



**Kuhnenn Guild of Brewers (KGoB)
Homebrew Club By-Laws**

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Revision	Approval Date
Bylaws 1.0	(Original)
2.0	(Not enacted, further revised as noted below)
2.1	Added motions suggested in Forums, approved by voice vote at February 3, 2014 meeting with none opposed.
2.2	Added motions approved by voice vote at April 6, 2015 meeting: Beer Czar changed to Brew Czar, Article V, Section 8 added.
2.3	Adoption of Minister of Proppanda (Historian) at Oct 2018 meeting. Adoption of Minister of Stuff (Quartermaster) at Nov 2018 meeting. Both positions defined. Secretary changed to Minister on Notes (Secretary). Treasurer changed to Minister of Finance (Treasurer). Article V. Politburo Section 1.2, 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5 amended. Article V. Section 2.6 and 2.7 added.

Article I. Name

The name of the organization shall be the Kuhnhenh Guild of Brewers (KGB) Homebrew Club, a homebrewing "Club".

Article II. Definitions

Section 1.

Whenever the word "Club" is used in these By-Laws, it shall mean that body of members known as Kuhnhenh Guild of Brewers (KGB) Homebrew Club, a homebrewing Club.

Section 2.

Whenever the term "Member" is used in these By-Laws, it shall mean a person who has obtained membership.

Section 3.

Whenever the terms "Officers," "Board," or "Executive Committee" are used in these By-Laws, it shall mean President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and all non-voting officers.

Section 4.

As used in these By-Laws, the masculine gender shall be deemed to include feminine, or neuter, and the singular or plural number, whenever the context so indicates or implies.

Section 5.

Whenever the term "Majority vote of the Members" is used in these By-laws, it shall mean a vote of more than fifty (50) percent of the members who cast a vote at a general Club meeting.

Section 6.

Whenever the term "two thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Members" is used in these By-laws, it shall mean a vote of at least two thirds (2/3) of the Members who cast a vote at a general Club meeting.

Article III. Objectives

Section 1.

To discuss all things homebrewing unfettered and inclusive of all brewing knowledge, styles, methods, practices, art, science, and history, without discrimination. To engage in enjoyable social activities and events that focus on homebrewing and/or craft beer as a common foundation. To promote the AHA and BJCP, and actively promote good judging practices as specified per BJCP standards.

Section 2.

To promote homebrewing in all aspects including, but not limited to education, communication, and evaluation. To evaluate all things brewed by our members, sponsors, associates, peers, and honored guests.

Section 3.

The Club shall designate a Webmaster and maintain a website. The Webmaster shall produce and maintain online content, and manage the email lists. The role of Webmaster will be appointed by the Board and may be concurrent with any other Officer position.

Section 4.

To have regular monthly Club meetings at the home of our sponsors (Kuhnhenh Brewery & Winery and Brewing World).

Section 5.

To levy dues only as necessary to support the ongoing operations of the Club.

Section 6.

To be a non-political, non-sectarian and non-sexist organization.

Section 7.

To hold all members accountable to a general code of ethics and behavior, including, but not limited to, honesty, responsible drinking, and equitable contributions to the Club.

Section 8.

To foster friendly relationships with similar organizations.

Article IV. Membership

Section 1.

Membership is open to any person 21 years of age or older. Membership shall not be denied to any individual on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or physical handicap.

Section 2.

Dues are paid annually and an updated membership card will be provided showing the expiration month and year. The Officers set the dues for all members. When current members pay their dues, they must pay for the whole year.

Section 3.

The members shall not be liable for the debts or obligations of the Club. No member shall receive compensation for services rendered to the Club except as otherwise approved by the Executive Committee.

Section 4.

Membership may be denied or revoked if a majority of the board rejects the applicant.

Section 5.

5. Code of Conduct

- 5.1. Members recognize that participation in Club activities is entirely voluntary. Participation in these activities may include the consumption of alcoholic beverages, which may affect perception and reactions. Members accept individual responsibility for their conduct and behavior. The Club neither assumes nor accepts responsibility for an individual's actions.
- 5.2. No member who is driving after meetings or events shall drink to excess as defined by the Laws of the State of Michigan. Further, no member shall coerce, entice, or otherwise willingly suffer such abusive consumption on the part of any other member.
- 5.3. No member shall steal, be violent, or engage in behavior that is disrespectful to others or themselves.
- 5.4. Categorically, and without restriction, the Club reserves the right to censure, fine, suspend or expel any Member who willfully creates disharmony, behaves in a manner prejudicial to order and discipline, or tarnishes the image of the Club, Sponsor, and/or homebrewing as a hobby. No Member or Guest needs to tolerate harassment, belligerency or defamation from any Club Member. A membership may be terminated or restricted with cause by a majority vote of the board or a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members, unless otherwise specified.

Section 6.

6. Rights, Liabilities, and Privileges of Members

- 6.1. Members are expected to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#).
- 6.2. Members are expected to participate in Club chores necessary for Club activities, as needed, to provide and compensate for their stake in the benefits.
- 6.3. Members are encouraged to bring homebrewed beer, mead, wine or cider to each meeting they attend. Commercial product may only be brought for the purpose of direct comparison to a clone recipe of said product, or for a Politburo-approved activity as determined in advance of a meeting. Members are always welcome to bring food to share as well.
- 6.4. Members are encouraged to participate as members of other homebrew or beer appreciation Clubs.
- 6.5. Membership privileges include voting at Club meetings, access to online Club information, subscription to any Club email List alias, and attending Club meetings.

Section 7.

7. Types of Membership:

- 7.1. CANDIDATES, GUESTS: open to all persons per [Article IV, Section 1](#), but not yet recognized as any other form of Club Member. It is requested that candidates become another form of Club Member after attending no more than two meetings as a guest.
- 7.2. CHARTER MEMBERS: open to the first 24 members of the Club. Charter Members will have a specially designed membership card distinguishing them as a Charter Member.
- 7.3. MEMBERS, REGULAR MEMBERS: open to all persons per [Article IV, Section 1](#).
- 7.4. COUPLES/HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS: This membership gives a reduced price for two people at one physical address joining as regular members. The second member of the household shall pay an additional \$10.
- 7.5. SPONSOR MEMBERS: The Officers may award sponsor membership to organizations, companies, or persons in exchange for services or other benefits to the Club or its members valued at no less than \$100 per calendar year.
- 7.6. LIFETIME MEMBERS: Lifetime membership may be awarded to individual members in recognition of extraordinary contributions to the Club. Lifetime membership shall be offered upon a Majority vote of the Members and approval of the Executive Committee. Lifetime Members do not pay dues.

Article V. Politburo

Section 1.

1. The Politburo composition:
 - 1.1. Primary officers shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
 - 1.2. Additional voting officer positions may include, but are not limited to, Brew Czar, Quatermaster and Historian.

Section 2.

2. Roles
 - 2.1. The PRESIDENT shall Conduct regular Club meetings, organize and preside over Politburo meetings, and establish committees as needed for special projects. He shall present initiatives and ideas for Club activities, delegate Club business to appropriate officers, conduct all voting, and speak on behalf of the Club and/or Politburo for any actions decided upon.
 - 2.2. The VICE-PRESIDENT shall assist the President in maintaining the efficiency of the operation, and in the absence of the President, shall assume the duties normally performed by the President. In the event the President is unable or unwilling to perform his duties on an ongoing basis, the Vice-President shall assume the role of President and a new Vice-President shall be elected.
 - 2.3. The MINISTER OF MINUTES (secretary) shall record all club meetings and provide an electronic copy to the webmaster for posting on the website. The MINISTER OF MINUTES shall also be responsible for all written club notices of activities and all club mailings.
 - 2.4. The MINISTER OF FINANCES (treasurer) shall collect dues and revenues, collect and disburse funds for routine and special Club business, provide a financial summary not less than quarterly for the Club and website, and keep an accounting of Club monies.
 - 2.5. The BREW CZAR (event coordinator) shall assist the other members of the Board in planning and coordination of events and communications. Also help to set up group brews. Be lead person for Deathmash coordination.
 - 2.6. The MINISTER OF PROPAGANDA (historian/social media guru) will keep photo records for any happenings for the club. If technical enough then post them to club website and facebook pages.
 - 2.7. The MINISTER OF STUFF (quatermaster) will keep track of club gear and be point person for club members to rent out equipment. In charge of making sure rental policy is followed.

Section 3.

All Officers, at the expiration of their term of office, are required to turn over all pertinent papers and computer records of the Club to their successor, or other Club designee.

Section 4.

The Politburo must meet at least once each year. The meeting dates, times, and locations will be determined by the Politburo and published online via email in advance with adequate notice. Politburo meetings shall be open to any member in good standing.

Section 5.

Any Officer may be removed from office at any time by a two thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Members.

Section 6.

Should any Officer other than the President resign or be removed from office, the Politburo shall appoint a replacement for the remainder of the term, otherwise a call for new elections shall result upon the next general meeting.

Section 7.

All Politburo decisions shall be determined by a majority vote. In the event of a tie, the Presidents' vote shall determine the outcome.

Section 8.

Politburo officers are not required to pay membership dues for a year in which they hold office.

Article VI. Voting and Elections

Section 1.

Officers shall be elected by a Majority vote of the Members.

Section 2.

Voting for Officers shall be by secret ballot, unless otherwise designated.

Section 3.

Elections for Politburo Officers shall take place annually in November.

Section 4.

Term of office shall be for one year starting January 1st.

Section 5.

Elections shall be announced in email and the Club website preceding the election meeting.

Section 6.

Any regular member can make nominations for Officers at the October meeting with the consent of the nominee. Members wishing to run for an office but unable to attend the meeting may have their names put into nomination by submitting a written or email request to the Secretary any time before the election meeting.

Section 7.

7. Should more than two (2) candidates be nominated and run for any Politburo Office, the following shall prevail:
 - 7.1. Any candidate receiving a majority vote of the Members shall be considered elected.
 - 7.2. If no candidate receives a majority vote of the Members, there will be a run-off election between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

Section 8.

Any club member elected to an office may hold that office position for 2 years. If there are no accepted nominations for a position reaching a term limit, the current officer may remain in the position.

Section 9.

The Officers shall decide when and what kinds of issues and topics to be voted on. Any Regular Member can petition an Officer for an issue to be brought to a vote.

Article VII. Meetings

Section 1.

Official Club meetings shall be held monthly unless otherwise determined by Club Officers.

Section 2.

A meeting shall consist of at least one Officer and any number of regular members.

Section 3.

The Politburo shall establish an appropriate method for notifying members of the time and place for the monthly meeting.

Section 4.

The President shall dictate the procedure of the meeting, based on the activities planned. If the President is not available, then the order of responsibility for meetings is as follows: Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 5.

Officers may opt to meet as necessary to discuss Club business.

Section 6.

It is the responsibility of the Politburo to report to the Membership in a timely manner.

Article VIII. Finances and Expenses

Section 1.

Dues may be paid in cash.

Section 2.

The Treasurer shall cooperate fully with the President in any audit or review of the financial records.

Section 3.

A minimum balance will be established and maintained by the Treasurer to cover unexpected expenses or losses of the Club. The Club Officers shall establish the amount of the balance.

Section 4.

Any member may be reimbursed for all legitimate expenses in the name of the Club at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

Article IX. By-Law Change Acceptance

Any member can petition for changes in the By-laws. When changes are suggested, they must be introduced in writing or submitted in email to a member of the board and made available to all members to review at the next regular meeting where a discussion can be held regarding the proposed changes to the By-laws. Voting may take place at the following meeting. A majority vote of the paid membership is required to change the By-laws.

(Revisions will be made within the document after being approved by vote per rules above. Revision dates will be posted at the start of the document)