

# **HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS ASSOCIATION OF CELTIC GATHERINGS, INC. BYLAWS**

## Article I

The name of this Organization shall be Highlands and Islands Association of Celtic Gatherings, Inc., hereinafter referred to as "Association".

## Article II

The objectives of this Association shall be:

- A. To put on the annual Scottish Highland Games & Celtic Festival as an educational public event on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and promote other Celtic Festivals and Highland games throughout the country.
- B. To put on the annual Scottish Highland Games & Celtic Festival as an educational public event on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and promote other Celtic Festivals and Highland games throughout the country.
- C. To promote community knowledge of Celtic Culture and participate in other community events.
- D. To promote the Celtic Culture through education.

## Article III

The structure of the Association is two-fold: Administrative and Games. It shall be built on the relationship of Members and Executive Board.

## Article IV

The POWERS of the Association shall be to:

- A. Incorporate as an Association for benevolent, educational, fraternal., or beneficial non-profit purposes
- B. To adopt insignias, seals and ritual
- C. To publish bulletins or magazines
- D. To acquire and maintain headquarters
- E. To employ legal counsel and other assistance
- F. To change the name, as necessary
- G. To establish fees and dues
- H. And to do all things necessary to further the purpose and objective of the Association in an efficient, economical manner as decided upon and approved by the Executive Board and the General Membership.

## Article V

- A. Classification of Members  
Membership in the Association shall consist of active and honorary members.

1. Active members shall consist of all current dues paid members.
2. Honorary membership may be bestowed by the Association , to non-members who have given outstanding service to the Association or to honor an individual, as chosen and voted upon by the active membership.

#### B. Admission to Membership

1. Active membership shall be open to all persons interested in the aims and objectives of the Association, upon invitation, by an active member.
2. Honorary membership may be may be extended after nomination by an active member and vote of the Active Membership present at a regular meeting.

### Article VI

#### Dues:

Dues will be reviewed annually at any General Membership Meeting. Any changes will voted upon at the next General Membership Meeting. Changes in dues must be adopted by a majority vote of the Active Membership present, will become effective 60 days following adoption. Annual dues become due on the member's anniversary date.

### Article VII

#### A. Elections:

Voting is limited to those active members on the date of the election. Voting eligibility will be verified by the Treasurer. All nominees must also be active members at time of nomination and maintain their active status for the duration of their term, if elected. Only active members may make a nomination.

#### B. General Elections

1. Nominations will be made from the floor at the August General Membership Meeting and again at the September General Membership Meeting, after which they shall be closed, and the election held, by paper ballot. A show of hands vote may be substituted with the consent of all active members present.

2. Terms of office shall be from January 1 through December 31 of any given year.

#### Special Elections

Nominations will be made from the floor and the election held by a show of hands.

### Article VIII

#### Elected Officers:

The elected officers shall be: President, Games Chief, President-elect, Games Chief-elect, Treasurer, Trustee, and Recording Secretary. All terms are for one year. During this one year the President-elect will act as Vice-President and the Games Chief-elect will act as Assistant Games Chief. At the conclusion of that one year term the President-elect assumes the office of President, and the Games Chief-elect becomes the Games Chief.

#### Trustees:

Three trustees will be elected to staggered three year terms. One position will be filled at each annual election of officers.

If for any reason, an officer cannot complete the term of office, the office will be filled through a special election. A position filled by special election will be for the balance of the term of that office.

### Article IX

#### Executive Board:

The Executive Board shall consist of all current elected officers and trustees.

The Past President and Past Games Chief will serve as non-voting members for one year.

The presiding officer may vote only when required to break a tie vote.

### Article X

#### Meetings and Attendance:

##### A. Meetings:

1. Monthly general membership meetings will be held.
2. A quorum will consist of the active members present.
3. Executive Board Meetings are to be made by the President.
4. A quorum will consist of the executive board members present.
5. Games meetings shall be at the call of the Games Chief and the Games Chief is to make a report at the General Membership Meeting.
6. All meetings shall include minutes of the previous meeting and current financial statements.

##### B. Attendance

Absence from (3) consecutive Monthly General Membership meetings, without excuse deemed valid by the President, shall be construed as a resignation from any elected office or other position held in the Association.

C. All meetings shall be governed by "Robert's Rules of Order", when not in conflict with the Bylaws of the Association.

#### Article XI

Dissolution of the Association:

If, for any reason, the Association is dissolved, all liquid assets will be donated to an organization which promotes Celtic Culture.

#### Article XII

These Bylaws supersede all previous bylaws of the Association. These bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the active membership present at a regularly scheduled general meeting. All proposed amendments must be made available to the membership, in writing, no less than 10 days prior to a vote being taken.

Highlands & Islands Association of Celtic Gatherings, Inc. Bylaws