

BYLAWS of Kites Over New England Kite Club

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization is Kites Over New England Kite Club (KONE).

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purpose of the Club is to educate the public in the art, history, technology, and practice of building and flying kites. To that end, the Club shall work to:

- a) Share information about kiting and provide an avenue of communication among kites.
- b) Promote kiting as a rewarding form of art, sport, utility, and scientific study for all ages.
- c) Promote and demonstrate the safe handling, flying and displaying of kites.
- d) Facilitate, coordinate, and planning of kiting activities.
- e) Provide an international educational resource for the development of kiting.
- f) Seek interchange with kite associates worldwide.
- g) Provide resources to the general public for promotion of the sport.

ARTICLE III: ADMINISTRATIVE YEAR

The administrative year of the club shall be the twelve (12) month period beginning February 1 and ending January 31.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Eligibility

All persons who favor the purposes of the Club are eligible for membership and may be elected or appointed to any post, and participate in any Club activities regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, political beliefs, sex, or age.

Section 2: Classes of Membership

Member. A dues-paying person or family entitled to all privileges of membership.

Sponsor Member. A dues-paying person or family entitled to all privileges of membership who make an additional financial contribution to the Club.

Associated Club Member. A chartered kite club, business, or organization which agrees with the purposes of the Club, complies with the standards and requirements established for membership and is accepted by the Board of Directors.

Corporate Member. Entitles, Vendors, or other businesses who pay dues. A Corporate Member agrees to offer a discount on merchandise or services to Club Members.

Section 3: Privileges of Membership

- a) Subscription to the Club's publications (when available) for the membership term.
- b) A copy of the Club's Bylaws in effect at the time of the request.
- c) Right to nominate members to all elected positions, vote for all elected positions and vote in general proceedings of the Club. Associated Club memberships, and Corporate members may offer one nomination, and may fill out a single ballot.
- d) Other services as may be provided, from time to time, by the club.

Section 4: Dues

Dues shall be determined by the Board of Directors. Standards for assessing dues shall be as follows:

- a) Dues shall be no more than is reasonable and necessary for publications of the Club, for support of the Club functions and for achievement of its goals.
- b) No back assessments will be levied upon former members who reinstate.

Section 5: Term of Membership

The term of membership for all classes of members shall be one year. Membership renewal is due on the 1st of January of each year. All memberships expire on December 31st of the current membership year. There is no credit or carryover to the next year's membership.

Section 6: Termination or Withholding of Membership

- a. Membership in the Club will be cancelled if the annual dues are not paid within thirty (30) days of the renewal date. This provision applies to all classes of membership.
- b. The Board of Directors, by a three-fourths vote, may, in writing, terminate or withhold membership, in any class, for activity, which, in the judgment of the Directors, is prejudicial to the best interests of the Club.

Section 7: Transferring Membership

Membership, is not transferable, assignable, or negotiable. Memberships may be given as gifts.

ARTICLE IV: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1: The Club shall be managed by a Board of Directors, which shall consist of a minimum of four (4), and no more than twelve (12) Directors-at-Large, who shall be elected by the membership, or who may volunteer.

Section 2: All Directors must be members of the Club.

Section 3: Duties of the Board of Directors shall be to set policies, adopt budgets and programs, and appoint committees.

Section 4: A vacancy of the Board of Directors may be filled by appointment at the discretion of the remaining Board members.

Section 5: All Directors, elected or volunteer, shall serve without compensation. At such time as the Board decides, on the basis of financial feasibility, travel and other Club expenses may be reimbursed by the Club on an equitable basis.

Section 6: The Board of Directors shall be subject to the order of the Club and, insofar as practical, none of the Board's acts shall conflict with action taken by the Club. If it is impractical for the Board to carry out any action requested by the membership, the Board shall report this to the membership and the subject shall be resolved at the next Annual or Special Meeting. The Board shall report to the membership at the Annual Meeting, and as necessary by any other such means available to them.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

Section 1: The officers of this Club shall be a President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2: The Board of Directors shall appoint the officers during the Annual Meeting. See also Article X: Elections. The officers shall hold office for a period of three years. A majority vote of the Board is necessary to appoint. Vacancies in office may be filled by appointment by the President, Vice-president or a majority vote of the Board.

Section 3: Duties of Officers:

- a) The President shall be the chief officer and shall preside at all regular and special meetings of the membership, and the Board of Directors. The President shall appoint all committees, with the advice of the Directors and/or members. The President shall present an Annual Report at the Annual Meeting. The President or his or her delegated agent shall sign all legal documents on behalf of the club. The Vice-President shall assist the President in his or her duties and perform any duties the President is unable to perform. If the office of the President becomes vacant, the Vice- President serves as President.
- b) The Recording Secretary shall take minutes of (any may also tape record) all Board and Annual Meetings and perform such other duties as may be determined by the Board of Directors.
- c) The Treasurer shall handle all Club correspondence and maintain the membership rolls. The Treasurer shall be responsible for all Club funds and shall see that a full, sound and accurate account is kept of the Club's monetary activity. The Treasurer shall ensure all funds received by the Club are deposited into a banking account(s) designated by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall ensure no withdrawals of funds are made in excess of budgeted amounts for any purpose. Should unforeseen needs arise, the Board of Directors shall first amend the budget as necessary, after which the necessary funds may be withdrawn. The Treasurer shall present a financial report at each Annual

Meeting and at such other times as requested by the Board of Directors or the President, or *Vice-President*. The Treasurer shall prepare an annual budget for presentation at the annual meeting. One signature shall be required on all Club checks, bonds, drafts or financial contracts. The signature shall be that of any of these four persons: Treasurer, President, *Vice- President* or Recording Secretary.

Section 4: Removal of Officers

Any officer of the Club may be removed by a three-fourths vote of all votes cast at a regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors, for activity which, in the judgment of the Directors or the members, is prejudicial to the best interests of the Club. Written notice of intent to remove an officer must be given thirty (30) days in advance to the officer to be so removed.

ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES

Section 1: With the advice of the Directors and/or members, the President shall appoint all committees, standing or special.

Section 2: There shall be five (5) standing committees as follows:

- a) Communications
- b) Safety and Ethics
- c) Membership and Promotion
- d) Festivals and Competition
- e) Archives and Records Documentation

Section 3: The Communications Committee shall maintain the club's social media accounts and maintain the club's official Web page. The purpose of these communications shall include, but not be limited to, announcements of future Club events, Annual Meeting, elections, and any item of interest to the general membership. The various forms of communication may accept advertising. Any income generated by such advertising will be deposited with the club's general funds.

Section 4: The Safety Committee shall promote safe practices in all aspects of kite flying. The Committee shall be responsible for the establishment and enforcement of the Club Safety Policies at all Club sponsored events.

Section 5: The Membership and Promotion Committee shall actively pursue new members into the Club. The Committee shall carry out membership drives. It shall be responsible for Membership booths at festivals and Club sponsored events. It shall make current membership applications readily available.

Section 6: The Festivals and Competition Committee shall be responsible for Club sponsored festivals and competitions. Responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to, overall event planning, co-sponsorship coordination, site facilities, finances, media coordination and publicity. The Committee shall work with the Safety and Ethics Committee, and the Communications Committee for Club sponsored festivals and competitions.

Section 7: The Archives and Records Documentation Committee shall be responsible for the orderly maintenance of the Club's archives and records.

Section 8: Additional standing committees may be appointed at the discretion of the President or by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, or membership.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1: An Annual Meeting shall be held for the purpose of electing or *installing members to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall convene and elect the officers of President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer from the elected membership of the Board, and for receiving and presenting to the membership direct reports of Committees, and for any business that may arise. The order of business at the Annual Meeting and Special Meetings shall be in accordance with common sense, respect for other and differing opinions, and mutual benefit.*

Section 2: The Board of Directors shall meet at least once a year and at such other times and places as the Directors shall determine. *Routine Board business may be conducted at any time by snail mail, email, telephone conference or other electronic media, as available.*

Section 3: There shall be a special meeting of the Board of Directors immediately following the Annual Meeting. The purpose of this Special Meeting being to allow the President and Directors to establish Committees and to review the annual budget and other matters which may come before them.

Section 4: Meetings, to the fullest extent practical, shall be held in varied locations in order that they be accessible to the geographical diversity of our membership.

Section 5: All Board meetings shall be open to all members of the Club, but only members of the Board may vote. *Board meetings may be closed if personnel or especially sensitive matters are involved.*

Section 6: Special Board meetings may be called by the President or any three Directors. Notice of Special Meetings must be given via mail or email to all Board members at least fifteen (15) days before the meeting.

Section 7: Fifty-one percent (51%) of the Directors shall constitute a quorum. A majority of all votes cast is necessary to approve a motion. For the purposes of a quorum, polling by electronic means shall be considered as attendance.

ARTICLE VIII: ELECTIONS

Section 1: All officers shall be selected from among the Board of Directors. A president will be appointed by the Board and the newly elected President will appoint the remaining officers from the pool of elected or volunteer members of the Board.

Section 2: When necessary, and on an annual basis, a ballot of candidates for the Board of Directors shall be prepared and mailed or emailed to all voting club members at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting. Email will be used whenever possible. Completed ballots

must be returned (or emailed) to the Communications Committee before the start of the Annual Meeting. A plurality of votes shall constitute election.

ARTICLE IX: TERMS OF OFFICE

Section 1: The term of office for the President shall be one year, commencing with the adjournment of the annual meeting at which the election by the Board is concluded and ending at the adjournment of the Annual Meeting of the following year.

Section 2: The term of office for a Director shall be three years. Terms shall be staggered among the Directors. The term for a Director shall commence upon the adjournment of the Annual Meeting at which he or she is elected or volunteers, and shall conclude upon the adjournment of the Annual Meeting at least three years later.

ARTICLE X: SEALS AND COLORS

The Seal of the Club shall have inscribed thereon the name of the Club. The Seal may be used by causing it, or a facsimile thereof, to be impressed or affixed or in any other manner reproduced. It may not be used without the written consent of the Chair of the Communications Committee.

ARTICLE XI: AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed and new bylaws adopted by a two-thirds vote at any annual meeting of the members, provided notice of the proposed changes be contained in the notice of the meeting and distributed to the full membership at least thirty (30) days before the meeting.

ARTICLE XII: Dissolving the Club

This Club may be dissolved by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any duly called meeting. Proposal to dissolve must be included in the notice of the meeting. After payment of all liabilities of the Club, the Board of Directors shall distribute all assets of the Club to one or more non-profit educational or charitable organizations for use in such a manner as will best accomplish the purpose of the club.