

AMERICAN ITALIAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I. MEMBERS

SECTION 1. Classes of membership and the dues for each class of the Association may be proposed by a majority of the Executive Council and voted on by the membership at the annual meeting of the Association. The Executive Council shall give three months notice in writing, or in the Newsletter, to the membership of any proposed change of classes and dues.

SECTION 2. The dues of members of the Association shall be payable annually in advance on the first day of January.

SECTION 3. The fiscal year shall be the calendar year and shall extend and include from the first day of January to the thirty-first day of December.

ARTICLE II. ELECTIONS

SECTION 1. To qualify for office in the American Italian Historical Association:

- a) the candidate for an executive office must have been member in good standing of this Association for two years;
- b) the candidate for membership on the Executive Council must have been a member of this Association in good standing.

SECTION 2. The Officers and the members of the Executive Council shall be elected by a secret mail ballot by the membership of the Association. Officers may succeed themselves for one additional term. No member shall hold two elective offices at one time.

SECTION 3. The term for which Officers shall be elected is two years. The term for which members of the Executive Council

shall be elected is three years or until their successor shall have been duly elected and qualified.

SECTION 4. Candidates for office shall be selected by a three-member Nominating Committee, which shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Council. No member of the Nominating Committee shall be debarred from being a candidate for any office. The members of the Nominating Committee shall choose from among themselves a chairperson. The Nominating Committee will present, when possible, a choice of two candidates for the office of the President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, and Curator, and at least three candidates for every other two remaining elected positions on the Executive Council.

SECTION 5. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a ballot containing its own nominations and nominations made by petition after having solicited nominations from the membership at large.

SECTION 6. Ballots will be prepared for mailing by the Secretary, and/or Nominating Committee, and sent to all members of good standing at least one month before the Annual Election date. All ballots will be returned to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee and tallied by the Nominating Committee. Candidates are elected by a plurality of the voting members. The new term of office shall start on January first.

SECTION 7. Vacancies occurring in the term of any officer shall be filled for the remainder of said term by a vote of a majority of the Executive Council. However, the Vice-President shall succeed the President in the event of a vacancy in that office.

ARTICLE III. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The President shall preside at meetings of the Association and the Executive Council, fix the time and place of holding the meetings of the latter, appoint members of all

committees unless otherwise provided for, fill vacancies therein and add to the membership thereof when requested to do so by the chairman. He shall have general supervision of the Association and be an ex officio member of all committees.

SECTION 2. The other officers shall perform such duties as normally pertain to their respective offices. The Treasurer shall be bonded.

SECTION 3. The standing committees of the Association shall be: archives; conference and educational programs; constitution and by-laws; elections; fund raising; marketing and publicity; newsletter; regional chapter committee, and publications.

SECTION 4. Former president of the association shall be included on executive council for two years.

SECTION 5. All executive council members must attend at least one executive council meeting per year. The Executive Council shall decide on the consequences of two consecutive absences.

SECTION 6. All executive council members must serve on a minimum of one standing committee.

ARTICLE IV. MEETINGS

SECTION 1. There shall be held not less than one meeting of the Executive Council in each fiscal year. Written/electronic notice shall be sent to each member of the Executive Council at least two months in advance thereof.

SECTION 2. Special meetings of the Executive Council shall be called by the President or upon the written request of at least five members thereof.

SECTION 3. Six members of the Executive Council shall constitute a quorum to transact business, but approval by a majority of the members shall be required to implement any decision made

by the Executive Council. This shall be completed by written/electronic means within one month after the EC meeting.

SECTION 4. Fifteen members of the Association shall constitute a quorum to transact business.

SECTION 5. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the Association or its Executive Council from voting by mail.

ARTICLE V. REGIONAL CHAPTERS

SECTION 1. Regional chapters of the AIHA may be established upon:

- a) application by members in good standing;
- b) the recommendation of the Regional Chapter Committee;
- c) the approval of the Executive Council, which must approve the chapter constitution and verify the chapter election procedure.

SECTION 2. Each chapter must submit an annual report of its activities and the yearly financial statement to the Executive Council by March 21 of the year succeeding the year of the report. All election reports, change of officers, and changes of chapter constitutions must be reported to the national President of the AIHA.

SECTION 3. Regional chapters are required to adhere to the goals, objectives, and policies of the national AIHA and to the procedures of both the national constitution and the regional chapter constitution. Chapter activities detrimental to the AIHA, including the failure to abide by these constitutional rules may result in:

- a) the assumption by the Executive Council of direct control of the chapter or;

b) the revocation of the chapter's charter and the dissolution of the chapter's charter by the Executive Council.

ARTICLE VI. AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. Amendments to these By-laws may be proposed by the Executive Council or by the membership at the Annual Meeting.

SECTION 2. Proposed amendments that are approved by the majority vote of the Executive Council or by a majority vote of the Annual Meeting shall be submitted to a mail ballot of the members of the Association.

SECTION 3. Amendments supported by two-thirds of those voting in a mail ballot shall be declared adopted.

ARTICLE VII.

Mail ballot for amendments to the Constitution shall be sent to all members in good standing by the Secretary at least 45 days prior to the due date for their return. Such mail ballots shall be counted by a committee appointed by the President.