

LOUISIANA BAPTIST SINGING MEN CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

Revised - August 2019

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. NAME

This organization shall be called the Louisiana Baptist Singing Men.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization shall be to glorify God through music and proclaim the message of salvation in Christ and to provide opportunities for Christian fellowship.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

The membership of this organization shall be composed of active and former vocational and bi-vocational music ministers from churches or other organizations affiliated with the Louisiana Baptist Convention or other Southern Baptist agencies and residing in the state of Louisiana. Membership will also be open to non-music ministers and laymen from churches or other organizations affiliated with the Louisiana Baptist Convention or other Southern Baptist agencies who meet entrance requirements (auditions) as may be determined by the officers and director. Other men may be considered at the discretion of the Director following an audition and interview with the President and Director to determine doctrinal integrity (in accordance with the Baptist Faith and Message).

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1 - This organization shall have the following officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary / Treasurer, Chaplain, Librarian, and Public Relations Officer. The person designated by the Louisiana Baptist Convention as the state music leader shall be an ex-officio officer of the organization. The officers shall be elected annually at the retreat and shall take office at the completion of the annual retreat.

Section 2 - The Director shall be selected by the officers of the organization. The Director will be evaluated annually by the officers and the members of the organization. The Director will be a non-voting, ex-officio member of the officers.

ARTICLE V. COMMITTEES

The President shall appoint committees as needed. The officers shall comprise the organization's Scholarship Committee. They shall be charged with the administration of the monies pertinent to the scholarships supported by the organization. The Nominating Committee shall be a standing committee appointed by the President. It shall consist of three persons not currently serving as officers.

ARTICLE VI. AMENDMENTS

Section 1 - This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of all members present and voting at any business meeting, provided members and the President have been notified in writing of the proposed amendment(s) at least one month prior to the date of the meeting.

Section 2 - In all meetings, ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER (Most current Edition), shall be authority of parliamentary law.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 - Membership

Membership shall be composed of those meeting the criteria of Article III of the constitution and who have paid current dues and attend performances and rehearsals. Only these persons shall be afforded the privilege to vote or hold office. Anyone desiring membership, following the annual retreat, must complete membership requirements prior to the first day of the month of the upcoming concert.

Section 2 - Dues

Dues of \$45.00 shall be payable at or before the annual retreat or at the first concert attended. If this presents a financial hardship for any member, he may petition any officer for a reduction in dues.

Section 3 - Attendance

- A.** Annual retreat attendance is strongly recommended.
- B.** Attendance is expected for all rehearsals/performances for the concert season.
- C.** Members are strongly encouraged to notify the Vice-President or Director in advance when they will be unable to attend the retreat or a concert.

Section 4 - Attire

All performing members shall be dressed alike. The attire will be agreed upon by consensus of the membership.

ARTICLE II. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1 - President

- A. Work with Director and other officers in planning concerts and activities.
- B. Appoint committees.
- C. Keep the program before membership.
- D. Preside at business meetings.

Section 2 - Vice-President

- A. Preside at meetings in the absence of President.
- B. Serve as membership and recruitment officer.

Section 3 - Secretary / Treasurer

- A. Keep accurate records of all meetings.
- B. Collect all dues and fees.
- C. Provide regular reports to the officers of all financial matters and an annual report to the membership.
- D. Pay all bills.

Section 4 - Chaplain

- A. Work with President to provide leadership in spiritual emphases, devotionals, and prayer concerns.
- B. Communicate to the membership special spiritual needs of members.

Section 5 - Librarian

- A. Assist in ordering, distributing, and preserving the music library.

Section 6 - Director

- A. Select repertoire with input from the membership.
- B. Conduct and/or be responsible for all rehearsals and performances.

Section 7 - Public Relations Officer

- A. Promote area missions and church concerts.
- B. Work to maintain social media presence.

ARTICLE III. MEETINGS

- A.** All meetings shall be called by the President in conjunction with the director at which time business may be conducted.
- B.** All meetings shall be moderated by the President.
- C.** Officers shall meet prior to or during each rehearsal for purposes of planning and review.
- D.** A business meeting shall be conducted at each retreat. Other business meetings of the membership may be called as needed.

ARTICLE IV. ELECTIONS / APPOINTMENT(S)

Section 1 - Eligibility: Any active member as defined in Article I of the by-laws shall be eligible for nomination to any office following two (2) consecutive concert years of singing.

Section 2 - Time: Officers shall be elected during the annual retreat.

Section 3 - Term of Office: Shall begin following the Annual Retreat and continue through the next retreat or until replacement officers are elected. The President, Vice-President, and Chaplain shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms.

Section 4 - Vacancies: When a vacancy occurs during the year, the remaining officers shall make appointments for the position.

ARTICLE V. AMENDMENTS

The By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members present at any business meeting, provided previous notice to amend has been submitted to membership and President in writing at least one month prior to the date of the meeting.