

- A. **GENERAL CONSTRUCTION.** Generally, the rules of TAPPS shall be broadly construed to give reasonable effect to the intentions, purposes, and objectives of TAPPS. However, rules involving eligibility, rules involving violations, and rules involving penalties shall be strictly construed.
- B. **MANDATORY, PERMISSIVE, DIRECTORY, FACTUAL.** Rules are mandatory if the word “shall” is written; permissive if the word “may” is written, directory if the word “should” is written; and state factual or expected events of past, present, or future times by writing those tenses of the verb “to be” or in the present tense.
- C. **TAPPS CONSTITUTION PREVAILS OVER CONTEST RULES.** Where any term or section of the Contest Rules is found to be inconsistent with the Constitution, the Constitution shall prevail and apply and the remaining terms and sections of the Contest Rules shall continue in effect.
- D. **STATE LAW PREVAILS OVER TAPPS CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS AND CONTEST RULES.** Where any term or section of the TAPPS Constitution, By-Laws and Contest Rules is found to be inconsistent with the laws of the State of Texas, the laws shall prevail and the remaining terms and actions of the TAPPS Constitution, By-Laws and Contest Rules shall continue in effect.
- E. **EFFECT OF TITLES.** The titles appearing throughout the TAPPS Constitution, By-Laws and Contest Rules are for descriptive purposes only.

(Sections 48-51 reserved for expansion.)