material published in the journal, provided that:

- (a) the copied work is identified in accordance with the rules set forth in the current edition of The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation; and
- (b) proper notice of copyright is affixed to each copy.

For permission to reproduce and distribute any work published in the JSLPG for other purposes, contact the work's author(s). All such reproduction must identify the author(s), the Journal, the volume, the number of the first page, and the year of the work's publication in the Journal.

The Editorial Board must request a non-exclusive license agreement from each author. No submission to the JSLPG is published unless such an agreement has been received.

ARTICLE VI - AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Any member of either the AB, EB, EDB or OB may propose, in writing, amendments to the Constitution. Proposed amendments are submitted to the Editor in Chief and become effective if approved by a General Meeting of all the Boards excluding the Student Board and affirmed by the OB.

ARTICLE VII- COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENTS AND OTHER DISPUTES

- a) To ensure that, the submissions are not in violation of copyrights laws, the authors are required to obtain written permission for the use of any copyrighted material in the manuscript and the same must be communicated to the journal. In case of Copyright Infringement, the authors of the submitted manuscripts would be solely responsible for the litigation arising out of such violations of Intellectual Property Laws.
- b) In case of disputes arising out of Copyright Violations, the sole liability rests with the Author(s) of the disputed manuscript and no liability would arise for JSLPG.
- c) All other disputes are subject to local laws and jurisdiction.

ARTICLE VIII- STUDENT BOARD

SECTION 1. Selection.

All undergraduate or post-graduate Law students of premier law schools who are in good standing with the JSLPG (AB, EB, EDB, OB) is eligible to become a Student Editorial Member. (See **Appendix VII** for more specific details)

SECTION 2. Duties.

Duties and responsibilities of the various positions under the SB are elucidated in **Appendix VII**.

SECTION 3. Term.

There is no limit on the term of office of a Student Editor.

SECTION 4. Voting.

No voting powers for the Student Editorial Board members except in SB meetings.

SECTION 5. Impeachment.

An impeachment proceeding can be initiated against a Student Editor on an application presented by at least two student editors and the said Student Editor may be subsequently removed by a simple majority of the Student Editorial Board only after serving a 14 days prior notice to the said Student Editor for filing a detailed reply in the editor's failure to perform the duties.

Note: SB member's positions are not open for elections. Nominations to the SB would be carried out by the OB through an open 'Call for Applications' thereby following a detailed procedure as decided by the OB in consultation with the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of NLUJAA.

ARTICLE IX-GENERAL MEETING

- (a) A General Meeting of JSLPG would be held every year in the premises of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam or in an On-Line mode as decided by the OB or in any other manner as per the final decision of the OB and the Vice-Chancellor of NLUJAA.
- (b) Such a meeting would consist of the AB, EB, EDB, SB and the OB members.

- (c) Attendance of no less than one-third members of each of the Boards is required to convene and organize a General Meeting.
- (d) No member would be debarred or impeached from office only on the account of his absence from the General Meeting.
- (e) The venue of the General Meeting can be changed on an application to the OB by at least one-third members from any of the Boards excluding the SB adducing relevant reasons thereof.
- (f) A General Meeting can be called off by a simple majority of all Board Members(AB, EB, EDB, SB, OB) or for the paucity of financial resources or if it is not feasible to conduct such a Meeting.

ARTICLE X - VOTING POWERS AND RATIFICATION

All voting members carry equal vote wherein required. Ratified this day, 28th June 2017.

Appendix I

Peer-review guidance form for JSLPG

Article Title:

1. Please comment on the originality of the work:
2. Please comment of the quality of the research (the questions asked/the methodology/the scholarship):
3. Please comment on the use of secondary and primary literature:
4. Is this article worthy of inclusion in JSLPG?
5. If you feel that this article should be rewritten and resubmitted, what changes would you suggest?
6. Any additional comments or observations.

Appendix II

Second stage report for JSLPG

Article Title:

1. Has the article been sufficiently amended to merit inclusion in the JSLPG? (See original reports/author's statement of amendments).
2. If you feel that this article should be further rewritten and resubmitted, what changes would you suggest?
3. Any additional comments or observations:

Appendix III

Editorial Board Roles and Responsibilities

We need our editors and reviewers to be key figures in the field of sports law and to have some experience of publishing articles and papers. A reviewer's comment decides the acceptance or

rejection of an article so they play an important role in peer review process. All the members are requested to test out the manuscripts submitted to them without any bias to increase the quality of our journal. There is no hard and fast rule to analyse a manuscript and it depends upon the worthiness, quality and originality. While verifying the manuscript you have to go through following points.

1. Assist in creating a list of other experts who will undertake review.
2. Detailed examination and relevance of the manuscript as per author guidelines.
3. Careful examination of purpose and objectives of the work carried out.
4. Correctness of the conclusions and recommendations along with up to-date references.
5. Copyediting and proofreading of the manuscripts in accordance with publishing standards especially with grammar, punctuation and spelling.
6. Coverage areas of the manuscript in relevance with the scope of journal.
7. You have to give at least (minimum) six suggestions based on the structure of the manuscript. In general there is no limit for the maximum inputs.
8. You have complete authority to accept or reject manuscripts but final decision in case of sensitive titles about the inclusion or exclusion from the publications remains in the hands of Editor-In-Chief.

Appendix IV

Staff (To be Expanded)

List of Advisors associated with Journal for Sports Law, Policy and Governance (Non-Exhaustive)

- Patron In Chief, *Hon'ble Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court, Shri Ajit Singh*
- Prof. **Dr J.S.Patil**, *Vice Chancellor, National Law University, Assam*
- **Niloy Dutta**, *Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India*

List of Executive Members associated with Journal for Sports Law, Policy and Governance (Non-Exhaustive)

- **Abantee Dutta**, *Cofounder & Director, Studio Nilima*
- **Nandan Kamath**, *Founder, LawNK*
- **Kaushik Moitra**, *Former Partner, TMT Law Practice, Partner, ArtheLaw*
- **Vidushpat Singhania**, *Partner, Krida Legal, Author, Law of Sports in India*

List of Editorial Members associated with Journal for Sports Law, Policy and Governance (Non-Exhaustive)

- **Satchit Bhogle**, *Associate, Hariani & Co., Founder, Indian Sports Law Blog*
- **Shivam Singh**, *Counsel, Supreme Court of India*

- **Chiradeep Basak**, Erasmus Mundus Fellow, Assistant Professor, National Law University, Assam

Appendix V

Mode of Meetings

Physical Meeting: A General or Selection meeting can be convened physically in any of the venues as decided by the board members through the procedure laid down in the Constitution.

On-Line Meeting: A General or Selection meeting can be convened online through a Conference Call on portals like Skype, Google or through any other online medium as per the feasibility, time-availability and assent of the Board Members.

Note: Voting in On-line Meeting would be carried out through casting a direct vote in a secret ballot on web based voting platforms such as but not limited to Election Runner, Easy Polls or Doodle etc.

Appendix VI

Partners, Sponsors and Associates

1. Partnerships, Associations and Sponsorship are a matter of internal policy of NESFIL, ILSA and NLUJAA.
2. All such alliances would be govern by the provisions of the agreements entered between the concerned parties thereupon.

Appendix VII

Student Editorial Board

A) Executive Board

1. Managing Editor (1 place)

Description

Managing Editors serve the function of managing the progress and maintenance of the Journal.

They are therefore expected to serve a number of different tasks, including but not limited to¹:

- Working alongside the Editor-in-Chief and Editorial Panel to oversee management of the Journal, the assigned editorial team, and the administration.

- Updating and developing the JSLPG Law Journal Website, Facebook page and LinkedIn page. (All these would be functional in some time.)

¹ Additional responsibilities in excess to the listed ones may be given to Managing Editor at the discretion of the Organizing Board in consultation with the Executive Board, Editorial Board and the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of the National Law University and Judicial Academy.

- Developing the Journal's Advisory and Executive Board.
- Communicating with law firms and other organizations regarding matters such as sponsorship invitations on behalf of the journal.
- Responsible for the publishing of journal Issues, which entails publicizing for article submissions, organizing all student editorial meetings, ensuring student editors are trained, creating and leading student editorial teams and publishing the Journal Issue on the platforms as detailed out by the Organizing Board.
- Together with the Executive Board. Managing Editors may vote (at the discretion of the Organizing Board) on decisions to be made on behalf of the Journal. They may also serve as a third reader when reviewing article submissions for selection.

Requirements

- a) Must be a Postgraduate or Masters or Doctoral student. Students having a keen interest and knowledge in Sports Law will be given preference.
- b) Must demonstrate leadership skills and the ability to work in a team.
- c) Must demonstrate the ability to adapt to different tasks.
- d) It is strongly advised that applicants can efficiently use journal management websites and similar portals.
- e) It is strongly advised applicants are committed and passionate about the Journal, as Managing Editors selected in their penultimate year of study will be given preference to continue their roles for the following academic year.
- f) Experience with website design, social media portals or publishing is favorable.

B) Editorial Board

1. Senior Editor (3 places)

Description

Senior Editors are primarily responsible² for ensuring the content of the article, as well as its citations, are in conformity with Bluebook Citation Format. In addition to fixing grammatical, punctuation, and spelling errors, Senior Editors also format each article. They are also responsible for overseeing sentence and language construction errors in the articles.

Requirements

- a) No restrictions on the applicant's year of study. 4th and 5th year Law students as well as Postgraduate Law students will be given priority. Students having a keen interest and knowledge in Sports Law will be given preference.
- b) Must demonstrate the ability to work in a team.

² Additional responsibilities in excess to the listed ones may be given to Senior Editors at the discretion of the Organizing Board in consultation with the Executive Board, Editorial Board, Managing Editor and the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of the National Law University and Judicial Academy.

- c) It is strongly advised that applicants are familiar with legal writing, especially Bluebook form of citation.
- d) Familiarity with legal databases (e.g. Westlaw, LexisNexis and Hein Online) is favorable.
- e) Experience working on law journals/reviews or similar experience is favorable.

2. Associate Editor (approximately 6 places)

Description

Associate Editors primarily focus on pulling each source that corresponds to each footnote during the editorial process. They review, check, and confirm citations for technical and substantive accuracy.

Associate Editors work closely with the Editorial Board, Senior Editors and the Managing Editor of the JSLPG to edit and produce the journal. Typically this will involve proofreading articles, checking footnotes, and verifying all sources cited by the authors. Student Editors gain valuable experience in high-level academic writing in law and develop excellent analytical and legal skills. They also get the opportunity to work with the Academic editors and other law students in the production of an academic publication.

Requirements

- a) No restrictions on the applicant's year of study. Junior undergraduate students pursuing Law will be preferred. (First Year UG Law Students would not be allowed)
- b) Must demonstrate the ability to work in a team.
- c) It is advised that applicants are familiar with legal writing, especially Bluebook form of citation.
- d) Familiarity with legal databases (e.g. Westlaw, LexisNexis and Hein Online) is favorable.

C) Blog Editors (Applications open in October)

1. Senior Editor (1 place) and Editor (1 place)

Description

This year from October, the JSLPG will concurrently run a blog site which aims to post relevant legal issues and articles in areas of interests to the Sports Law Community and Sports Law students. The blog editors will be responsible for overlooking submissions to the blog. Aside from editing for grammar, spelling and general mistakes, the editors must also perform basic fact checking and source pulling in articles to ensure they are of the best quality.

Requirements

- a) Must be a 3rd, 4th or 5th year B.A. LLB. or LLB or LLM or Masters Students. PhD candidates are also welcome to apply. Postgraduate Law students will be given preference.
- b) Must demonstrate the ability to work in a team.
- c) It is advised that applicants have previous experience writing or editing posts on the Internet, such as Articles, Blog Posts, or Opinion-Editorials.
- d) It is advised that applicants have experience with web design.