

BY-LAWS OF THE BEAD SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

ARTICLE 1 - NAME

The name of this organization shall be The Bead Society of New Jersey (referred to herein as BSNJ or “the Society”).

ARTICLE 2 - PURPOSE

Section 2.1 The purpose of the Society shall be:

To promote the art of beads and beading and provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, inspiration and education in a collaborative manner; to enhance the skills and further the knowledge of the cultural, historical, functional, creative and technical aspects of beads and bead related design for our membership.

ARTICLE 3 - MEMBERSHIP

Section 3.1 Any adult person over the age of 18 who supports the purpose of this organization shall be eligible for membership in the Society and shall become a member upon an expressed interest in the organization and payment of the full amount of annual dues.

Section 3.2 Membership shall be continuous until the member resigns from the Society or fails to pay the prescribed membership dues. Any member who fails to pay the prescribed dues by the November meeting, shall forfeit membership in the Society. Annual dues are not refundable.

Section 3.3 All members in good standing shall have the right to vote.

Section 3.4 Potential members may visit one time before joining.

Section 3.5 There shall be two categories of membership: General Member and Business Member, as defined in the Standing Rules.

Section 3.6 The Membership year runs from September through September.

Section 3.7 Quorum: Twenty percent of the membership shall constitute a quorum for a vote.

ARTICLE 4 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS (formerly Trustees)

Section 4.1 The Board of the Society shall consist of Officers and members-at-large elected at the annual May meeting.

Section 4.2 Qualifications. All members in good standing are qualified to serve as an officer or Board member at large of the Society. No person shall serve on the Board of Directors who is not a member.

Section 4.3 Terms.

Section 4.3.1 Officers shall serve a term of one year. Terms of office begin after the turnover meeting to be held no later than June 15th.

Section 4.3.2 Board members at large shall serve a one-year term.

Section 4.3.3 No member shall serve more than two terms consecutively in the same office, and no member shall hold more than one elected office at a time.

Section 4.4 Duties. The Officers and board members at large shall perform the duties described in these bylaws and any special rules of order and standing rules adopted by the Society.

Section 4.5 Removal of Officers or Board Members -- Any officer or board member may only be removed with or without cause by majority vote of the members present at a meeting where a quorum exists.

Section 4.6 Filling Vacancies. If the President is not longer able to serve, the Vice-President-Programs shall automatically become President for the remainder of the current term. If the Vice-President-Programs is unable or

unwilling to serve the remainder of the President's term, the vacancy shall be filled by election by the Board of Directors. All other vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the Board of Directors. In filling vacancies for unexpired terms, an officer who has served more than one-half (1/2) of a term is considered to have served a full term in that office.

Section 4.7 Resignation of Officers and Board Members At Large:

Any officer or board member may resign from the board at any time by submitting such resignation in writing to the Board who shall present it to the members at the next scheduled meeting.

ARTICLE 5 - OFFICERS

Section 5.1. The elected officers of the BSNJ are President, Vice President-Programs, Vice President-Communications, Recording/Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 5.2. Officers shall serve for one year. The term of office shall begin at the completion of the June meeting.

Section 5.3 Qualifications. Any member in good standing shall be qualified to serve as an officer of the Society. No person shall hold office who is not a member.

Section 5.4 Duties. Officers shall perform the duties described in these bylaws, any special rules of order and standing rules adopted by the Society, and as established by the Board of Directors. It is the duty of outgoing officers to inform the new officers both orally and via supporting documentation of the responsibilities of the office in order to have the Society function smoothly.

ARTICLE 6 - BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

Section 6.1 There shall be five board members at large.

Section 6.2 The Immediate Past President shall serve as one of the board members at large.

ARTICLE 7 - DUTIES AND CONDUCT OF THE BOARD

Section 7.1 Duties. The Board shall be the policy forming and executive body of the Society and shall take initiative in directing the policies of the Society. The Board shall have the authority to:

- a) Adopt rules governing its own proceedings;
- b) Have authority over the affairs of the Society between meetings;
- c) Make recommendations to the Society to be voted on by the membership;
- d) Fix the date, time and place of meetings;
- e) Determine the amount of the annual dues;
- f) Perform such other duties as are specified in these bylaws and any special rules of order and standing rules adopted by the Society.
- g) Shall act as directed by the members of the Society.
- h) Plan short and long-range goals pertaining to each officer's duties and the Society's direction as a whole.
- i) Prepare an annual budget to present to the general membership for approval during the September general meeting.

Section 7.2 The Board shall be subject to the orders of the Society, and none of its acts shall conflict with any action taken by the Society.

Section 7.3 Board meetings shall be open to the general membership, and be held in a public place at a set date and time, schedule to be determined during the summer and published in September.

Section 7.3.1 Working sessions of the Board may be called at the President's discretion, but no voting shall occur at working sessions.

Section 7.4 Special meetings of the Board to address personnel and sensitive issues may be called upon the written request of three (3) members of the Board. Membership shall be notified that a Special Meeting has occurred and provided with information regarding the purpose of and outcome of the meeting.

Section 7.5 Elected officers, Board Members at Large and Committee Members shall participate in Board meetings with the Committee Chairs being non-voting members of the Board.

Section 7.6 Minutes of Board meetings shall be made available at the next membership meeting following each board meeting. In addition, the Board will report on actions taken during the membership-meeting portion of the monthly meetings.

Section 7.7 No elected officer shall receive salaries, stipends or gratuities for their services on the board.

Section 7.8 The property of this organization is irrevocably dedicated to non-profit purposes and no part of the net income or assets of this organization shall ever benefit any officer or member thereof or any private persons not specifically hired by the Society to perform functions on behalf of the society.

Section 7.9 A majority of Board members present shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE 8 –NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Section 8.1 A Nominating Committee of four members, including at least one member of the current Board of Directors, shall be elected by the general membership at the February meeting. The committee shall elect its own chair.

Section 8.2 The Nominating Committee shall nominate at least one candidate for each of the offices to be filled. Consent from each of the nominees must be obtained before being included in the slate of candidates for office.

Section 8.3 Nominations shall be requested from the membership at both the February and March meetings. Nominations may be submitted in writing or via email, and must be received no later than March 15th. Additional nominations from the floor may be made providing consent to serve has been obtained.

Section 8.4 Each nominee shall submit a one-page personal and/or professional profile and position statement, including position qualifications. All profiles will be emailed or mailed to all members in good standing prior to the May meeting.

Section 8.5 Members of the Nominating Committee are not eligible for nomination.

Section 8.6 Voting shall be by written ballot at a membership meeting.

Section 8.7 Ballots shall be counted by the Nominating Committee.

ARTICLE 9 – BEAD SOCIETY OF NJ BOARD:

Section 9.1 The voting members of the Board shall consist of the Officers, and the Board Members At Large.

Section 9.2 Committee chairpersons are non-voting members of the board.

Section 9.3 Official Meetings of the Board are open to all members and are held at regularly scheduled and publicized times or whenever the need for such meetings arise, but in no event less than three times each year.

Section 9.4 Official Meetings of the Board shall be held in accessible locations. Dates and times of the meetings shall be placed on the calendar and listed on the Society's website prior to the September membership meeting.

Section 9.5 Working sessions of the Board shall be held whenever the need for such meetings arises. The purpose of such meetings shall be to prepare information to present to members at the membership meeting.

Section 9.6 The Board shall assist the Treasurer in preparing an annual budget to present to the General membership for approval during the October general meeting.

Section 9.7 A majority of elected Officers and Members at Large shall constitute a quorum.

Section 9.8 Vacancies occurring in the Board, except for the office of President, shall be filled by the President from the Society's membership, with approval of the other voting members of the Board.

Section 9.9 No board member shall receive any compensation for being a board member, other than reimbursement for authorized expenses.

ARTICLE 10- MEETINGS

Section 10.1 General meetings of the Society shall be held monthly, from September to June, excluding December. The Board and Committees shall, in addition, meet in July and August to plan the following year.

Section 10.2 The General meeting in May shall be known as the annual meeting and shall be for the purpose of electing trustees and officers, receiving annual reports, and conducting any other business that may arise.

Section 10.3 Special meetings may be held upon the call of the president, the vice-president, the Board or on the written request of 20% of the members of the Society. Notice of the special meeting shall be given to the members in writing or orally at least ten days in advance and shall set forth the time, place and purpose of the meeting.

ARTICLE 11- AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

The By-Laws may be amended or repealed at a General Meeting of the Society by a 2/3's vote of the members present when notice of the proposed change is given to all members in writing at least 10 days in advance.