



BENEVOLENT, PATRIOTIC ORDER OF DOES of the U.S.A.

Charleston, SC Drove No. 231

Approval by Grand Lodge Judiciary Chairman

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I – NAME

Section 1: This Drove under the provisions of its dispensation and charter, shall be known as Charleston, Drove No. 231 of the Benevolent, Patriotic Order of Does of the United States of America.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Membership shall be by personal invitation from a member of the Drove. To be eligible, one must be a citizen of the United States of America, be of good character, believe in God, and have attained their 21st birthday. Further qualifications for membership are set forth in the Constitution. Chapter XVIII, Section 1.

ARTICLE III – FEES AND DUES

Section 1: The initiation fee shall be as set forth in the Constitution. Chapter XVIII, Section 1.

Section 2: The annual dues shall be \$30.00, payable on or before the first day of January of each year. A member shall be declared delinquent for non-payment of dues after February 1st but shall not be dropped from the membership roll until December 31st of the fiscal year. Chapter XVIII, Section 4.

Section 3: Candidates to be initiated shall pay their dues for the balance of the current year before initiation. The dues for the fiscal year shall be divided into quarters and the dues for the balance of the current year shall be computed to include the quarter of the year in which the candidate is initiated. However, a member initiated during the last quarter of the year shall pay this quarter's dues, or the annual per capita tax, whichever is greater. Chapter XVIII, Section 4.

ARTICLE IV – SESSIONS

Section 1: The regular sessions of the Drove shall be held at 7:30 pm on the First and Third Thursdays of each month, except in the months of June, July, August, and December, when sessions must be held at least once a month, unless a Special Meeting is approved as outlined in the Constitution. There shall be no meetings on special days such as New Year's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Fourth of July,

Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Meetings that would be held on these days shall be held at the convenience of the Drove. Chapter X, Section 8.

ARTICLE V – SPECIAL MEETINGS

Section 1: Special meetings may be called by the President, by giving a week's written notice to the members. This notice shall state the special business to be considered and no other business shall be considered or transacted. Chapter X, Section 9.

ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Section 1: The Elected and Appointed Officers of the Drove shall be as outlined in the Constitution. Chapter XI, Section 1.

Section 2: Special Appointees are the Historian, News Reporter, Parliamentarian, and the Public Relations Officer. Chapter XIV, Section 1.

Section 3: The Standing Committees appointed by the President shall be as listed in the Constitution. Along with the minimum requirements. Chapter XV, Section 1.

ARTICLE VII – ORDER OF BUSINESS – QUORUM

Section 1: The regular Order of Business shall be as listed in the Constitution. Chapter X, Section 11.

Section 2: The Members that are present, in order to transact business, of whom two shall be Elected Officers, shall constitute a Quorum. Chapter X, Section 10.

ARTICLE VIII – RECORDS

Section 1: Every Drove shall retain the records as listed in Chapter X, Section 4. The Official Seal of the Drove shall be impressed upon Membership Cards, official documents and all papers issued by authority of the Drove.

ARTICLE IX – NOMINATIONS, ELECTION, AND INSTALLATION

Section 1: Nominations for office shall be made at a regular meeting of the Drove in November of each year. Chapter XI, Section 5.

Section 2: The annual Election of Officers shall be held by each Drove at the regular meeting in December. Chapter XI, Section 9.

Section 3: The officers shall be installed at the first regular meeting in January, unless the Installation Ceremony is open to the public. The Ceremony may then be held at a time other than the regular meeting but not prior to January 1st. Public Installation may be counted as a meeting. Chapter XI, Section 13.

ARTICLE X – BYLAWS AND AMENDMENTS

- Section 1:** Any amendments to, substitutions for, or alterations of the Bylaws relating to time of meetings, number of dues, etc., such as a Drove has full authority to change, shall be, proposed in writing at a regular meeting, read before the Drove, and held over until the next regular meeting before a vote of the Drove can be taken. Approved by a two-thirds vote of all Members present and voting, for the final adoption of such amendments. Chapter XXIII, Section 1.
- Section 2:** These proposed amendments to, substitutions for, or alterations of the Bylaws shall indicate the date of the regular meeting at which they were proposed, and the date of the regular meeting at which they were adopted. It must be signed by the President, the Secretary, and the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee. It must carry the seal affixed by the Drove Secretary. Be sent in triplicate (with each copy properly signed and sealed) to the Chairman of the Grand Lodge Judiciary Committee for approval. Will not become effective until they have been approved by the Chairman of the Grand Lodge Judiciary Committee, with seal affixed, and returned to the Drove. Chapter XXIII, Section 2.
- Section 3:** Any action or edict of the Grand Lodge altering these Bylaws shall have the effect of an amendment without any further action of the Drove. Chapter XXIII, Section 3.
- Section 4:** All proposed amendments to these Bylaws in conflict with the Grand Lodge Laws, are void, and shall be declared out of order by the Chairman of the Grand Lodge Judiciary Committee. No Drove or individual member shall change Bylaws without first submitting to the Chairman of the Grand Lodge Judiciary Committee for approval. Chapter XXIII, Section 4.

ARTICLE XI – STANDING RULES AND AMENDMENTS

- Section 1:** Any amendments to, substitutions for, or alterations of the Standing Rules of a Drove shall be proposed in writing at a regular meeting, read before the Drove, and held over until the next regular meeting before a vote of the Drove can be taken. All voting may be by secret ballot. Approved by a two-thirds vote of all Members present and voting for the final adoption of such rules. Chapter XXIV, Section 2.
- Section 2:** Any amendments to, substitutions for, or alterations of the Standing Rules of a Drove shall indicate the date of the regular meeting at which they were proposed and the date of the regular meeting at which they were adopted. Be signed by the President, the Secretary, and the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee. Carry the seal affixed by the Drove Secretary. Be sent in triplicate, with each copy properly signed and sealed, to the Chairman of the Grand Lodge Judiciary Committee for approval. Not become effective until they have been approved by the Grand Lodge Judiciary Committee, with seal affixed by the Chairman, and returned to the Drove. Chapter XXIV, Chapter 3.

Section 3: Any action or edict of the Grand Lodge altering these Standing Rules shall have the effect of an amendment, without any further action of the Drove. Chapter XXIV, Section 5.

Section 4: All proposed amendments to the Standing Rules in conflict with the Grand Lodge Laws, are void, and shall be declared out of order by the Chairman of the Grand Lodge Judiciary Committee. No Drove or individual member shall change the Standing Rules without first submitting to the Chairman of the Grand Lodge Judiciary Committee for approval. Chapter XXIV, Section 4.

Bylaws were proposed in writing at a regular session on July 20, 2023. They were adopted by two-thirds vote of membership present at a regular session on August 17, 2023.