

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of the association shall be the **Louisiana Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf** (LRID).

ARTICLE II. OBJECTIVE

The principle objective of the association is to initiate, sponsor, promote, and execute policies and activities that will further the profession of interpretation of American Sign Language and English and the transliteration of English. This association shall be the state affiliate chapter of Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. (RID). And shall uphold the purpose and abide by the rules and procedures established for affiliated Chapters of RID.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Categories and Eligibility of Membership

The association shall have the following categories of non-transferable membership:

A. Voting Members

A Voting Member shall be a resident of Louisiana and a member in good standing of any voting membership category of RID.

B. Non-Voting Members

A Non-Voting Member shall be one who supports the association, but does not wish to have voting privileges and may or may not be a member in good standing of any non-voting membership category of RID.

C. Lifetime Members

A Lifetime member is granted during the general business meeting and shall include all rights and privileges of the category of membership in which eligibility is met. Annual association membership dues are waived.

D. Organizational Members

An Organizational Member is any organization with an interest in supporting the association and carries no voting privileges.

Section 2: Voting Rights and Requirements

- A. Each voting member of the association shall be entitled to one vote in meetings, referenda and/or elections.

- B. Upon receipt of appropriate documentation, a member who has a change in membership category will immediately be entitled to the privileges thereof. Beginning with the next fiscal year, all dues for that member shall be based on the new membership category.

Section 3: NAD-RID Code of Professional Conduct Compliance

Individual members of the association shall follow the NAD-RID Code of Professional Conduct. (*NAD - National Association of the Deaf*)

Section 4: Liability of Members

No individual who is now or who later becomes a member of the association shall be personally liable to its creditors for any indebtedness, liability and any and all creditors shall look only to the assets of the association for payment.

ARTICLE IV. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1: Composition of Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall be comprised of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Member-at- Large, and LAD Representative to LRID. In addition, the Immediate Past President may attend board meetings. (*LAD-Louisiana Association of the Deaf*)

Section 2: Powers and Limitations

The management of the association may be delegated from the membership to the Board of Directors. Decisions of the Board of Directors may be vetoed by two-thirds majority vote during the general business meeting in which a quorum is present.

Unless so authorized by the Board of Directors, no officer or agent shall have any power or authority to bind the corporation by any contract or engagement or to pledge its credit or to render it liable monetarily for any purpose or in any amount. All charges, responsibilities and membership directives shall persist until fulfilled regardless of any changes to the makeup of the Board of Directors.

Section 3: Duties

A. General Duties

1. Perform duties as prescribed by the membership.
2. Approve expenditures as deemed necessary to conduct the business of the association.
3. Meet quarterly to conduct business via any method of communication (face-to-face or electronic) as long as all directors may participate equally and fully. A majority of the Directors constitutes a quorum.

4. Appoint a CMP Coordinator to manage all activities involving CEUs sponsored by the association.
5. Co-sign checks as designated through action of the Board of Directors/membership
6. Provide quarterly and year-end reports to the membership.
7. Submit to RID all documentation as outlined in the RID Affiliate Chapter Handbook.

B. Officers

1. President

- a) Presides at meetings of the members and/or directors
- b) Appoints committees, chairpersons, and Parliamentarian for general business meeting
- c) Serves as ex-officio member of all committees
- d) Represents the association in all appropriate activities and at national and regional conferences pending availability of funds, or appoints a representative(s) as necessary.
- e) Appoints, suspends, removes person(s) authorized to make organizational banking, financial accounts, transactions, and/or commitments.

2. Vice-President

- a) In the absence or disability of the president, shall assume all duties of the president
- b) Serves as Conference Chair and coordinates training opportunities

3. Secretary

- a) Keeps records of the proceedings of the Board of Directors and of the general business meeting
- b) Maintains the membership list of the association
- c) Coordinates and distributes information of the association via newsletter and/or website.

4. Treasurer
 - a) Supervises the receipt and safekeeping of all association funds
 - b) Distributes membership cards

5. Member-at-Large
 - a) Shall attend meetings of the Louisiana Association of the Deaf; serve as liaison, between LRID and LAD; and be a member in good standing with LAD
 - b) Serves as liaison between the association and other organizations
 - c) Coordinates activities and communication and disseminates information between the association and organizations.
 - d) LRID reimburses membership fees, as approved by the Board, for those serving in this position as needed by the board member

6. Louisiana Association of the Deaf (LAD) Representative to LRID
 - a) Appointed by the LAD
 - b) Attend LRID Board and general membership meetings
 - c) Serves as liaison between the two said organizations

7. Immediate Past President

Serves in a non-voting capacity

 - a) Assists the president during the transition into office
 - b) Serves as an advisor to the president
 - c) May assume special assignments as determined by the president
 - d) May attend board meetings

Section 4: Qualifications

All candidates for the Board of Directors shall be a voting member in good standing of the association and a member in good standing of RID for a minimum of twelve (12) months.

Section 5: Terms of Office

- A. The following officers shall be elected at the annual general membership meeting to serve two-year terms of office as follows:

- 1) Elected odd numbered years:

President, Secretary, and Member-at-Large

- 2) Elected even numbered years:

Vice President and Treasurer

- B. No officer shall hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms.
- C. Their term shall commence by December 1st following the general membership meeting in which voting occurred.

Section 6: Nominations and Elections

- A. A call for nominations shall begin no less than thirty (30) days prior to the election.
- B. Nominations will be accepted from members in good standing of the association.
- C. Nominations may be entertained from the floor during the general business meeting.
- D. Elections shall be held at a general business meeting.
- E. To constitute a valid election, ballots must be cast by fifty (50) percent of the voting members present at the general business meeting.
- F. No membership vote is required for positions with only one nominee.
- G. In the event of a tie, a run-off election shall be held during the election/voting meeting.

H. Newly elected officers will take the Oath of Office at the conclusion of the Business Meeting at which the voting occurred.

Section 7: Vacancies

Vacancies are created by the death, resignation, or removal of any director.

- A. Any director may resign upon giving written notice to the President and Secretary.
- B. Removal of any director shall be done for any of the following reasons:
 - 1) has any legal action for cause as detailed in *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*;
 - 2) does not maintain membership in the association and RID;
 - 3) has a substantiated formal grievance against him or her;
 - 4) fails to attend two (2) scheduled Board meetings within a twelve-month period; or
 - 5) has not acted in good faith in the fulfillment of the duties inherent in the office
- C. The Board of Directors shall appoint a person satisfying the qualifications to fill the vacancy for the remaining term of office. Such an appointment will not constitute a term of office.

Section 8: Compensation

Directors shall receive no compensation for performing the duties of their respective office.

ARTICLE V. COMMITTEES

The President shall appoint any standing, special, and/or ad hoc committee as deemed necessary to carry out the objective of the association.

ARTICLE VI. CONFERENCE AND TRAININGS

Section 1: Conference and General Business Meeting

A statewide conference shall be held annually for the purpose of conducting the business of the association, as well as providing educational opportunities and professional development.

- A. A general membership meeting will be held during the conference.
- B. A quorum shall consist of ten (10) percent of eligible voting members.
- C. Notice of the general business meeting will be given to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.
- D. Conference dates and locations will rotate among membership areas.

Section 2: Trainings

One-day trainings shall be provided by the association at least twice a year for the purpose of individual and professional development. Training dates and locations will rotate among membership areas.

Section 3: Special Meetings

- A. Special Meetings may be called by the Board of Directors for the purpose of conducting business of the association.
- B. Results of any special meeting shall be disseminated to the membership within forty-five days after the meeting date.

ARTICLE VII. SPECIAL REFERENDUM

Motions may be voted on by the membership by special referendum in the following manner:

- A. Special referenda may be drafted and submitted by the Board of Directors or by written petition of at least five (5) percent of the voting members of the association.
- B. Written notice of a referendum, stating and describing all motions procedures and deadlines for voting, shall be provided to all voting members at least forty-five (45) days prior to the referendum deadline.
- C. Results of the special referenda shall be disseminated to the membership within forty-five (45) days after the referenda deadline.

ARTICLE VIII. FISCAL YEAR OF THE ASSOCIATION

The fiscal year of the association shall begin on the first day of July and end on the thirtieth day of June of each year.

ARTICLE IX. FEES AND DUES

- A. Annual membership fees are due by the first day of July of each fiscal year.

B. The Board of Directors shall not increase or decrease membership dues by more than ten percent without a majority vote of the membership at the general business meeting or by special referendum.

C. Dues may vary for each category. Notification of any changes in dues must be available to the membership at least forty-five (45) days prior to the anticipated implementations.

ARTICLE X. AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

A. The Bylaws may be amended or repealed by approval of two-thirds of the voting members of the association voting during the general business meeting or by mail referendum with forty-five (45) days prior notice.

B. A copy of all amendments to these Bylaws shall be forwarded to the RID Regional Representative and to RID as prescribed in the RID Affiliate Chapter Handbook.

ARTICLE XI. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The association shall not discriminate in matters of membership on the basis of age, color, creed, disability, ethnicity, hearing status, national origin, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation.

ARTICLE XII: DISSOLUTION OF THE ORGANIZATION

A. Dissolution may occur upon two-thirds (2/3) majority vote during a membership meeting.

B. In the event of the dissolution of the association, any and all assets, movable or immovable, of any worth or value, will be converted into cash, whether by sale or other necessary means, and said cash monies will be deposited and held in an escrow account. Any and all interest from monies deposited in the aforementioned account will be held in same account. Should a period of five (5) years pass and the association is not being re-established, funds will be reverted to a non-profit 501(c)3 organization selected at the time of dissolution.

C. Upon the dissolution of the association, the President shall forward all records to RID.

ARTICLE XIII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the association in all cases to which they are applicable and consistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the association may adopt.

Adopted: Oct. 1, 1969. *Revised:* Sept. 24, 1983; Sept. 29, 1984; Mar. 2, 1985; Sept. 27, 1986; Feb. 25, 1989; Sept. 28, 1991; Sept. 26, 1992; April 13, 1996; Dec. 2005; *Mar. 27, 2010; Oct. 23, 2010; Sept. 24, 2011; Oct. 13, 2018*

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