

# **CONSTITUTION**

The Daughters of Erin was founded in 1978 as an Irish Catholic Women's organization. Membership is open to any female who has an interest in Irish culture regardless of their race or religious preferences.

This amended Constitution was approved by a Quorum at a general membership meeting on May 3, 2015. This Constitution is effective June 1, 2015.

## **ARTICLE I – NAME**

This organization shall be known as the "Daughters of Erin".

## **ARTICLE II – PATRON SAINT**

The Patron Saint of this organization shall be St. Brigid

## **ARTICLE III – PURPOSE**

The purpose of this organization shall be:

- Section 1      To provide cultural and spiritual experiences which will enrich the lives of the members and their families.
- Section 2      To educate ourselves and others through educational programs, workshops and activities relating to Irish culture and heritage.
- Section 3      To create an awareness in the population of the talents and contributions of the Irish.
- Section 4      To raise funds to support cultural and charitable activities and other purposes of the organization.
- Section 5      To provide an opportunity for fellowship and social activities for members.

## **ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP**

Membership is open to women and girls who have completed an application and paid dues.

## **ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Section 1      The members of the Board of Directors ("Board") must be members in good standing as provided by the Bylaws.
- Section 2      The elected Officers of this organization shall be the President, Vice President, and Secretary.

- Section 3     The position of Treasurer and Financial Secretary shall be appointed by the President and voted on and approved annually in June by the members of the Board.
- The Treasurer shall serve in an advisory capacity to the voting members of the Board.             The Treasurer shall serve in a nonvoting capacity.
- The Financial Secretary shall serve in a voting capacity.
- Section 4     Three delegates, elected by the membership, shall serve on the Board.
- Section 5     The Parliamentarian, Sergeant at Arms, and Historian shall be appointed to the Board by the President.
- Section 6     The voting members of the Board shall consist of the President, Vice President, Financial Secretary Secretary, elected Delegates, the Chairwomen of the Standing Committees, Parliamentarian and the immediate Past President.
- Section 7     The nonvoting members of the Board shall consist of the Charter Members, Historian, Sergeant at Arms and the Treasurer.
- Section 8     The immediate Past President shall serve as a member of the Board in an advisory capacity for the year succeeding her presidency.

## **ARTICLE VI – STANDING COMMITTEES**

The Standing Committees shall consist of:

- Section 1     Charities
- Section 2     Cultural
- Section 3     Hospitality
- Section 4     Membership
- Section 5     Publicity
- Section 6     Spiritual
- Section 7     Traditions
- Section 8     Junior Division Advisor

The President shall annually appoint the chairwomen of the Standing Committees and the elected members of the Board shall approve them.

## **ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS**

- Section 1      Membership meetings shall be held monthly September through June.
- Section 2      Special Membership and Board meetings shall be held at the discretion of the President.
- Section 3      A Quorum of the Board or general membership shall consist of the average number of members attending Board or general membership meetings. Based upon the meeting attendance records recorded during the previous twelve months, the Quorum will be determined each May.
- Section 4      The Board of Directors shall meet during the week prior to a regularly scheduled meeting.
- Section 5      Meetings of the standing committees shall be held when necessary at a time and place specified by the chairwoman of the committee or at the discretion of the President. The President is an ex-officio member of all committees, except the Nominating Committee.

## **ARTICLE VIII- NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DELEGATES TO THE BOARD**

- Section 1      The Nominating Committee shall be named at the February meeting. The nominating committee shall consist of between 3 and 5 members in good standing
- Section 2      The Election Committee shall consist of the Parliamentarian as chairwoman and 3 to 5 members in good standing appointed by the Parliamentarian.
- Section 3      The election of Officers and Delegates shall be held in May.
- Section 4      The installation of officers shall be held prior to the first Board meeting after the election of Officers.
- Section 5      Elected Officers and Delegates will be elected for a period of one year and may not serve in the same office for more than two consecutive terms.

## **ARTICLE IX - FISCAL YEAR AND PAYMENT OF DUES**

- Section 1      The fiscal year of this organization shall be January 1 through December 31.
- Section 2      Annual dues are payable in the month of January. The amount of annual dues shall be reviewed by the Voting members of the Board at the November Board meeting and approved by a majority at the general membership meeting in November. First time Members joining after July 1 will pay one-half of the regular dues. Dues must be paid thirty days prior to the election to be eligible to vote.

## **SECTION X – AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds quorum vote, provided that notice of any changes are available in print during Membership meetings and published electronically for two consecutive months and voted on in the third month.