

# The Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick of Central Iowa Bylaws

## *Article 1 Purpose*

**Section 1.** The name of tile society is The Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick of Central Iowa, Inc.

**Section 2.** The goals of the organization are to preserve the Irish-American tradition, including the perpetuation of the Irish culture and heritage, and the preservation of the qualities of independence, fraternity, and charity.

## *Article 2 Membership*

**Section 1.** There shall be two classes of membership, active and life.

**Section 2.** Gentlemen of the age of 21 years and over, citizens of the United States, the natives or descendants of natives of Ireland, and of good moral character, shall be eligible for admission to active or life membership. An application for membership shall be in writing setting forth the name, age, business, profession or occupation of the applicant, and the facts showing him to be a native or a descendant of a native of Ireland, his place of residence and phone number. The application shall be signed by the applicant and a member in good standing as a sponsor. The board of directors, in its judgment, shall have the right to reject any application.

**Section 3.** New members will be required to select an assignment to a committee within 60 days.

**Section 4.** Annual dues will be set by the board of directors and payable on or before February 1<sup>st</sup> for each fiscal year. The fiscal year will be from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Section 5.** Membership dues must accompany applications for membership.

**Section 6.** Members who are in arrears for dues for 60 days, will have their names dropped from the list of active members.

**Section 7.** Only an active member who has paid annual dues for the last three years may become a life member. Dues for life membership will be an amount equal to 10 times the annual dues.

## ***Article 3***

### ***Officers & Board Members***

**Section 1.** The officers of the society shall be President, Vice- President, Treasurer, and Secretary, plus five board members. The offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary shall be for two years. Members of the Board of Directors shall be elected to a three-year term. Eligibility for election of officers and board members shall be limited to active members to have paid annual dues for last two years. Members may be reelected without limitations in the number of terms served.

**Section 2.** The nomination and election of officers and board members will be at the January meeting. The election will be by written ballot. A majority vote of active members present will be required for election. The ballots will be banded out and counted by a committee of active members, selected by the resident. Twenty (20) members must be present to have a lawful meeting.

**Section 3.** New terms of office shall begin on March 17.

## ***Article 4***

### ***Duties of the Officers & Board Members***

**Section 1.** The President shall preside at all meetings and functions of the society.

**Section 2.** In the event of the death, resignation or removal from office of the President, the Vice President shall succeed to that office. The Vice President shall act in place of the President during his absence.

**Section 3.** Vacancies on the board shall be filled temporarily by a vote of the Board of Directors. Members of the board may be removed from office if they miss more than 4 of the 12 yearly meetings of the board. Removal shall be by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

**Section 4.** The Treasurer shall keep the moneys of the society He shall pay all obligations of the society as provided in these bylaws, and make payments duly appropriated. The Treasurer shall keep suitable books of accounts and records of all receipts and disbursements. The Treasurer will give financial statement at all regular meetings of the Board of Directors and the general meeting of the membership.

**Section 5.** The Secretary shall keep records of all members and the journals of the society. The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings and give prior notice of all meetings.

**Section 6.** The Board of Directors shall manage the property and affairs of the society. No indebtedness shall be incurred for the account of the society without the approval of the Board of Directors.

**Section 7.** The Board of Directors shall select the recipients of the charitable donations of the society.

**Section 8.** Any member, who commits or performs any act prejudicial to the best interests of the society in the discretion of the Board of Directors, may after a hearing before the Board of Directors, and on recommendation of such board, may be expelled from the society.

**Section 9.** Any action taken by the Board of Directors will require a vote of the majority of the members of the Board.

**Section 10.** Any vote taken at a general meeting will require a simple majority of members present. To have a lawful meeting a minimum of 20 members must be present.

## ***Article 5***

### ***Committees***

**Section 1.** There shall be established the following standing committees.

1. St. Patrick's Day committee.
2. Monthly meeting workers committee.

The president shall appoint other committees as needed.

**Section 2.** The committees of the society shall be appointed by the president at the first board meeting after taking office.

## ***Article 6***

### ***Irishmen of the year***

**Section 1.** The Board of Directors shall constitute the nominating committee for the Irishman of the year.

**Section 2.** The Irishman of the year award will be presented to that candidate receiving a simple majority vote of the committee, which will include members of the Board of Directors and all past presidents of the society.

**Section 3.** The Irishmen of the year need not be selected from among members of the Friendly Sons.

## ***Article 7***

### ***Meetings***

**Section 1.** Monthly meetings will be held on the second Monday of each month, at a place designated by the Board of Directors.

**Section 2.** Meetings of the Board of Directors will be on the last Monday at each month at a place designated by the Board of Directors.

**Section 3.** Attendance at regular monthly meetings will be limited to active members, and guests invited by the president.

**Section 4.** Attendants at meetings of the Board of Directors will be limited to members of the board of directors, and those persons invited by the president. The past presidents of the society shall be entitled to attend meetings of the Board of Directors but shall have no vote.

## **Article 8**

### **St. Patrick's Day Parade**

**Section 1.** March 17<sup>th</sup> is the designated day for the annual St. Patrick's Day parade, except if March 17 falls on a Sunday in which case the parade will be held on the preceding Saturday.

## **Article XII Ratification**

**Section 1.** These Bylaws for The Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick of Central Iowa were adopted and approved by the voting members present at the regular meeting held on XXXXXXXX XX, 20XX.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Member

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Board Member

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Board Member

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Board Member