

Krewe de Halcyon Bylaws
(Established in 2015)

Krewe de Halcyon is hereby established as a social organization with the sole purpose of bringing together family and friends to celebrate the merriment of fellowship year-round, with special emphasis placed on the Mardi Gras season. It is also the Krewe's mission to participate in charitable fundraisers within and surrounding Ascension Parish to positively impact our community.

Article I – Membership

Section A: Any person who is at least 21 years of age and recommended by a Krewe member in good standing shall be eligible for membership.

Section B: Members receive one (1) Mardi Gras Ball invitation per membership to cover their entry into the Mardi Gras Ball.

Section B: The Krewe membership will not exceed 100 dues-paying members during the first year and may increase each subsequent year. This is subject to change at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Section C: A member may be removed from the membership due to any infringement of the Krewe bylaws or for nonpayment of dues or other outstanding fees.

Article II – Fiscal

Section A: The fiscal year of the organization shall be from April 1-March 31.

Section B: The amount of dues will be set by the Board of Directors and are subject to change each year based on the prior year's expenses and/or changes in events.

Section C: Dues shall be paid no later than April 15th each calendar year. Members who have not paid their dues in full by the due date shall have their names deleted from the roster of members and considered as a non-renewal of membership. No refunds will be given for non-attendance of Krewe functions.

Section D: All NSF checks received by the Krewe will be charged a \$25.00 service charge. In such an event, members may be asked to pay in cash for future fees.

Article III – Board of Directors and Officers

Section A: The Board of Directors shall consist of the three (3) original founding members. When any founding member does not retain her membership, she will not be replaced unless the remaining founding members deem it necessary, and may elect a new board member at its discretion. For recorded and historical purposes, the founding members named herein includes the following: Vickie Hall, Brandy Pitre and Nichole Sitz.

Section B: The officers of the organization shall include the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer (“Executive Officers”).

The initial Executive Officers elected are named as follows: President: Vickie Hall, Vice President: Nichole Sitz, Secretary: Brandy Pitre and Treasurer: Jason Pitre. The Executive Officers will remain the same until the Board of Directors initiates the first election.

President – This officer shall call and preside at all meetings of the organization and will appoint any special committee chairs. The President will be responsible for overseeing all aspects of Krewe functions, including fulfilling the duties of the Treasurer with regards to day-to-day operations as needed.

Vice President – This officer shall be responsible for the internal operations of Krewe activities and shall perform other duties as may be designated by the Board of Directors. In the absence of the President, this officer shall perform the duties of the President. This officer will be responsible for all activities of the Royal Court once they are chosen, and shall handle RSVPs for all events.

Secretary – This officer shall be responsible for recording the minutes of all meetings of the organization, provide public and inter-krewe communication for the members and/or affiliated entities, and shall perform other duties as may be designated by the Board of Directors.

Treasurer – This officer shall collect and deposit monies, pay all bills and maintain records of all financial transactions, which shall remain accessible for the inspection by the membership as periodically designated by the President. The Treasurer shall present a written year-end financial statement to the membership at the general meeting following the fiscal year end, including a summary of all transactions and the balance of then current funds. The Treasurer will also be responsible for any tax-related filings which may be necessary and following any accounting procedures that may be ratified and reduced to writing by the Board of Directors.

Article IV – Election of the Executive Officers

Section A: The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected by the current membership to serve 3-year terms each with alternating terms, if possible.

Section B: The candidates shall have been members in good standing for two (2) consecutive years and with the majority of votes will be elected.

Article V – Krewe Royalty

Section A: The Krewe's royalty shall include a King, Queen, three (3) Dukes, and three (3) Duchesses. The Queen and Duchesses will be selected by a random drawing from all current members who are in good standing with the Krewe. The King and Dukes must be male. The Queen and Duchesses must be female. This process will be the responsibility of the Board of Directors and will be completed by July 30th of each year. The identities of the royalty will be kept secret until revealed at the annual Mardi Gras Ball. Members who do not wish to serve as royalty must submit their request in writing to the President by June 30th of each year or they will automatically be included in the selection process. A member may serve as a Duchess and then Queen, but if selected as Queen, she cannot serve as a Duchess in future years. Once a member serves as Queen she may not serve on the Royal Court in future years. A member may serve as a Duke and then King, but if selected as King, he cannot serve as a Duke in future years. Once a member serves as King he may not serve on the Royal Court in future years. A member may not serve in the same position two (2) consecutive years.

Section B: Royal Escorts – If the Queen is married and her spouse is a member, her spouse will be designated as King. If the Duchess is married and her spouse is a member, her spouse will be designated as a Duke. If the Queen or Duchess has a significant other and he is a member,

the significant other will be designated as King or Duke. If a single membership (spouse, significant other, or escort is not a Krewe member) is chosen for any Royal Court designation, the member's spouse, significant other, or escort for the Ball shall become a member and pay the Krewe membership fee in the amount of \$200 within seven (7) days after the Royal Court Notification.

Section C: Royalty Apparel – The Queen and Duchesses will wear formal gowns of their own choice and purchase. The Krewe provides the Royal collar, mantle, crown and sash for the Queen and she will wear a gown of white or ivory that may or may not include silver or gold. The Duchesses will wear gowns of their own color choices which do not include white, ivory or light pink. The Krewe provides a sash and tiara for each Duchess. The King and Dukes will wear formal black tuxedos (no tails) to include black jacket and pants and all other garments white (buttons should be white on shirt). The Krewe will provide the Royal soft collar, mantle, crown and sash for the King. The Krewe provides a sash and boutonniere for each Duke.

Article VI – Princesses and Gents

Section A: Princesses – These young ladies shall be nominated by a member and may include daughters, stepdaughters and granddaughters of Krewe members. They will wear a formal gown of white. The Krewe provides a tiara and floral bouquet for each Princess.

Section B: Gents – These young men shall be nominated by a member and may include sons, stepsons and grandsons of Krewe members. They will wear formal black tuxedos (no tails) to include black jacket and pants and all other garments white (buttons should be white on shirt). The Krewe provides a boutonniere for each Gent.

Section C: The Princesses and Gents shall be paired for presentation at the annual Mardi Gras Ball. In the event a Princess is scheduled to be escorted by her father and he is serving on the Royal Court, the Princess shall be escorted by another male of her choice.

Section D: Nieces, nephews and Godchildren of Krewe members may be considered for presentation if the numbers are deemed acceptable.

Section E: Princesses and Gents must no longer be students in high school and 18-21 years of age. Names are to be submitted in writing to the President by September 30th of each year.

Section F: The number presented shall be determined yearly on a first-submitted basis with approval of the Board of Directors and Executive Officers.

Article VII – Annual Mardi Gras Ball

Section A: The organization's annual Mardi Gras Ball shall be held in January or February, depending on availability of ballroom facilities and actual date of Mardi Gras/Fat Tuesday.

Section B: The annual Mardi Gras Ball will be a formal event for all attendees. All female members and guests must wear formal gowns with the length being at the ankle. The dress cannot be transparent and/or short in the front and long in the back. All male members and guests are required to wear formal tuxedos.

Section C: The Board of Directors requests that members and members' guests who are not on the Royal Court refrain from wearing attire described above in Sections V and VI of the bylaws.

Section D: Any individual attending the Mardi Gras Ball shall be at least 21 years of age and no longer a student enrolled in any high school program (with the exception of the Princesses and Gents presented before the Mardi Gras Ball begins and their guests). Proper identification for proof of age must be furnished upon request of the President and/or Security. All attendees under the age of 21 will be the direct responsibility of the member(s) who invited them, which includes seating, consumption of alcohol and transportation.

Section F: Any guest attending the Mardi Gras Ball must be accompanied by and seated with Krewe member(s).

Section G: The Krewe will do its best to provide seating accommodations for the Royal Court's immediate family members under the age of 21 to attend the Presentation. Immediately following family pictures, under age guests will be required to leave the venue. Under age guests are not required to wear formal attire.

Article VIII – Mardi Gras Ball Invitations

Section A: Each Krewe member has the option to purchase guest invitations to the annual Mardi Gras Ball at a cost determined by the Board of Directors. The Krewe encourages members to invite guests. However, guest invitations may be limited depending on the venue, and are sold on a first-submitted and paid basis.

Section B: The following number of guest invitations will be provided at no charge for the following:

- 1) Queen & King: 4 guest invitations
- 2) Duchesses & Dukes: 2 guest invitations
- 3) Princesses/Gents: 1 individual invitation provided by the Krewe

Section C: If the Royal Court chooses not to use the guest invitations they shall be returned to the Krewe at least 4 weeks prior to the Mardi Gras Ball.

Section D: Members' tickets will not be sold to the public if unused or transferred to non-members.

Article IX – Parades

Section A: These bylaws will comport with all provisions governing the parades Krewe de Halcyon participates in each year. Rules and Regulations will be provided to members before each parade.

Section B: Any parade issues not falling under the purview of Section A may be handled by a temporary committee and/or at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Section C: Parade and costume fees shall be paid by each deadline. No refunds will be given for non-attendance by members or guests. Members shall be responsible to communicate such to guest riders.

Article X – Meetings

Section A: The President shall be responsible for calling all meetings.

Section B: Meetings will be held as needed for the purpose of discussing the upcoming year's activities, election of officers and any business brought before the membership.

Section C: Common courtesy and customary business meeting etiquette will be followed at all times. For example, no interrupting, yelling or being disrespectful during discussions.

Article XI – Amendments

Section A: These bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the membership at any regular meeting of the organization or at the discretion of the Board of Directors. In the event there is a tie in any voting, the President receives an extra vote. A minimum of thirty (30) members must be present in order for an Article to be changed by majority vote. Any proposed changes in the bylaws shall be sent to the President at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which the vote will be taken. Material changes made directly by the Board of Directors will not affect the then current Mardi Gras season. For example, before a member is required to pay dues for an upcoming Mardi Gras season, a copy of the bylaws will be provided for comparison to the prior year.