

ASSOCIATION BYLAWS

Long Island Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf

Article I. NAME

The name of this corporation shall be the Long Island Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (LIRID).

Article II. OBJECTIVE

The principal objective of this corporation is to initiate, sponsor, promote and execute policies and activities that will further the profession of the interpretation of American Sign Language and English and the transliteration of English.

Article III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. — Categories of Membership:

This corporation shall have the following categories of non-transferable membership:

- A. Voting Members: All certified and associate members in good standing
 - 1. Certified – Individuals holding current RID or NAD certification only
 - 2. Associate - Individuals engaged in interpreting or transliterating, full-time and part-time, but not holding RID certification.
- B. Non-voting members:
 - 1. Student - For students currently enrolled at least part-time in an interpreter training program.
 - 2. Supporting Member – Individual who supports LIRID
 - 3. Organizational - Organizations and agencies that support LIRID

Section 2. — Voting Rights and Requirements:

- A. In order to be a voting member of the national RID and LIRID, a person must be a member in good standing.
- B. Each voting member of this corporation shall be entitled to one vote in meetings, referenda and elections. Meetings, referenda and elections pertaining to evaluations and standards/ethics may be voted upon by certified and associate members. Meetings, referenda, and elections pertaining to certification issues may be voted upon only by certified members.
- C. Absentee members may submit a proxy vote through a voting member in good standing for all business.
- D. Any decision of the Board of Directors may be vetoed by a two-thirds majority vote of those eligible and voting during a regular or special meeting of the membership or through mail referendum.

Section 3. — Termination of Membership and/or Certification:

- A. Membership: An individual's membership in the RID can be terminated for the following reasons:
 - a. Suspension or expulsion for cause as outlined in the national RID Policies and Procedures Manual.
 - b. Non-payment of dues as outlined in the Policies and Procedures Manual.
 - c. Resignation.

Section 4. - Code of Ethics Compliance

Individual members of LIRID, while interpreting, shall follow the Code of Ethics established and implemented by the association and shall be subject to the Ethical Practices System.

Article IV. DIRECTORS

Section 1. — Composition of Board of Directors:

The Board of Directors shall be comprised of a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, member(s)-at-large and associate representative. In addition, the Immediate Past President and President-Elect may serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the Board of Directors for one term.

Section 2. — Powers and Limitations:

All corporate powers shall be exercised by or under the authority of the Board of Directors. Unless so authorized by the Board of Directors, no officer, agent, or employee shall have any power or authority to bind the corporation by any contract or engagement or to pledge its credit or to render it liable monetarily for any purpose or in any amount. All charges, responsibilities and membership directives shall persist until fulfilled regardless of any changes to the makeup of the Board of Directors. Specific powers and limitations are defined in the Policies and Procedures Manual and are in accordance with the RID's Articles of Incorporation.

Section 3. — Duties:

A. General Duties:

- a. Perform duties as prescribed by the voting membership, the Board of Directors or as required by law.
- b. Approve the budget of the affiliate chapter annually.
- c. Provide a comprehensive affiliate chapter report no later than ninety days after the end each fiscal year.

B. Officers:

- a. President or Co-President (requires certification)
 - i. Represents the chapter in all appropriate activities
 - ii. Presides at meetings of the members and/or directors
 - iii. Appoints committees
 - iv. Has the authority to co-sign checks with the Treasurer or any other person designated through action of the Board of Directors.
 - v. Provides at least quarterly reports to the membership concerning business and Board of Directors activities and financial status of the corporation
- b. Vice-President (requires certification)
 - i. In the absence or disability of the President, the Vice-President shall assume all duties of the President.
- c. Secretary
 - i. Keeps complete and accurate record of the proceedings of the Board of Directors
 - ii. Supervises the keeping of all corporation records
- d. Treasurer
 - i. Supervises the receipt and safekeeping of all corporation funds
 - ii. Has the authority to co-sign checks with the President or any other person designated through action of the Board of Directors.

- e. Member(s)-at-Large (2)
 - i. Works with the general membership, assisting with the coordination of activities and communication within our community.
- f. Associate Representative
 - i. Works with associate members of LIRID, assisting with the coordination of mentoring activities to attain professional development skills leading to certification by National RID.
- g. Immediate Past President
 - i. May serve as a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Board of Directors for one term.
- h. President-Elect
 - i. May serve as a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Board of Directors for one term.
- i. Executive Committee
 - i. Comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer , is responsible for preparing the agenda prior to meetings of the Board of Directors.
 - ii. In the event that the entire Board is unable to convene, the Executive Committee shall be given full power and authority to take action on emergency issues.

Section 4. - Qualifications:

All candidates for the Board of Directors, except the President and Vice-President, shall have been members in good standing for at least two consecutive years immediately prior to candidacy. The President and Vice-President must have been a certified member in good standing for at least three consecutive years immediately prior to candidacy. For those Board positions requiring certification, the requirement that a candidate must have been certified for at least two consecutive years immediately prior to candidacy is temporarily waived for RID members in good standing who become certified for the first time by obtaining their CDI. The period of this temporary waiver will begin January 1, 2004 and end January 1, 2005. The RID member must have attained Certified status, and must have been a member in good standing at the Associate and/or CDI Certified level for at least four consecutive years immediately prior to Board position candidacy, and must meet all other requirements for the position. Associate Representative cannot hold any certification(s) at time of nomination.

Section 5. — Term of Office:

- A. Officers: (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Associate Representative) shall serve two-year terms. Member-at-Large shall serve two-year terms. No Officer shall hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms. They shall be elected by ballot during the last general meeting of the calendar year and their term shall commence at the beginning of the next calendar year, but no later than March 1st of that election year, providing they are not already serving an unfinished term of office

Section 6. — Nominations and Elections:

- A. Officers: (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Member-at-Large) Candidates must receive nominating signatures of at least 25% voting members in good standing.
- B. Procedures governing nominations, acceptance of nominations, and elections are contained in the National RID Policies and Procedures Manual.

Section 7. — Vacancies:

Vacancies of the Board of Directors are created upon the death, resignation, or removal due to legal action or for cause against any director. Additionally a vacancy

will be created when an Officer moves from one region to another more than six months prior to completion their of term. This situation would require the Board Member's immediate resignation. The Board of Directors can appoint a person, temporarily, to a vacant position. This temporary appointment would become permanent by vote of the membership at the next general membership meeting or via mail referendum.

- A. Removal of Directors: The Board of Directors may declare vacant any office for which the Director has been removed due to legal action or for cause as detailed in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

Section 8. — Meetings of Directors:

- A. Other Regular Meetings: Other regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least on a quarterly basis at such time and place as fixed by the Board of Directors. Announcement shall be provided to membership at least ten days prior to such meeting.
- B. Special Meetings: These may be called by the President or by any two Directors, with a majority vote of approval by the Board of Directors. Notification shall be given to the entire Board of Directors at least seven days prior to such a meeting.
- C. Meetings by Electronic Conference: Any meeting, regular or special, may be held by electronic conference or similar communication equipment, so long as all directors participating in the meeting can communicate with one another.

Section 9. — Quorum:

A majority of the Board of Directors is required to attend in order to constitute a quorum for Board meetings. Ten percent (10%) of the general membership is required in order to constitute a quorum for General Membership meetings.

Article V. COMMITTEES

Upon the Board of Directors' approval, the President shall appoint any committees, including standing, special and/or ad hoc committees, composed of at least three voting members in good standing to serve for a specified term. Any vacancies in the membership of any committee that are filled will follow the same procedure.

Furthermore, for each committee the President shall designate a member of the Board of Directors to serve as a non-voting member. A majority of the entire committee shall constitute a quorum.

Article VI. MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Special membership meetings may be called at any time by the Board of Directors or by written petition sent to the Board of Directors from a minimum of ten percent of the voting members of the corporation. Written notice of the time and place of special meetings shall be given at least two weeks prior to the meeting. A quorum to conduct business at special meetings shall consist of no less than 10 voting members.

Article VII. MAIL REFERENDUM

Motions may be voted on by the membership by mail referendum in the following manner:

- A. Mail referenda may be drafted and submitted by the Board of Directors, by a committee at the request of the Board of Directors, or by written petition of at least five percent of the voting members of the corporation, sent to the Board of Directors.
- B. Written notice of the referendum, stating and describing all motions, procedures and deadlines for voting, shall be provided to all voting members at least sixty days prior to the referendum deadline.

- C. Results of all mail referenda shall be determined by a majority of the valid ballots returned except when a higher percentage is required by these Bylaws or by Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.
- D. Results of mail referenda shall be disseminated to the membership within forty-five days after the referenda deadline.

Article VIII. INSPECTION RIGHTS

A copy of the corporation's Bylaws as amended to date shall be open to inspection by the members of the corporation during business hours. Inspection can also be made of the books, membership records, or minutes of proceedings of the members or of the Board or committees of the Board, upon written request to the corporation by the member, and with a ten business days notice for a purpose reasonably related to such person's interests as a member. Any inspection may be made in person or by agent or attorney and the right to inspection includes the right to receive copies and/or extracts at reasonable cost. The Corporate logo shall be used by the corporation and its affiliated chapters for official and/or approved purposes only. The corporate logo may not be used by an individual member for their personal use.

Article IX. FISCAL YEAR OF THE CORPORATION

The fiscal year of the corporation shall begin on the first day of July and end on the thirtieth day of June of each year.

Article X. FEES, DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

In order to remain in good standing, a member must pay annual dues in advance of the first day of July of each fiscal year, in amounts to be fixed from time to time by the Board of Directors. (Gold and Silver Members of the Corporation are exempt from annual dues.) Dues are in arrears as of August first of each fiscal year. The dues shall be equal for all members of each category, but different dues may be set for each category. Notification of any changes in dues structure, fees, or assessments must be published in the association newsletter at least ninety days prior to the anticipated implementation. Furthermore the Board of Directors may determine and assign the payment of a reasonable late fee and reinstatement fee.

Article XI. AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

The Bylaws may be amended or repealed by approval of two thirds majority of the voting members of the Corporation, eligible and voting during a regular or special meeting of the membership, with ninety days prior notice, or by following the guidelines under Article IX. MAIL REFERENDUM. However, any amendment which would materially and adversely affect the rights of a specific category must be approved by a two-thirds majority of the members voting from that affected category.

Article XIII. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The RID shall not discriminate in matters of certification, testing or membership on the basis of age, color, creed, disability, ethnicity, hearing status, national origin, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation.

Article XIV. DISSOLUTION OF THE CORPORATION

Dissolution of the Corporation will follow the procedure as specified in the Articles of Incorporation.

Article XV. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the corporation in all cases to which they are applicable and consistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the corporation may adopt.