## FINAL DRAFT \#3 BY-LAWS

## CLAN CRAWFORD ASSOCIATION

## REVISED March 23-28, 2024

## ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the organization shall be:
CLAN CRAWFORD ASSOCIATION (AKA) THE HOUSE OF CRAWFORD
And shall hereafter in these By-Laws be called the ASSOCIATION.

## ARTICLE II: REGISTERED AGENT

The registered agent of the Association is:
URS Agents, LLC
2005 E 2700 S STE 200 Salt Lake City, UT 84109
A change in the registered Agent is by two thirds $(2 / 3)$ vote of the EXCOM, and subject to ratification by majority vote of the Board, at the next meeting. The Board shall amend this Article to reflect such change. The President of the Association, as the Chief Executive, will be responsible for ensuring that the treasurer registers the new agent with the appropriate state Department of Commerce.

## ARTICLE III: PURPOSES OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Association may engage in any lawful act or activity for which corporations may be organized under the "Clan Crawford Association," subject to the following purposes, and is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes.
(1) The making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code,
(2) The participation in and encouragement of other legal entities to collect, preserve, and distribute surname history and artifacts,
(3) The perpetuation of the Crawford surname traditions, customs, and culture, and
(4) The global promotion and development of social contacts of Association members, as described in Article XZIII.

## ARTICLE IV: UNITED STATES INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE (IRS)

The Association will file with the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization. No part of the net earnings of the Association shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, officers, or other persons, except that the Association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article III hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the Association shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Association shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office, foreign or domestic. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the Association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

## ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP

There are threefour types of members who can vote: Registered, Full,Senior, and Life Members. There are three types of members who cannot vote or hold office. They are Associate, Honorary, and Junior. The criteria are listed below.

## Section 1. Types of Membership

Registered Member - On record with the Secretary. Has full voting rights and may hold office within the Association. A registered member has Crawford as surname by birth, by marriage, or legal adoption.

Full Member - Can vote and may hold office. Is a Crawford by descent through either parent by birth or legal adoption.

Family Membership- The adults can vote as Registered or Full members if qualified and any children under the age of 18 Would be a Junior Member.

Associate Member - Cannot vote or hold office. An individual accepted as a member by the Association who is not of Crawford descent. Would include individuals wanting access to clan archives for the purposes of research.

Honorary Member - Cannot hold office but may be invited to vote on specific issues. May be granted to a non-Crawford who has honored the House of Crawford or rendered outstanding service to the Clan or Association, by election of the Board.

Junior Member - Cannot vote or hold office. A Crawford or descendant who is under 18 years of age.

Senior Member- A member in good standing over the age of sixtytwo and under the age of eighty-five. Senior Members can vote and may hold office.

Life Member - Can vote and may hold office. May be either a registered member or a full member. Additional refinement as a Life Full Member or Life Registered Member is permitted. Registered or Full member of Clan Crawford Association, who attain the age of eighty-five, shall be granted Life Membership in Clan Crawford Association. New members, who are eighty-five when they join Clan Crawford Association, shall also be entitled to a Life Membership.

## Section 2: Annual Dues

Annual dues for membership of the Association are to be established by the Board.
a. These are to be reviewed periodically and revised as suggested by the needs of the Association.
b. Differing dues may be determined by the various categories of membership.
c. A family rate may be established with different privileges for the individual members of the family according to age and category of membership.
d. Honorary members shall be exempt from dues.

Membership renewal will be due on the anniversary of their initial date of membership in Clan Crawford.

## Article VI: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Provisions for regulation of the internal affairs of the association are as provided in this Article.

## Section 1. Board Composition:

a. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the Regional Directors and the members of the Executive Committee (EXCOM) and hereafter referred to as the Board.
b. The Regional Directors shall be composed of representatives elected by the dues paying members of each of the internationally recognized regions.
c. Regions are based on equal divisions of Association membership and subject to alteration by the Board to represent changing Association membership demographics and international representation. The current regions can be found on the CCA Website.
d. Regional Directors and their Alternates shall be elected for terms of three (3) years. Successive terms are permitted.
e. Each region has only one vote rendered by the Director or the Alternate.
f. The office of a regional director shall become vacant if he or she dies or resigns, or by determination of the Board should a Director not participate in two annual meetings in a row. The Alternate Regional Director shall assume their duties until the next election.
g. Occasionally ad hoc members may be designated by the Executive Committee to the Board of Directors, such as an additional vice president, for the purpose of performing certain specific needed
tasks for a specified duration. These appointments are subject to ratification by the Board of Directors.
h. The Chair of the Board is to be elected by and from the members of the new Board at each annual meeting in January.

1. The Chair of the Board presides over the meetings of the Board, following parliamentary procedure.
2. At the close of each fiscal year, the Chair of the Board shall require the Treasurer to compile last year's financial report of all receipts and warrants. He/She shall distribute the report to all the Board members for discussion and internal review at the next Annual Meeting of the Board.
3. The Chair shall oversee all amendments to the By-Laws.

## Section 2: Duties of the Regional Directors

a. Regional Directors shall participate in Board meetings and ensure that their regional members are kept informed of Board actions.
b. The duties of the Reegional Directors are to represent the interests as stated in Article III Purpose, and in Section 3 of this Article of the Association at a regional level so that the committees activities and outcomes are represented and communicated to each region.
c. Regional Directors shall in turn represent the members within their geographic area to the Association.
d. The Rregional Ddirectors shall, where possible, actively engage with local members to promote those articles of the Association to further develop and increase clan social and global interests, as outlined by the said articles here within.
e. They shall work to establish clan tents as an Association presence at highland games within their region and when feasible hold regional gatherings at a selected location.
f. They shall encourage and identify local Crawfords participating in highland games, dances, local Crawford history and historic sites.
g. They shall mentor and encourage others to become Regional Directors in the Association.

## Section 3: Duties of the Board of Directors

a. Subject to limitations of the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws of the Association, State of Utah Corporate Law Title 16 Chapter 6a, and any applicable state and federal laws, regulations, and judicial findings, the Board of Directors shall control the business affairs and manage the property of the Association.
b. All powers of the Association shall be exercised by and under the authority of the Board of Directors hereinafter referred to as the "Board."
c. The Board shall have the power to adopt uniform rules for the operation of the Association in fulfilling its stated purpose.
d. The Board shall approve all contracts and extraordinary payments and shall have full power to decide all questions not determined by the Articles of Incorporation of the Association or by these By-Laws.

## Section 4: Action Without Meeting

Any action by the Board may be taken without a meeting of a quorum of members of the Board, individually or collectively by consent in writing to this action. Writing shall include electronic media, but the Secretary shall certify it. For a written consent to be valid, a minimum majority greater than one half ( $1 / 2$ ) of all Board members must agree with this action. Such written consent shall be entered into the minutes of the proceedings of the next meeting of the Board.

## Section 5: Compensation

No Director or Officer shall receive compensation for their services.

## Section 6: Resignation

A Regional Director may resign effective upon giving written notice to the President unless the notice specifies a later time for the effectiveness of such resignation.

## Section 7: Removal

Any Regional Director may be removed at any time, with or without-cause (e.g., nonpayment of dues), by the affirmative vote of a minimum two-
thirds (2/3) majority of the Board attending the Board meeting or voting by proxy. or by the affirmative vote of a minimum two-thirds majority of all the Board in a written action. See Article VII Section 4c.

## Section 8: Replacement

If a region loses its Regional Director for any reason, the Alternate will replace the resigned Director. If the Alternate resigns, the position may be left vacant until an appropriate member of the Association and region is identified to fill it. Within thirty (30) days the President, in consultation with the ExCom, should name a temporary replacement for the region. If the time until the next elections is more than $50 \%$ of the total time, new elections may be decided upon by the ExCom to chair the effort.

## Section 9: Inability to Function as a Body

Should the Board come to a time when it is unable to function effectively for the governance of the business of the Association, the Board may make the determination by majority vote to dissolve the Board and to select a new Board and its Officers. The Board shall have the power to appoint three trustees to manage the affairs of the Association until a new Board is elected.

## ARTICLE VII: OFFICERS

## Section 1: Delegation of Authority

For transacting the business of this Association during the intervals between the meetings of the Board, the President, Vice Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer, shall constitute the Executive Committee, with full authority to act on behalf of the Association, subject to Board approval. The Executive Committee hereafter in these By-Laws is referred to as the EXCOM. The EXCOM cannot function as the Board and approve its own actions.

Provisions for the conduct of day-to-day affairs of the Association are as provided in this Article.
Section 2: Officers

The Officers of this Association shall be a President, twoz Vice Presidents, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The term of office is established at three (3) years. No person shall hold more than one office at a time.

## Section 3: Purpose

Officers of the Association shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Association (EXCOM). They shall be voting members of the Board along with the Regional Directors. These officers shall conduct the day-to-day business of the Association and provide oversight of activities conducted by its membership in its name.

## Section 4: Duties of Officers

a. President. Subject to the control of the Board, the President is the chief executive officer of the Association. He/she shall:

1. Have general supervision, direction, and control of the business and affairs of the Association, delegating duties at his/her discretion.
2. Have other such powers and duties as the Board may prescribe from time to time.
3. Recommend committee chairpersons and select the newsletter editor with approval of the Board.
4. Represent Clan Crawford Association to the public at large and may appoint another member of the Board to represent him/her.
5. May appoint assistants should he/she deems the Association needs them, pending official ratification by the Board.
6. Convenes the Board in consultation with the Board Chair quarterly as established by the Association By-Laws, or at his/her discretion should it be deemed necessary.
b. Vice Presidents: The Vice Presidents of this Association shall:
7. Have powers and duties as the Board may prescribe from time to time.
8. In the absence disability, or removal of the President, the Vice Presidents in order of their seniority, shall succeed to and
perform all the duties of the President during the period of such absence or disability, and in so acting shall have all the powers of the President. The senior vice president shall assume the duties of the President in the absence of the latter. In the case of resignation or death of the President, the senior Vice President automatically shall become President.
9. They shall perform such additional duties as are assigned by the President.
c. Secretary: The Secretary shall in compliance with Utah Title 16-

6a-1601:

1. Keep as permanent records for three years:
a. minutes of all meetings of its members, EXCOM, and Board.
b. Records of all actions taken by the members, EXCOM, or Board without a meeting.
c. Record of all actions taken by a committee of the Board in place of the Board.
2. Keep the seal of the Association and affix it to such papers and instruments as may be required in the regular course of business. The seal consists of Gules, a fess Ermine, surmounted by a stags head erased Proper tined or and bearing between the tines a cross crosslet fitchee of the last as granted by the Lord Lyon on 30 August 2011.

3. Serve such notices as may be necessary or proper.
4. Maintain the membership rolls of the Association by region and provide those rosters to the Regional Directors annually.
5. Supervise the keeping of the records of the Association.
6. Conduct regional elections of representatives.
7. Discharge such other duties of the office prescribed by the Board.
8. Give notice of all meetings of the Board.
9. With help from the Assistant or Co-Secretary coordinate responses to inquiries and website sign-ins.
10. Maintain the Association Website.
11.Ensure that these By-laws are available to the Association membership and the public on the Association website.
12.Provide to the State of Utah Division of Corporations and Commerce Code a copy of the current By-Laws governing CCA and the name, position, and address of all the currently elected officers of Clan Crawford.
13.The Secretary shall deliver to the Utah Division of Commerce for filing an annual report on a form provided by the Division per Title 16-6a-1607.
Treasurer The Treasurer shall be the Chief Financial Officer of this Association and shall:
11. Receive and be the custodian of all the Association funds, depositing them in the bank or banks that may be designated by the Board.
12. Chair the Finance Committee which reviews prepared budgets from all Board members.
13. Make required adjustments and recommend their passage to the Board.
14. Keeps and maintains or caused to be kept and maintained, adequate and correct accounts of the properties and transactions of the Association, including accounts of its assets, liabilities, receipts, disbursements, gains, losses, capital, and surplus.
15. Make open the books of account at all reasonable times to inspection by any Director by written or electronic request.
16. Disburse the funds of the Association as may be ordered by the Board.
17. Render to the President and Directors, whenever they request it an account of all the transactions as Treasurer and of the financial condition of the Association.
18. Have such other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board relating to its finances.
19. Present a statement of the Association's financial status at every Board meeting and shall present an annual summary
statement of the financial standing of the Association to the full membership.
10.Submit annually to the Internal Revenue Service all required reports and forms.

## Section 4: Term of Office

The Officers of the Association shall hold office until their successors have been chosen and qualify in their stead.
a. The term of office will be for three (3) years renewable for a second term upon approval by the simple majority of the Board at a Board Meeting.
b. When choosing new officers, they shall be elected in November before they are to take office in January to become acquainted with their responsibilities. During this time, they will be known as President-elect, Secretary-elect, etc. They will participate in the deliberations of the Board, but not vote except when they hold another Board position such as Regional Director or another Office on the EXCOM.
c. Any officer elected or appointed by the Board, or a Board member may be removed at any time, with cause pursuant to a procedure that is fair and reasonable as described in Title 16 Chapter 6a 609 of the State of Utah. The Board shall provide 15 days written notice of expulsion, suspension, or termination; and provide the reasons for expulsion, suspension, or termination. The Board member or officer shall be given an opportunity to be heard orally or in writing not less than five days prior to the effective date. The EXCOM by itself cannot decide whether to expel, suspend, or terminate an officer or a Board member. Termination, suspension, or expulsion will be by the affirmative vote of a minimum of two thirds $(2 / 3)$ majority of the Board attending the Board Meeting or voting by proxy, or by the affirmative vote of a minimum two thirds majority of all Board members in a written action.
d. If the office of any officer becomes vacant for any reason, the President shall fill the vacancy for the remaining term of the

## Commented [BC1]: Raymond

We have recently used the term "President Emeritus" given to Joanne to honour her many years as President. I think this honour should be available to the Board to bestow when they think fit but should not be automatic. I suggest a President Emeritus should have a seat on the Board. I also think (and here there is a clear conflict of interest) that an immediate Past President might be made an additional VicePresident, perhaps for a limited term, in order to give more continuity to EXCOMM.

## February 13, 2024 at 1:25 AM

Commented [BC2R1]: This was not addressed by the Board on March 23, 2024 and should be discussed.

Emeritus Is an honorary title granted to someone who retires from a position of distinction, most commonly an academic faculty position, but is allowed to continue using the previous title as in professor emeritus. In most systems and institutions, the rank is bestowed on all professors who have retired in good standing while at others it needs a special act or vote.
Possible criteria for an emeritus title for CCA may include: -Having served in the position for ten or more years? -Having brought the organization through tremendous difficulties?
-A vote of the Board of Directors?
Possible privileges of emeritus -Lifetime membership
-Able to sit in on EXCOM and Board of Directors
meetings and provide recommendations but not vote.
Who is eligible? CCA Board members? Only the President? Only the EXCOM?
office, subject to ratification by the Board or until an interim election is held.

## Section 6: Delegation of Duties

In the case of absence of any officer of the Association, or for any other reason that the Board may deem sufficient, the Board may delegate, temporarily, the powers or duties of such officer to any other officer, Director of the Board, or dues paying member of the Association, provided a majority of the Board attending the Board meeting or voting by proxy concurs therein.

## ARTICLE VIII: VOLUNTEER PERSONNEL

The President may appoint such other volunteer personnel and agents as it shall deem necessary subject to ratification by simple majority of the Board.

They shall:

- Hold their office for such terms and shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as shall be determined by the Board.
- Have advisory capacity to the President and the Board and consist of chairs of projects, standing committees and other functions determined by the Board as needed to meet the established goals of the Association.
- Attending Board meetings subject to invitation by an officer of the EXCOM or a Regional Director of the Board. They will participate in the deliberations that pertain to their areas of concern, but not have voting rights on the Board.
- Staff positions considered necessary include Newsletter editor, DNA Project Coordinator, and Webmaster.
- Staff positions that may be needed include, Clan Genealogist, Clan Archivist, Clan Heraldist, Clan Historian, Clan Piper, Clan Librarian, Clan Tent Coordinator, and Regional Webpage Coordinator
- Association staffevolunteers will report to the Vice Presidents $f$ for Association Staff.
- A staff position may also be held by a Regional Director or Officer if needed such as Clan Historian or Clan Piper.


## MEETINGS

Section 1: The following meetings are recognized as necessary to the efficient running of the Association:

- Executive Committee (EXCOM)
- Board of Directors (Regional Directors, EXCOM, and invited guests)
- General Membership (All dues paying and honorary members.
- Regional Membership (All dues paying and honorary members within a given region.)
- Committee (Meetings of committee members to further specific Board recognized projects.)


## Section 2: Executive Committee (EXCOM).

The President shall call for meetings of the EXCOM.

## Section 3: Board of Directors Meetings

a. The Board shall meet a minimum of twice annually: on the second Saturday in January (US time) of each year to begin business in a timely manner, and again the second Saturday in November for the purpose of election of Officers, Regional Delegates, and their Alternates for the following year. Meeting notices shall be sent to all members of the Board, including the EXCOM.
b. The President may call special meetings of the Board within 10 days written notice to each Director, by the most expedient means including electronic mail and facsimile.
c. In view of the international dispersal of the Board, meetings may be held using email, or by phone or online conferencing.
d. Special meetings of the Board may be called for any purpose, at any time, at the discretion of the President, or upon written request of any three (3) members of the Board, including Directors, Vice Presidents, Treasurer, and Secretary. The Secretary shall give immediate notice of such meetings, stating the purpose. Notice of such meeting shall be mailed/emailed
within a reasonable time prior to the date of the meeting to each member.
e. The Chair of the Board will preside over the meetings, opening, closing, and establishing rules of order.
f. The President shall determine the priorities of the meeting through an agenda submitted to the Board ten days ahead of the scheduled Board meeting unless the meeting was called by three or more members of the Board. In that event, they shall determine the agenda.

## Section 4: Quorum Defined for the Board of Directors

a. A quorum of the Board members shall be present to certify a Meeting of the Board.
b. A quorum is defined as a minimum greater than one-half ( $1 / 2$ ) of the Directors on record with the Secretary at the commencement of the meeting.
c. The Secretary, or their designee, shall certify a meeting of the Board by confirming a quorum based on the presence, in person, or by proxy, of Board members determined by signedin participation using the selected medium for the meeting.
d. If a Board member cannot be present for a meeting, he/she shall defer to the elected Alternate to fulfill the assigned duties in their absence, including voting in place of the Director. If no alternate is available, the Regional Director will appoint a suitable alternate to fulfill the assigned duties in the Directors absence. Such appointees shall have full voting privileges at the meeting.
e. If the quorum is not met at the first convocation, a second convocation should be held, subject to a quorum of a minimum one third ( $1 / 3$ ) of the members of the Board. The EXCOM by itself shall not be considered a quorum,

## Section 5: Vote

a. The decision of the majority of the Directors at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the action of the Board.
b. All members are entitled to one vote in person or by the agreed upon media.
c. Advisory or other invited participants may voice their views but not vote.

## Section 6: Annual General Meeting

a. A general meeting of the membership of the Association must be called by the President.
b. The annual general meeting must take place on or about the second Saturday in January. This meeting will be held at a location and time determined by the Board or using on-line conferencing. The latter may be used to supplement the actual physical site of the meeting.
c. The purpose of the meeting is to inform the general membership as to the workings of the Association over the previous year, and to allow members to directly address the Board regarding their concerns and proposed future directions of the Association.

## Section 7: Regional Meetings

a. Regional meetings may take place at the discretion of the regional representatives and the local organizations. Such meetings will be announced via email as well as notices posted on the regional pages of the Association website.
b. The EXCOM shall be notified of regional meetings.

## ARTICLE X: COMMITTEES

Section 1: Purpose. To conduct specialized functions for the Association where training, certification, and/or experience is desired and/or required.

Section 2: Appointment. The president, with approval from the EXCOM, shall present nominees for committee chairs to the Board for approval. Committee chairs shall recommend, for ratification by the Board, committee members who will do and support the work of the committees.

Section 3: Standing Committees.

1. Election Committee. The President, with the approval of the EXCOM, shall appoint an Election Committee composed of three members of the Board and one advisory member not already a Director or Officer.
a. This Committee shall elect a Chair from among its members.
b. The Secretary shall confirm the participation of the members of this standing committee not less than sixty (60) days prior to a scheduled election, or not less than thirty (30) days prior to a replacement election should one be needed to be held.
c. The committee shall receive nominations for Regional Directors, Alternates and Officers from the membership at large and place those nominees on the ballot.
d. This committee shall conduct the election of Directors and Alternates in the regions of jurisdiction, as well as the election of the EXCOM members in November every three years.
2. Membership Committee. The Chair of the Membership Committee will supervise recruitment of members in the regions and will provide support to the regional representatives in the presentation of the Association goals and aims to potential members. The Membership Committee will consist of additional members from several regions who will help process applications for membership, determine eligibility, and recommend acceptance of new members.
3. Scholarship Committee. The aim of the Association is to promote the educational goals of Crawfords and descendants. To this end, we plan to have a Scholarship committee that will support research into Crawfords heritage and history, as well as access to educational opportunities. It is our hope to also be able to provide in the future support through grants and scholarships for these purposes. The Chair of the Scholarship Committee will oversee organizing, promoting, and selecting activities and recipients, with the assistance of a regionally representative committee.
4. Publications Committee. The Publications Committee will be responsible for the coordination of publication efforts related to the clan Crawford Association, including historical studies related to the
history, traditions, and heraldry of the House of Crawford. The Chair of the Publications Committee will provide coordination of various efforts of this committee, they will be supported by a committee consisting of the number of members needed to complete the tasks undertaken.
5. Finance Committee the Treasurer of the Association is the Chair of the Finance Committee. They will be supported by a committee consisting of three to five members who will provide for the financial health of the Association. They will maintain records of all economic transactions of the Association, including income from dues, expenses, and any other financial actions realized by the Association.
6. Genealogy Committee. The Clan Genealogist is Chair of the Genealogy Committee. They will coordinate the various genealogical projects of the lines of Crawford descendants. One function of the committee will be to provide an archive of Crawford history and lines of descent, check for authenticity, and maintain documentation of their deliberations and recommendations. Clan officers whose duties include topics related to clan genealogy and heritage, such as coordinator of the DNA Project, Clan Herald, and Clan Historian are ad-hoc members of the committee.
7. Social Committee. The Coordinator of Clan Tents is chair of the Social Committee. The function of this committee is to promote efforts to set up Clan Crawford tents and to support regional participation in the Highland games and other functions associated with Scottish heritage. This committee will also promote networking and meaningful social interactions between association members and within the clan.
8. Special Committees

Special ad-hoc committees will be established by the Board at their discretion or by nomination by the President of the Association with the ratification of the Board. They will realize functions determined as needed to carry out the goals and aims of the Association. Their nature is normally temporary and lasts until the completion of the tasks for which they are established.

> The duties of the committees are to be established by the Board. These duties are to be more specifically defined by the Committee Chairs under the supervision of EXCOM, subject to approval by the Board. Oversight is to be provided by the Vice President(s) who will report regularly to the President and with a formal report to the Board at its annual meeting in January.

## ARTICLE XI: SHARES

The Association will not issue shares.

## ARTICLE XII: CODE OF CONDUCT

As a matter of fundamental principle, all members of the Association should adhere to the highest ethical standards as a matter of pragmatic self-interest. Trust in our association and its purpose as described in Article III is the bedrock of our legitimacy. Violations of the code of conduct may have consequences as determined by the Board.

## Section 1: The Code of Ethics for the Association

Personal and professional integrity: All members, EXCOM, Board members, and volunteers of the Association will act with honesty, integrity, and openness in all their dealings as representatives of the Association.

## Section 2: Communications

The Association is by its nature a collective of members from multiple geographic locations. Communications allow the Association to function and carry out its purpose, as described in Article III. All members, EXCOM, Board members, and volunteers of the Association will adhere to the following guidelines for communications.

- Communication should not be threatening, intimidating, or menacing, grossly offensive to a reasonable person in the position of the affected individual or others
- Communication should not be used to harass an individual, or to make a false allegation.
- Communication should not denigrate an individual by reason of his or her color, race, ethnic or national origins, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.


## ARTICLE XIII: CONFLICT OF INTEREST

All volunteers, EXCOM, and BOARD members of the association will strive to avoid any conflict of interest between the interests of the Association on one hand, and personal, professional, and business interests on the other hand. This includes avoiding actual conflicts of interests as well as the perception of conflicts of interest. The purpose of this policy is to protect the integrity of the Association's decision-making process, to enable our members to have confidence in our integrity, and to protect the integrity and reputation of volunteers, and committee members.

In accordance with Article XIII_A and to the extent of powers subject to all sections of that Article, a conflict of interest is where someone is compromised when their role or personal interests or obligations conflict with the responsibilities of their role or position. It means that their independence, objectivity, or impartiality can be called into question.

A conflict of interest can be:

- Actual: where the conflict already exists
- Potential: where the conflict is about to happen, or could happen
- Perceived: where other people might think that a person has been compromised.
A person could be compromised if, in performing their duties, they are required to deal with:
a. A relative or close friend
b. An organization, club, society, or association of which they are a member.
c. A person who is their community leader
d. A person or organization:
- To which they have a professional or legal obligation
- With which they have a business interest or own property
- To whom they owe money
- For whom they have previously, or currently maintain an interest in or with

During meetings or activities, committee members will disclose any interests in a transaction or decision where there may be a conflict between the organizations best interests and the committee members best interest or a conflict between the best interests of two organizations that committee member is involved with.

## ARTICLE XIV ELECTIONS

Provisions for the election of Officers and Members of the Board of the Association are as provided in this Article.

## Section 1. EXCOM Elections

a. The Board shall direct the Secretary to conduct scheduled elections.
b. The Chair of the Election Committee shall publish the slate of proposed EXCOM nominees from current dues paying members of the Association to the Board for ratification no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the election in November.
c. The slate shall consist of all nominees for President, Vice Presidents, Secretary, or Treasurer per the staggered schedule in paragraph g below.
d. For those positions up for election, the person who receives the most votes in the election shall be declared the winner.
e. The Chair of the Election Committee will conduct this agenda item and will certify all votes.
f. Newly elected officers shall assume their office on January 1 of the coming year.
g. The EXCOM members shall serve staggered terms so that not all members are new to the EXCOM and the Board.

|  | $\underline{2025}$ | $\underline{2026}$ | $\underline{2027}$ | $\underline{2028}$ | $\underline{2029}$ | $\underline{2030}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\underline{\text { President }}$ | $\underline{X}$ |  |  | $\underline{X}$ |  |  |
| $\underline{\text { Vice Pres 1 }}$ | $\underline{X}$ |  |  | $\underline{X}$ |  |  |
| $\underline{\text { Vice Pres 2 }}$ | $\underline{X}$ |  |  | $\underline{X}$ |  |  |
| $\underline{\text { Treasurer }}$ |  | $\underline{X}$ |  |  | $\underline{X}$ |  |
| $\underline{\text { Secretary }}$ |  |  | $\underline{X}$ |  |  | $\underline{X}$ |

h. Officers shall be immediately released from their previous duties on the Board upon assuming the responsibility and authority of their new office.
i. If the Officer was serving as an elected Regional Director on the Board, then a replacement shall be conducted pursuant to Section 3 of this Article.
j. If the Officer was serving in an appointed position on the Board, then by the same process a replacement may, but not necessarily, be appointed.
k. The Officers of the Association shall hold office until their successors assume the office on January 1 after the November election.
I. Any Officer elected may be removed at any time, with cause, by affirmative vote of a two-thirds majority of the Board attending the Board meeting or voting by proxy, A written action by the Board is not allowed in this case.
m . If an office becomes vacant for any reason, the President shall fill the vacancy for the remaining term of the vacant office, or until the vacancy is filled by an interim election.

## Section 3: Regional Elections

a. The Board shall direct the Secretary to conduct the regional elections.
b. The Chair of the Election Committee shall present the name(s) of the Regional Director and Alternate nominees obtained from the dues paying members of the region of jurisdiction for consideration no later than thirty (30) days prior to the voting deadline.
c. The Chair of the Election Committee will present the names of nominees by written action to all dues paying members in the region of jurisdiction no less than fourteen (14) days prior to the voting deadline. The Secretary shall certify all votes. The nominee receiving the most votes shall be the Regional Director and the nominee receiving the second greatest number of votes shall be the Alternate.
d. An alternate member of the EXCOM may assume the responsibility for certifying the votes should the Secretary and the Assistant Secretary not be available to assume the function.
e. The Sweden Crafoord Family Association has by agreement been made a region without the members of the Swedish organization needing to be CCA members, as long as the representatives on the board are paying CCA members.

## Section 4: Regional Directors and Alternates

a. Regional Directors and Alternates shall be elected for terms of three (3) years by the vote of dues paying members from their region, with a simple majority of votes determining confirmation of the slate.
b. Immediately after regional elections are successfully concluded, the Secretary shall present the names of the elected Regional Directors and Alternates to the Board for ratification.
c. In the event the elected Director cannot fulfill the obligation of office and a Director position becomes vacant for any reason, the elected Alternate shall assume the duties of Regional Director until a new election can be held. If the Alternate refuses to serve, the President shall appoint an interim Director from the dues paying members of the Region where the vacancy occurred to fulfill the remaining term of office.
d. Interim appointments are subject to ratification by the Board by a simple majority affirmative vote of greater than one half (1/2). The position will be open to nominations and election during the next scheduled election for that region.
e. The slate of candidates for each election are developed by the Election Committee through identifying who would like to continue but listing other nominees from the Region. Though the Association strives for continuity, no Director or Alternate has proprietary rights over the position they hold. Candidates nominated for election to the Board must meet criteria or responsibility as established in the By-Laws (Article XIIVIH Code of Conduct).

## Article XV CONTRACTING

Only identified elected Officers on record with the Secretary may contract on behalf of the Association. Any Association contract without a dispute clause
requiring settlement in a Court of the jurisdiction in which the Registered Agent resides shall be legally null and void. Contracts are legally binding upon ratification by a simple majority of affirmative vote of greater than one half (1/2) of the Board, unless they include a substantial economic commitment (expenditures over $\$ 1,000.00$ US or equivalent), in which case, ratification must be by two thirds ( $2 / 3$ ) majority of a quorum of the Board.

## Article XVI AMENDMENTS

1. Proposed amendments to these By-Laws may be submitted to any appointed regional representative by any officially registered member of the Association whose membership is active in the period beginning at the proposal submission and ending at the final decision by the Board.
2. Proposed amendments to the By-laws are required to be submitted by Regional Representatives, Officers, and Directors directly to the Association Secretary. The Association Secretary will establish an official form on which the proposed amendment is required to be submitted.
3. The Association Secretary is required to submit the proposed amendment to the Chair of the Board at lead 21 days prior to consideration before an official meeting of the Board.
4. The Chair of the Board is required to disseminate the exact wording of the proposed amendment to each member of the Board 14 days prior to consideration before an official meeting of the Board.
5. An amendment requires an affirmative (support) vote by at least two thirds (2/3) majority of a quorum of the Directors. Amendments must comply with the laws and regulations governing the Association.
6. Upon approval of the amendment, the Chair of the Board will submit the amendment to the Association Secretary for inclusion in the ByLaws. The Secretary shall maintain By-Laws and submit the past version to the Association Archivist. The Archivist will maintain all past copies of the By-Laws.
7. The revised By-Laws shall be distributed by the Association Secretary to the Officers and Regional Representatives within 14 days of the revision. Therefore, the revision shall become effective within 14 days of an affirmative vote of the Board.
8. An objection to an amendment based on statutory or regulatory compliance may be filed by any Director, Officer, or registered member of the Association. Objections must be filed with the Association President within 14 days of the date the amendment become effective. The President shall immediately declare the amendment "encumbered" and will obtain a written "Position Statement" from the law enforcement or regulating agency within a period of 90 days. "Encumbering" places implementation of the amendment in suspension. The President will have 15 days from the date of receipt of the "Position Statement" to submit it to the Chair of the Board. The Chair of the Board will have 15 days to call a meeting of the Board within 15 days of distribution of the "Position Statement" to all Directors. The "encumbered" amendment shall not be implemented until the Board registers an affirmative vote on implementation of the amendment.

## Article XVII: DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution of the Association, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent jurisdiction of the county in which the Registered Agent is then located, exclusively for such purposes.

Agreement for dissolution must be attained with a two-thirds majority vote of the Board.

