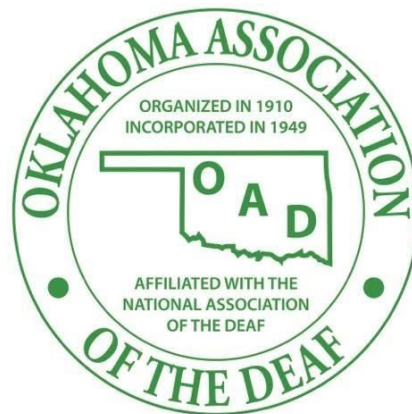


By-Laws
Of the
Oklahoma Association of the Deaf

Est. 1910

Inc. 1949



Revised as per to 2019 Conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma

ARTICLE I – NAME

§1.01 Name.

The name of this organization shall be the Oklahoma Association of the Deaf, Inc.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

§2.01 Purpose.

The purpose of this organization shall be to promote the interests of the deaf and to advance the social, educational, economic and cultural well being of the deaf.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

§3.01 Membership Dues.

Any person who supports the goals and purposes of the Association may become a member upon payment of annual membership fees as determined by the conference resolutions. Active members shall enjoy all the privileges and benefits of the Association.

§3.02 Honorary Membership.

Honorary membership may be bestowed upon a person by conference vote in recognition of contributions to the interest of the deaf. Honorary members shall be accorded all privileges of the Association except holding office.

§3.03 Student Membership.

Students under the age of eighteen (18) years are waived from the membership and do not have voting privileges.

§3.04 Affiliate Chapter.

Any ten members in any part of the state may organize and apply to the Executive Board to be chartered as an affiliate Chapter.

ARTICLE IV – AFFILIATION

§4.01 Association Affiliation.

The Association shall be an affiliate of the National Association of the Deaf.

§4.02 Affiliation.

NAD representation and attendant expenses shall be determined by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS

§5.01 Executive Board.

The officers of the Association shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and three Members at Large, who shall constitute the Executive Board in an ascending order of administration of the Association. Only one person per family may hold office at a time.

§5.02 Authority.

The Executive Board shall have authority to conduct the business of the Association between conferences.

§5.03 Elect Member at Large.

Three (3) Members at Large shall be elected at each biennial conference and they shall serve a two-year term.

ARTICLE VI – DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

§6.01 President.

The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association, and shall preside at all meetings of the Association; shall appoint members of all committees where appointment is not already defined in the bylaws. At the expiration of this office, the President shall become an ex-officio of the Association and serve as an advisor to the new President. Candidate for the President shall be an OAD member for the last two years and attended the last OAD conference.

§6.02 Vice-President.

The Vice-President shall assist the President in any way within the provisions of the by-laws; shall serve on the Law committee and shall serve as president in the absence of the President.

§6.03 Secretary.

The Secretary shall keep a written record of all meetings; shall keep a list of all active, honorary and century members, giving full names with post office addresses; shall have charge of all documents except those of the Treasurer and those ordered otherwise by the executive committee. The Secretary shall chair the Necrology committee.

§6.04 Treasurer.

The Treasurer shall be responsible for all monies of the Association; shall keep records of all transactions; may be bonded for an amount that will protect the funds of the Association; shall honor only vouchers signed by the President as demand for payment; shall issue membership cards at the times dues are paid; shall close the books two months prior to conference in order to prepare a financial report for conference distributions; and shall chair on the Finance committee.. The Treasurer shall be an OAD

member for the last two years and has attended the last conference. The Treasurer may not hold such office for any other organization.

§6.05 Authority.

The Executive Board shall have authority to carry out the wishes of the Association expressed in conference, shall have the power to use any available funds of the Association to promote the interests of the Association; may act on matters pertaining to the interest of the deaf by phone, fax, regular mail or electronic mail with action being recorded by the Secretary.

§6.06 Members at Large.

The Senior Member at Large shall chair on the nominating committee. The Second Member at Large shall chair on the Resolutions committee. The Third Member at Large shall chair on the Membership committee. Service of such capacities shall be from conference to conference.

ARTICLE VII – AUDITORS

§7.01 Elect Auditors.

Three (3) auditors shall be elected to staggered terms with one term to expire at each biennial conference.

§7.02 Terms.

First auditor of the three auditors would be the head chair whose responsibilities shall work closely and provide support to the Treasurer. The Auditors shall serve as guardians of all funds; shall audit the books of the Treasurer every four (4) months between conferences; and shall certify that financial reports are correct.

ARTICLE VIII – REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

§8.01 Resignation.

Resignation from the office shall be made in writing to other members of the Executive Board with the statement of reason thereof.

§8.02 Removal.

Any elected officer may be removed from office for just cause by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board or members present at the special meetings (Article XI).

§8.03 Vacancies.

Vacancies in office shall be filled by the Executive Board.

§8.04 Vacancies by Resignation.

Vacancies in office caused by resignation or otherwise (including as a result of chapter dissolution) may be filled by appointment from the President with the approval of the Executive Board. The term of appointees shall end at the close of the next regularly scheduled conference.

ARTICLE IX – EXPENSES

§9.01 Remuneration.

All officers shall serve without remuneration except for out of pocket expenses in connection with the performance of duties of the office.

ARTICLE X – COMMITTEES

§10.01 Activity.

The chairperson of each committee shall appoint a minimum of three (3) members to serve on the following committees: (1) Necrology; (2) Resolutions; (3) Nominating; (4) Law; (5) Honorary membership; and (6) History.

§10.02 Law Committee.

It shall be the duty of the Law committee to interpret the by-laws and rule on questions of order, to submit to membership amendments having received in writing. The Vice-President shall serve on this committee.

§10.03 Finance Committee.

The Finance committee shall prepare a two-year budget for all OAD expenditures and submit same for approval at the biennial conference. Budgets approved shall be from conference to conference. The Treasurer shall serve on this committee.

§10.04 Legislative Representative.

The Legislative Representative shall give legislative reports to the Executive Board.

§10.05 Director of Youth.

The Youth Director shall oversee the best interests of the deaf and hard of hearing youth and also to children of deaf adults (CODA), and shall coordinate the functions tailor-made for the said youth's needs in development of leadership and social skills. Youth Director shall give the Youth Program report to the Executive Board. The Youth Director will be appointed by Executive Board.

§10.06 CODA Director. [Reserved]

§10.07 Ad Hoc and Special Committees.

Ad Hoc and Special Committees may be formed for a specific purpose with the approval of the Executive Board. The purpose and direction must be defined prior to its operations. The Executive Board shall receive a documental report by the chairperson of such committee at the executive board meeting.

ARTICLE XI – SPECIAL MEETINGS

§11.01 Notice.

A notice stating the time and place of the special meeting of members, any member by petition signed by ten percent (10%) of members in good standing, may call to assembly.

§11.02 Transaction.

Business transactions at said special meeting shall be limited to the purpose stated in writing.

ARTICLE XII – OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

§12.01 Publication.

The Association shall sponsor the newsletter as the official Association organ, which shall be electronically published at least four (4) times per year and/or maintain a website on a daily basis. Active members may request that the paper newsletters are mailed to them at discretion, and pay mailing fees as determined by the Executive Board.

§12.02 Editor.

The Board shall appoint the editor whose term shall be from conference to conference.

§12.03 Expense.

The expense of the newsletter and/or website shall be borne by the Association.

ARTICLE XIII – CONFERENCES

§13.01 Duration.

Conferences shall be biennially during odd-numbered years in June. The President shall issue a call to conference at least thirty (30) days prior to conference dates.

§13.02 Host Net Proceedings.

The Executive Board shall have general oversight of all conference matters. The host chapter or organization shall receive thirty percent (30%) of net proceeds of the conference exclusive of the membership fees.

§13.03 Host Chapters.

Any prospective host organization shall submit a letter of intent to host the OAD conference (effective at the 1991 conference) and name the site and date for the next

conference within 90 days after the conference. If there is no prospective host, a conference committee shall be formed within ninety (90) days after the conference.

§13.04 Quorum.

The quorum for calling business session during the conference shall be ten percent (10%) of paid-up members.

§13.05 Agenda.

The Orders of the Day shall be adopted as the agenda at the beginning of the conference.

§13.06 Student Attendees.

The students under the age of eighteen (18) are waived registration to the conference except for the events that include food.

ARTICLE XIV – AMENDMENTS

§14.01 Amendments of By-Laws.

These by-laws may be amended at any biennial conference by a two-thirds (2/3) vote. Amendments shall take effect immediately upon adoption unless otherwise provided for.

ARTICLE XV – DISSOLUTION

§15.01 Transfer of Assets.

In the event the Association is dissolved or otherwise ceases to exist; all assets of the Association shall be transferred to the National Association of the Deaf (NAD).

OAD OATH

On my honor as a member of OAD and a duly elected official, I solemnly promise that I will respect the laws governing the Association and enforce them impartially to the best of my ability and belief so help me God.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Oklahoma Association of the Deaf (OAD) is to promote, protect and preserve the civil rights and quality of life of deaf and hard of hearing individuals in Oklahoma.

VISION STATEMENT

The vision of the Oklahoma Association of the Deaf (OAD) is that every deaf and hard of hearing individual can and will obtain maximum potential through increased independence, productivity and integration without barriers.