

# **BY-LAWS of the Quad-Cities Photography Club**

**Revised: November 1, 2018**

## **ARTICLE I - Name**

The name of the Club shall be "THE QUAD-CITIES PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB", commonly abbreviated as "QCPC" and herein referred to as "the club".

## **ARTICLE II – Mission**

The mission of the Quad-Cities Photography Club shall be to encourage, educate and expand the photographic knowledge and capabilities of photography enthusiasts of all skill levels through social interaction, competitions, assignments and the sharing of photographic tools and techniques.

## **ARTICLE III - Membership**

SECTION 1. Membership shall be open to all persons interested in photography upon payment of the annual dues. Once dues have been paid, that person shall be a "member in good standing".

SECTION 2. The membership year shall be from September 1 through August 31. All memberships shall terminate on August 31 regardless of the month when actually paid.

SECTION 3. Membership dues shall be accepted from September 1 through May 31.

SECTION 4. A member may be suspended or expelled by a majority vote of the officers for good and sufficient reason. The officers shall have full discretion as to what constitutes "good and sufficient reason", and the decision of the officers shall be final. Examples of what could constitute good and sufficient reason include, but are not limited to: plagiarizing photographic images, obscene or threatening behavior, and personal behavior that disrupts or interrupts meeting(s) to the detriment of other members' participation and enjoyment. In the event that a person is suspended or expelled, no paid dues shall be refunded.

SECTION 5. Members in good standing will be allowed to participate in club organized events such as but not limited to workshops, assignments, contests and field trips from September through May. Guests are always welcome to attend regular club meetings. All activities conducted during June thru August shall be considered as "come be our guest". Guests are welcome to attend any club event charging admission by paying the non-member admission fee. In order to qualify for "member discounts" at events charging admission, the person must have joined the club at least 1 month prior to the event. Guest participation at other club events will be at the discretion of the officers.

SECTION 6. Only members in good standing are permitted to compete in club competitions or submit images for display at club meetings unless they are specifically invited to share their photography as a guest speaker.

## **ARTICLE IV - Meetings**

SECTION 1. Regular meetings of the club shall be held on the first Thursday of each month from September through June.

SECTION 2. The place of the meeting shall be one suitable for the purpose as determined by the officers.

SECTION 3. The dates of regular meetings may be changed when necessary, or special meetings may be convened when it is deemed in the interest of the club. Such action may be taken by the officers or, in the event of an emergency, by the President or Vice-President and one other Officer. Reasonable notice of such change or addition shall be communicated to the club members in the most practical method possible.

SECTION 4. Portions of meetings where official club business is conducted shall utilize Roberts Rules of Order except for provisions specifically defined in these bylaws.

## **ARTICLE V - Dues**

SECTION 1. The dues of the club shall be payable at the September meeting.

SECTION 2. The amount of the dues shall be established by majority vote of club members in good standing. Dues shall be established for individuals and married couples.

SECTION 3. Membership dues may be initiated either by the officers or by member petition signed by at least 20% of members in good standing. In order to change the dues, one month notice of the impending vote must be provided to club members. No vote shall be required to maintain the current dues amount.

SECTION 4. Any member from the previous club year who fails to pay their annual dues by the November meeting shall be removed from the membership roll.

## **ARTICLE VI - Officers**

SECTION 1. The officers of the club shall be: President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and immediate Past President (as defined below).

SECTION 2. All officers shall serve a one year term of office.

SECTION 3. The elected officers (and immediate Past President as defined in Section 4) shall serve as the club's Board of Directors. Each person shall be entitled to one vote at designated Board meetings.

SECTION 4. Upon the election of a new club President, the immediate Past President shall serve on the Board of Officers for a term of one year only.

SECTION 5. All officers may serve a maximum of four consecutive years in any office. Upon completion of this maximum term, the person may be immediately elected to a different office,

or must complete one full year out of office before being elected to begin a new term of service in the office previously held.

### **ARTICLE VII - Duties of the Officers**

SECTION 1. The President shall preside at meetings of, and act as the executive officer of the club.

SECTION 2. The First Vice-President shall preside at meetings of the club in the absence of the President, and in the absence of the President carry out and perform any and all other duties of the President as executive officer of the club.

SECTION 3. The Second Vice-President shall preside at meetings of the club in the absence of the President and First Vice President, and in the absence of both, carry out and perform any and all other duties of the President as executive officer of the club.

SECTION 4. The Secretary shall keep records of the proceedings at the meetings and other records of the club, and to attest the acts of the President or First or Second Vice-President.

SECTION 5. The Treasurer of the club shall be responsible for disbursing the funds of the club, keeping adequate financial records, and reporting quarterly to the club membership.

SECTION 6. All checks shall be signed by either the Treasurer or the President of the club. Expenditures exceeding \$250 shall require approval of a majority of the club officers.

SECTION 7. It shall be the duty of the officers to conduct the business of the club, ensure fair elections, maintain a complete membership roster, and to approve all budgets before implementation. The officers must conduct a thorough review of club financial receipt and disbursement records annually. To ensure separation of financial receipt and distribution responsibilities, the President must assign income collection and documentation responsibilities to the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President or a Committee Chairperson

SECTION 8. Should an officer be unable or unwilling to complete their term, an election to fill the vacant office shall occur at the next regular club meeting from candidates nominated from the floor. If an officer is not satisfactorily performing their duties, the officer may be removed from office with the approval of a majority of the remaining officers. The President may be removed by a vote of two-thirds of the remaining officers.

SECTION 9. No officer or committee chair shall receive compensation for any services rendered to the Club in his/her official capacity; however, the officers, chairs and members are entitled to reasonable reimbursement for actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred in the performance of their duties on behalf of the club.

SECTION 10. To override any decision of the officers on any specific question or issue, a petition, signed by at least 20% of members in good standing shall be presented to the President. The President shall notify all club members of the impending issue via email at least 7 days prior to the next regular club meeting and shall bring the question before the general membership at the next regular meeting. Approval by a majority of the members in good

standing present at the meeting shall be required to override the decision of the officers. In the event of a tied vote, the decision of the officers will be upheld.

#### **ARTICLE VIII - Committees**

SECTION 1. The President shall appoint a Program Chairperson, a Competition Chairperson, a Public Relations Chairperson and a CICCA Representative.

SECTION 2. The President shall have the power to appoint any other committee deemed necessary for the operation of the club.

SECTION 3. Duties of the Committee Chairpersons and committees shall be defined by the officers. Committee Chairpersons may be invited to attend Officer meetings at the request of officers, but are not entitled to vote during these meetings.

SECTION 4. Committee Chairpersons may solicit committee members as needed from the roll of members in good standing.

#### **ARTICLE IX - Elections**

SECTION 1. The President shall appoint a nominating committee of three ~~in~~ members in good standing at the April regular meeting of the club.

SECTION 2. The nominating committee shall announce a proposed slate of officers at the May meeting.

SECTION 3. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the May meeting by any member in good standing. Such nominations, when seconded, shall be included in the list of candidates.

SECTION 4. The election of officers shall be held at the June meeting by in-person voting only. All persons who have been members in good standing for at least 2 months prior to the election shall be eligible to vote (for example, in order to vote at the June elections, a person must have paid membership dues no later than at the April club meeting).

SECTION 5. In the event of a contested race for any office, an election committee consisting one member in good standing selected by each candidate shall conduct the election for that race. This committee shall be responsible for preparing, distributing, collecting, and counting ballots. Contested elections must be conducted using paper ballots. Uncontested races may be conducted by the club president using voice vote.

SECTION 6. In the event of a tie vote on a contested race, the outcome of the election shall be determined by coin toss.

SECTION 7. The new officers shall assume their office upon election.

## **ARTICLE X – Miscellaneous**

SECTION 1. All changes to club photographic competition rules require the approval of a majority of club members in good standing attending a regular club meeting. In order for a vote to occur, the proposed changes must be communicated to members at least 7 days prior to the meeting and the meeting must be attended by a quorum of at least 40% of members in good standing.

SECTION 2. Club membership lists must be considered as confidential information and distributed only among officers, committee chairpersons, and the CICC Representative. Membership information must be used for club purposes only and not be given to or shared with any other persons or organizations.

## **ARTICLE XI - Dissolving the Club**

SECTION 1. If the club is dissolved, all remaining money in the club treasury, after all assets have been liquidated and all expenses are paid, shall be gifted to a Quad City area photography related school or college program as determined by the majority vote of the members in good standing at the time of the dissolution.

## **ARTICLE XII - Amendments**

SECTION 1. An amendment to these Bylaws may be initiated by (a) the club officers or (b) by a petition signed by at least 20% of club members in good standing.

SECTION 2. Notice of the proposed amendment shall be provided to the members by publishing the proposed changes in full, and distributing it in the most expedient manner, together with the reasons therefore, at least thirty days prior to the meeting when the vote will be taken.

SECTION 3. Subject to the above, these Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Club by a two-thirds majority of members in good standing. A quorum shall consist of at least 40% of the total members in good standing at the time of the meeting. If a quorum is not present the vote must be postponed.

SECTION 4. New by-laws shall become effective immediately upon passage.