

CONSTITUTION OF THE NASHVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC.

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Nashville Philatelic Society, Inc.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

Section 1. The purpose of this Society shall be primarily educational. It shall seek to educate both its members and the public about philately and matters of general knowledge related to philately. It shall foster friendship among philatelists and assist its members in philatelic pursuits.

Section 2. The Society shall at all times maintain an attitude strictly non-sectarian, non-partisan, and non-sectional, nor shall it take any part in political issues or affairs of state. No resolutions of such a nature shall be placed before the Society for consideration.

Section 3. The Society shall at all times endeavor to maintain its status as a tax-exempt, non-profit organization, recognized as such by the Department of Internal Revenue and the State of Tennessee.

- (A) The purposes for which the Nashville Philatelic Society, Inc., is organized are exclusively educational within the meaning of section 501-(c)-(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law.
- (B) Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the Society shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501-(c)-(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law.
- (C) In the event of dissolution, the residual assets of the organization will be turned over to one or more organizations which themselves are tax-exempt under any prior or future Internal Revenue Code, or to the federal, state; or local government for exclusive public purposes.

In the event of such dissolution, residual assets will be given to the American Philatelic Society, provided that organization is recognized for such purposes under the Internal Revenue Code at the time.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

This Society shall not practice discrimination in reference to age, race, sex, or creed. Any person of good character, interested in philately, shall be eligible for membership in accordance with the procedures outlined in the bylaws. There shall be the following classifications of membership:

- (A) Regular members - persons aged 18 and above.
- (B) Junior members - persons under age 18, with the consent of their parents. Junior members shall have the right to vote on all matters.

- (C) Life members - persons who have been members of the Society for 25 years and have reached the age of 65. Life members shall be regular members without being required to pay dues.
- (D) Honorary members - persons who have performed meritorious service to the Society or philately, after being recommended by the Executive Board and approved by the members. Honorary members may not vote or hold office and are not required to pay dues.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the Society shall be: President, First Vice-president, Second Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, Delegate-at-large, and Junior Vice-president.

These officers shall constitute the Executive Board of the Society. All shall be regular members except for the Junior Vice-president, who shall be a junior member.

Section 2. The officers of the Society shall serve terms of two-years, from January 1 through December 31 of the following year.

Section 3. Regular election of officers shall take place at the last meeting in November, in election year, according to the procedures outlined in the bylaws.

ARTICLE V: MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular meetings of the Society shall be semi-monthly, on the second and fourth Monday evenings of each month, except in December when only one meeting - the Christmas party on the second Monday - will convene.

Section 2. The time and place of the meetings will be decided by the members after recommendation by the Executive Board.

Section 3. The regular meeting on the fourth Monday of November, each year, shall be the Society's annual meeting.

Section 4. Special meetings may be called by majority of the Executive Board or by the petition of 6 regular members. Announcement of a special meeting must be mailed to all the Society's membership at least 14 days in advance of the meeting and must indicate the nature of business that will be conducted.

Section 5. At any meeting for the Society, the presence of 15 regular members shall be required as a quorum for the conducting of business.

ARTICLE VI: AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this constitution shall be made only in accord with the following provisions. Proposed amendments shall be submitted to the members at a regular meeting, then announced to all the members by way of the monthly reminder, then voted on at a meeting which is at least two meetings after most members have received the announcement. The vote of two thirds of the members present and voting shall be required for amendment.

BYLAWS OF THE NASHVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC.

NAME

Section 1. In addition to its official name, required in all formal and legal usage, the Society may also be unofficially referred to, for the general public and media, as "The Nashville Stamp Club."

MEMBERSHIP

Section 2. Applications for membership shall be submitted to the Society's secretary, accompanied by annual dues as defined below; they shall be read in two successive regular meetings of the Society and voted on by the members after second reading.

Section 3. Annual membership dues, covering the period January through December, shall be \$10.00, \$4.00 for junior members. When a person joins after the first quarter of the year, the dues will be reduced accordingly: \$7.50 (\$3.00 juniors) during the second quarter; \$5.00 (\$2.00 juniors) during the third quarter; and \$2.50 (\$1.00 juniors) during the last quarter. Dues for applications received during the annual stamp show will not be prorated.

Members who were 65 years of age as of September 12, 1988, and had been recognized as "life members" free from the responsibility of paying dues, are not required to pay dues. Those in this category who do not qualify under the terms of Article III-C of the Constitution are encouraged to contribute the annual dues.

Section 4. Reminders that annual dues are owed shall be published in the Society's monthly reminder at least once each during November, December, and January each year. Members who have not paid dues by January 31 will be dropped without further notice.

Section 5. Members who sponsor 5 new members during a given calendar year will be exempt from dues during the following year. A member entitled to such exemption shall present a written list of the names he has sponsored to the secretary during the period that reminders of dues are being published.

Section 6. Any member who pays \$250 dues within a calendar year shall be paid up for the balance of his or her natural life, with all the privileges of membership. Such funds shall be invested in an interest-bearing account, and only the interest shall be used for regular expenses of the Society.

Section 7. A member who acts in such a way as to reflect discredit on the Society may be dropped by recommendation of the Executive Board and majority vote of the other members present and voting at a regular meeting. When the Executive Board plans to recommend dropping a member from the Society, it shall notify that member and give the member opportunity to speak in his own behalf at the meeting before the vote to drop. The attempt to conduct business in the name of the Society, without the expressed authority of the Society, shall be considered one of such grounds for dropping a member.

MEETINGS

Section 8. The suggested order of business at a regular meeting of the Society shall be:

- Call to order
- Reading and approval of the minutes
- Introduction of visitors
- Reading of applications for membership
- Door prizes
- Communications and announcements
- Committee reports
- Old business
- New business
- Adjournment for program.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 9. The President shall preside at all meetings; appoint committees not otherwise provided for by the members; and serve as ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating committee.

Section 10. The First Vice-president shall serve as program chairman for the Society, preside in the absence of the President, and perform such other duties as assigned by the President.

Section 11. The Second Vice-president shall serve as Director of the Society's annual stamp show, preside in the absence of both the President and First Vice-president, and perform such other duties as assigned by the President.

Section 12. The Secretary shall record the minutes of the meetings, maintain the Society's general records, handle correspondence addressed to the Society or as directed by the Society, receive dues and turn them over to the Treasurer, maintain the Society's membership list, prepare membership cards for all members, and perform such other duties as assigned by the President.

Section 13. The Junior Vice-president shall attempt to maintain contact with junior members of the Society and represent the interests of junior members at all meetings of the Executive Board and the Society.

Section 14. The Delegate-at-large shall attempt to represent the concerns of all members who are not officers at all meetings of the Executive Board.

Section 15. The Treasurer will receive, hold, and expend all Society funds as authorized by the Society, keep an orderly record of all receipts and expenditures, and provide a quarterly report--with copies for all members present--of all funds received and disbursed, in appropriate categories, since the previous report, and reconciled with the previous and new balances. At the end of each calendar year, the President of the Society shall appoint a committee of three members to audit the Treasurer's records and report to the Society.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 16. Before regular election of officers, a nominating committee of five members shall be named by the Society at its last regular meeting in September of the election year. That committee shall nominate one member for each office, announcing the nominations at the last regular meeting in October. The names of the nominees shall be published and mailed to the members before the first meeting in November, and the election shall take place during the last meeting in November. Current officers shall not serve on the nominating committee, nor shall the nominating committee nominate any of its members for office.

Section 17. Regular election shall be by secret ballot, with paper ballots prepared in advance by the chair of the nominating committee and providing space for others nominated from the floor. Ballots shall be counted by a committee of three members, named by the President, who have not been nominated for office.

Section 18. Members who can not be present for the elections shall be invited to submit absentee ballots, listing each office and the person voted for. These ballots shall be mailed to the Society's official address inside sealed envelopes marked "Election Ballot" and signed, the return address, on the outside. These envelopes shall remain unopened until delivered by the Secretary to the Committee that counts the ballots during the election. The committee shall ensure, before opening the envelopes that the signee is eligible to vote, and then shall open the envelopes and withdraw the ballots without associating them with the names of the persons voting by absentee ballot.

Section 19. In the event of a vacancy in any office between regular elections, the Executive Board shall serve as a nominating committee. The name of the nominee shall be announced, and published in the monthly reminder, at least one meeting before the election.

Section 20. Any officer may be removed from office, for sufficient cause, only after the recommendation of the majority of the other members of the Executive Board and the vote of the majority of those present and voting at a regular or special meeting.

ANNUAL STAMP SHOW

Section 21. For the general direction and oversight of the Society's annual stamp show the Society's Second Vice-president shall chair a Stamp Show Committee to Include himself and five additional members whom he shall appoint.

Section 22. The Stamp Show Committee shall make the decisions for the annual show. All contracts entered into and expenditures shall be approved by a two-thirds majority of the Committee.

Section 23. After the annual show, the Treasurer shall give the Society a detailed report of all income and expenditures. For this purpose, the Treasurer shall receive a detailed accounting of all expenditures, with receipts, and a detailed accounting of all income, including an itemized list of what was rented by each dealer and the amount received.

DISBURSEMENTS

Section 24. Routine expenses less than \$100 may be paid by the Treasurer, upon approval of the President, provided they are necessary for activities approved by the Society: these may include long distance calls, postage, printing, office supplies, rent, mileage for trips over 50 miles one way, equipment rental, and the like.

Section 25. The Treasurer shall also disburse funds for expenses of the annual stamp show, provided the expenses have been authorized according to the provisions of the bylaws for the Stamp Show Committee.

Section 26. All other purchases and expenses shall not be paid for except by vote of the Society.

PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 27. Robert's Rules of Order, Revised shall govern the conduct of business in matters where applicable and not in conflict with any provision of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society.

AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

Section 28. These bylaws may be amended by majority vote of those present and voting at any regular or special meeting, provided announcement has been made at least two regular meetings prior to the vote and published in the monthly reminder which most of the members have received in advance of the vote.

Section 29. These bylaws shall be reviewed no less than once every three years.

STANDING RULES OF THE NASHVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC.

1. Members shall not speak on any question more than twice, and for no longer than five minutes each time.
2. Except upon the invitation of the members of the Society, or the program chair, no other person shall address this Society.
3. When the business meeting of the Society begins, all trading in stamps shall cease and remain inactive until after the program.
4. No person who is not a member of the Society shall be permitted to display or sell merchandise.

Revision history:
dues change 2020
minor typo edits 5/26