

CONSTITUTION OF THE ALABAMA VOCAL ASSOCIATION

Article 1. Name

Section 1.1. The organization shall be known as the Alabama Vocal Association.

Article 2. Purpose

Section 2.1. The AVA shall promote cooperation among choral directors and teachers of general music in Alabama.

Section 2.2. The AVA shall provide a program of musical experiences that will enhance the programs of vocal music in the individual schools in Alabama.

Section 2.3. The AVA shall provide a means whereby professional ideas and methods may be shared for the mutual benefit of members and their programs.

Section 2.4. The AVA shall promote growth and higher standards in music education throughout the state.

Section 2.5. The purposes for which the Alabama Vocal Association is organized are exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, testing for public safety, literary, or educational purposes, or to foster national or international amateur sports competition (but only if no part of its activities involve the provision of athletic facilities or equipment), or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals, no part of the net earnings of which inures to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual, no substantial part of the activities of which is carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation (except as otherwise provided in subsection (h)), and which does not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office, within the meaning of section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law.

Section 2.6. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, this organization shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal income tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue law.

Section 2.7. Upon the dissolution of the corporation, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future Federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed shall be disposed by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Article III. Affiliate

Section 3.1. The Alabama Vocal Association shall be the choral division of the Alabama Music Educators Association.

Article IV. Membership

Section 4.1. Individual membership in the Alabama Vocal Association shall be open to any person who teaches vocal or general music in the state of Alabama, and shall be contingent upon membership in the Alabama Music Educators Association (AMEA) and in the Music Educators National Conference (MENC).

Article V. Dues

Section 5.1. Dues for individual membership shall be the amount required for membership in the two parent organizations of the AVA.

Section 5.2. Dues for individual membership may be paid to the AVA, AMEA, or MENC, but, in any case, no monies from dues paid for individual membership shall be retained by AVA.

Section 5.3. Membership must be renewed in June of each year (menc.org).

Section 5.4. The right of voting and participation in activities shall be denied any individual who is not current in his/her dues.

Article VI. Officers

Section 6.1. The elected officers (Executive Committee) of the AVA shall be President, Vice-President (the immediate past president), President-Elect, and Recording Secretary. To be eligible to serve as an AVA officer, one must have served as a District Chairman.

Section 6.2. Appointed board members of the AVA shall be one chairman for each of the districts. The President of AVA will make these appointments.

Section 6.3. The office of Executive Secretary, a non-voting office, encompasses all the duties of Treasurer as well as other duties, responsibilities, requirements and benefits. The office may be reviewed as needed according to AVA Bylaws, including necessary changes to other officers' duties. A committee comprised of the President, President-Elect and Vice-President that has reviewed resumes of interested applicants selects the officer. The Executive Secretary is a member of the Executive Committee.

Section 6.4. The President may appoint non-voting board members.

Section 6.5. The Executive Committee, the District Chairs, and other appointed board members constitute the Board of Directors, which is empowered to transact necessary business between regular meetings of the AVA.

Section 6.6. Each District Chairman may recommend to the AVA President a member from his district to serve as Co-Chairman. If needed, the AVA President shall make the official appointment of the Co-Chairman, a non-voting office except in the absence of the District Chairman.

Section 6.7. The term of office for both elected and appointed officers shall be two years.

Section 6.8. Should a vacancy occur on the Board of Directors, the AVA President is empowered to appoint a member to fill this vacancy for the remainder of the term of office.

Article VII. Meetings

Section 7.1. The general membership of the AVA will meet regularly three times a year.

Section 7.2. Officers for the next term will be elected at the annual All-State Festival.

Section 7.3. The Board of Directors shall have a summer work session and will meet other times as necessary.

Section 7.4. District Chairmen will call meetings of members in their district as necessary.

Section 7.5. Members present at any called general membership business meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Section 7.6. *Roberts' Rules of Order Revised* shall govern all business of the AVA.

Article VIII. Funds

Section 8.1. All monies received in the district shall be held and disbursed as necessary by the District Chairman to meet the expense of the district activities. Any surplus must be forwarded to the Executive Secretary of the AVA following each event.

Section 8.2. All monies received by the AVA shall be held and disbursed as necessary by the Executive Secretary to meet the expenses of the state activities.

Article IX. Amendments

Section 9.1. The Constitution or Bylaws of the AVA may be amended by a majority of three-fourths of the members present at any general meeting. This section is non-amendable.

Section 9.2. Any proposed Amendment to the Constitution must first be presented to the AVA President and the governing board, and then to the membership at any general meeting. Amendments will be voted upon at the following general meeting.

Section 9.3. Any proposed Amendment or change to the Bylaws may be presented to the AVA President and the membership and voted upon at any general meeting.

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