

Ohio Association of the DeafBlind (OADB) By-laws

ARTICLE I: NAME

This organization shall be called the "Ohio Association of the DeafBlind (OADB)," incorporated under the laws of the State of Ohio.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

This shall be a non-profit organization created solely for the purpose of improving the quality of life for Individuals who are DeafBlind, Combined Hearing and Vision Loss, and their surrounding community through advocacy, self-awareness, social and economic opportunities.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Members may be persons who are DeafBlind or Combined Hearing and Vision Loss and are of good moral character.

Section 2. Members may be person who are Deaf or Hearing sighted and are of good moral character.

Section 3. All members who are DeafBlind and Combined Hearing and Vision Loss are permitted to voice

and to vote. Deaf and Hearing sighted are permitted to voice and can't vote.

Section 4. Annual membership dues shall be paid by the first day of March of each year.

Section 5. To increase membership dues shall be discussed by the board and then approved by the members of OADB at the next general meeting.

Section 6. Failure to pay annual dues within three (3) months of the due date and after notice from the membership committee shall cause a member not be able to vote.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS AND BOARD

Section 1. The officers of the OADB organization shall be: President, Vice-president, Secretary, and Treasurer. The board shall be the officers, three (3) Members-at-Large, plus the Immediate Past-president.

Section 2. All nominated officers must be of good standing and two of the officers, including the President and Treasurer, must have at least one year of board experience with OADB.

Section 3. The President, Vice-president and two of the Members-at-Large must be DeafBlind or Combined Hearing and Vision Loss. The

Secretary, Treasurer, and the third Member-at-Large can be any members but should have the necessary skills for the named offices.

Section 4. The term of office for each officer and board member shall be unlimited term every two years election until successor have been elected.

Section 5. The Officer elections shall be held during the odd years in the month of March. The term of office shall begin June 1 after the following election meeting.

Section 6. Each officer shall be sworn in using the following as the oath of office:

"I solemnly promise to observe and uphold the By-laws of the Ohio Association of the Deaf-Blind and to perform the duties of my office to the best of my ability; so help me God."

Section 7. In the event of a vacancy, the President shall be empowered to fill the vacancy, subject to the approval of the other board members In the event the office of the President becomes vacant, the Vice-president shall assume the office and make appointments to fill whatever vacancies may exist, as set forth in the first sentence of this section.

Section 8. All board members shall have access to computer with internet service to be able to corresponds via E-mail and Facebook Group.

Section 9. Resignation must be submitted in writing to the President or to the Secretary.

Section 10. Board members may be removed for failure to carry out duties or for other good and sufficient reason by a 2/3 vote of the board.

Section 11. When voting during the general meeting, counting of ballots shall be done by at least two (2) persons from the assembly that is not involved in running for any office.

ARTICLE V: DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND BOARD

Section 1. The President:

- a. shall preside at all meetings of the OADB;
- b. shall have the power to appoint standing and other committees;
- c. shall appoint SSP Coordinators at each election to be approved by the Board
- d. shall be spokesperson for the general members of OADB;
- e. and shall perform all other duties normally associated with the office of the President. If needed, make deposits for the Treasurer.

Section 2. The Vice-president:

- a. shall assume the duties of the President in the absence of the President; and

- b. shall perform other duties and functions as may be determined by the President.

Section 3. The Secretary:

- a. shall keep a record of the proceedings of the OADB at its various meetings and prepare them for distribution as may be directed by the OADB:
- b. post (have available) minutes of all meeting within three (3) weeks after the respective meetings have been held;
- c. shall notify each member of the OADB of coming meetings; and
- d. shall have charge of all papers and correspondence of the OADB except that which properly belongs to other offices.

Section 4. The Treasurer:

- a. shall receive and deposit in an approved bank all OADB monies;
- b. shall keep an accurate, verifiable account of all OADB monies received and disbursed;
- c. shall prepare quarterly reports and provide same to the officers;
- d. shall pay bills of OADB up to the sum of one hundred United States dollars (\$100) without approval. Bills in excess of one hundred United States dollars (\$100) may be paid only after approval of all the officers;
- e. shall be bonded, at the discretion of the officers, for an appropriate amount;
- f. any disbursement of OADB monies must be made by check: and
- g. shall share treasurer report at any time with any of the members at their request.

Section 5. The three (3) Members-at-Large:

- a. shall assist the President, Vice-president, Secretary, and Treasurer as needed; and
- b. shall chair or serve on specific committees or sub committees as necessary appointed by the President.

Section 6. The Past-president:

- a. the Immediate Past-president may serve in an advisory capacity to the board; and
- b. in the event the Immediate Past-president is unavailable to serve for his/her term on the board, the Previous Past-president may serve in that position at the pleasure of the board.

ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS

Section 1. General meetings shall be held four times a year. Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter, at least one of them is a business meeting (usually in March). The board shall decide changes or additions of meetings.

Section 2. A quorum for the OADB general meetings shall consist of at least two-third (2/3) of the board. A QUORUM FOR THE GENERAL MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP SHALL CONSIST OF AT LEAST ONE-THIRD (1/3) OF THE MEMBERS REGISTERED AND IN ATTENDANCE FOR THE MEETING.

Section 3. THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE OADB SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE

PRINCIPLES SET FORTH IN ROBERT'S
RULES OF ORDER, IN WAYS THAT PROTECT
THE RIGHT TO FULL PARTICIPATION AND TO
HAVE FULL INFORMATION BY ALL
MEMBERS.

ARTICLE VII: Amendments

Section 1. The Bylaws of the OADB may be amended only in accordance with the procedures as set forth in Article VI, Section 2.

Section 2. Proposed amendments, all of which are approved by the Board, shall be brought to the membership at the general meeting for voting.

ARTICLE VIII: DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of the OADB, with the board's approvals, the assets of the organization shall be turned over to existing deaf-blind organizations in Ohio, for the purpose of being used for the welfare of deaf-blind persons. OADB established its tax-exempt status under 501©3 of the Internal Revenue Code and state as amended.

Started: March 1999

Revised: March 2023