

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GAELIC LEAGUE OF DETROIT/IRISH AMERICAN CLUB  
(REVISED and ADOPTED FEBRUARY 23, 2026 – Version 2.23.26)

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**Article I. - NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION**

This Organization shall be known as The Gaelic League of Detroit/IRISH AMERICAN CLUB.

**Article II. - FOREWORD (Detroit, Michigan – 1937)**

The Gaelic League was founded in Detroit in December, 1920, and has always been non-political and nonsectarian. It is open to men and women alike, and is unlimited in the matter of membership, subject to the rules and regulations governing same as laid down in this Constitution.

At its inception it was affiliated with the parent organization in Ireland and was known as the Terrance McSwiney branch of the Gaelic League. Later on, connection with the Gaelic League of Ireland ceased and while for a time, through the working of letterheads and other printed matter it was designated as Gaelic League of Detroit, it nevertheless has always been generally known as the Gaelic League. The Gaelic League is an Irish Organization in the fullest sense of the word, as clearly as an Irish Organization can be lawfully maintained in America. It has at all times, ardently supported and liberally contributed to every workable effort towards establishing a single independent government for all of Ireland. All through these years, however, although the organization had adopted a Constitution at the time it was established, copies of same

**II. - FOREWORD (Detroit, Michigan - 1937) cont'd.**

have never been distributed to all of its members. Early this year (1937) the availability of supplying all the members with copies was realized. Before doing so, however, it was decided to check the instrument over throughout in detail, making whatever changes seemed to be warranted. The outcome of this effort is the constitution presented herewith.

**Article III - AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

To promote the common welfare and culture of the Irish race in Detroit and elsewhere.

To promote and maintain a social club and conduct other social activities.

To establish a building fund whereby we may own and maintain our own hall and for other purposes.

To promote and preserve Irish Language, dance, music, literature, and all Irish Culture for the benefit and entertainment of the members and their friends.

To maintain American ideals of liberty and uphold the principles on which America was founded.

To stimulate a just pride in Irish ideals and achievements by diffusing among its friends and associates a more intimate knowledge of Irish history and the history of the Irish race in America.

To carry on in the work of helping to establish a complete and wholly independent form of government for all of Ireland.

To make a commitment to protect and to keep The Gaelic League/Irish American Club of Detroit financially solvent.

**Article IV - STRUCTURE AND GOVERNING POWERS**

**Section 1.** The ruling body of the Gaelic League shall be the Membership Meeting, as provided in Article VI. Actions properly taken at a properly called Membership Meeting shall be the governing policy of the Gaelic League, until such time as they may be changed or terminated by the Membership Meeting.

**Section 2.** Between Membership Meetings, the affairs of the Gaelic League shall be conducted by the Executive Board, as provided in Article VII, herein.

**Section 3.** Between Executive Board Meetings, the affairs of the Gaelic League shall be conducted by its officers, performing their duties as provided in Article IX herein, and under the direction of the President of the Gaelic League.

**Section 4.** If a situation arises that requires the Gaelic League facilities to have a full or partial closure or reduction of hours at any time, prior to or during normal operation, the highest-ranking elected officer, executive board member, bar manager or scheduled bartender who is on premises (in that order) will be considered management. The President and or Vice President shall be notified immediately of any such situation and provided all the details, actions taken and advice on further actions as may be needed. The President is to notify the Executive board and provide a written report. **(Adopted 2/23/2026)**

**Article V - MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**

**Section 1.** Any person of Irish Birth or descent is eligible to apply for Gaelic League membership, provided, the applicant is sponsored by a member in good standing. “**Good standing**” wherever used herein, shall mean dues are current and paid-to-date. Application for membership shall first be presented by the sponsor or designee at a General Gaelic League Membership meeting and be referred to the Membership Committee for its review. The actual introduction of the applicant will take place after the Membership Committee successfully completes the eligibility review. The applicant, in addition to being of Irish birth or descent, must also meet the following requirements:

**a.** The applicant must have been an active and contributing member in good standing of the Irish American Club for at least 24 consecutive months immediately prior to application for Gaelic League membership and pledge to continue to be active and contributing as a Gaelic League member. “**Active and contributing**”, wherever used herein, shall mean participation in events, activities, functions etc. conducted at the Gaelic League. Participation, wherever used herein, is the providing of any or all of the following; volunteering their labor, skills, talents, trades, funds, etc. when necessary, to successfully promote and facilitate the above and the AIMS and OBJECTIVES of the Gaelic League of Detroit.

**b.** The applicant must be twenty-one (21) years of age and appear at the Gaelic League meeting where he/she will be introduced and given the opportunity to express why he/she wishes to be a Gaelic League Member, before being voted on for Gaelic League membership.

**Section 2.** Application blanks will be supplied by the Organization which will carry a re-print of the “Aims and Objectives” of the Organization. The applicant in signing the application is indicating agreement with the “Aims and Objectives”.

**Section 3.** A Membership Committee, consisting of three (3) members, appointed by the President, will receive all applications properly sponsored, and review the applicant’s eligibility based on Article V. The Chairman of the Committee shall provide a report at the next regular EXECUTIVE BOARD Meeting. The EXECUTIVE BOARD will review the report of the Membership Committee, make a determination, and provide follow up to the applicant.

**Section 4.** All applicants for membership shall be voted on by secret ballot. A majority vote of the members present shall be required for election to membership. Upon election, the wife or husband of any member in good standing is also eligible to apply for membership, regardless of Nationality or Ancestry. The Irish birth or descent requirement for this applicant is waived. However, all the other eligibility requirements must be met. Election of members will take place after Roll Call of Officers on the Agenda. The Recording Secretary will notify the applicant of election results, collect Gaelic League dues, and send membership card and a copy of this Constitution, as is appropriate. **(Sept 22, 2025)**

**Section 5.** Membership dues shall be reviewed periodically when deemed necessary, in keeping with economic and operation costs. Gaelic League Memberships are due and payable on January 1st each year. Dues at the time these (amended) by-laws were adopted **(Nov 28, 2022)** are **\$40.00** for one year per Gaelic League Member. Membership cards will be issued upon payment of dues. A reminder notice will be mailed no later than November 30th that states your dues must be paid by January 30th to keep your membership current. Upon failure to do so, Gaelic League Membership will have lapsed. In order to be a member in good standing your dues must be paid by January 30th each year. All members must be in good standing to vote or attend a Gaelic League meeting. Once your membership has lapsed it can only be resumed through reinstatement (Section 6, d).

**Section 6.** Other membership provisions: Matters pertaining to membership status, and not specifically provided above, shall be dealt with under Roberts’ Rules of Order, Newly Revised or by such By-Laws as the Gaelic League may adopt. These matters include the following or such others as may arise:

- a. Suspension of a member
- b. Resignation

**Article V - MEMBERSHIP AND DUES cont'd.**

- c. Expulsion
- d. Reinstatement by satisfying original membership requirements (Article V, Section 1.)
- e. Life Membership. Members in “Good standing” for the previous 10 years, and having attained 80 years of age, are awarded Life Time Status and are no longer required to pay annual membership dues. (Amendment 11/28/2017)
- f. Standing Rules of the Gaelic League of Detroit are to be allowed by these Bylaws, as amended on 9/22/2025.

A Standing Rule shall be enacted, rescinded or suspended by a majority vote at any duly called General Membership Meeting which has attained a quorum. A Standing Rule cannot conflict with any current Bylaw at any time. Any action pertaining to a Standing Rule shall be accurately recorded in the minutes of the General Membership Meeting. All active Standing Rules are to be documented under a separate heading in the Bylaws.

g. Closures (**Adopted 2/23/2026**)

1. The Gaelic League of Detroit – Irish American Club, with or without notice and at the discretion of management (Article IV: Section 4), may close all or part of its building and or property to members and their guests for private events, repairs or renovation work. In addition, uncontrollable situations may arise, such as but not limited to weather or emergency events, utility outage and construction or road work in the area that may block completely or limit access to Gaelic League facilities.
2. When the Gaelic League is closed (full or partial closure) for a private event, Gaelic League members and / or their guests are not entitled to compensation of any kind for the inability to access the facilities. If a closure affects a scheduled private event, the terms of the usage agreement shall apply. When a private event (not a Gaelic League sponsored function) is held at the Gaelic League, uninvited members and their guests shall refrain from communicating information gained from that private event to third parties or publicly via any medium. Any advertising or promotion of a private event must be handled by the Client. Signage and placement of such signage must be approved by the Gaelic League Officers prior to event.

**Article VI – THE MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**Section 1.** The Membership Meeting is the ruling body of the Gaelic League.

**Section 2.** Membership Meetings shall be held each month, on a regular monthly date to be decided by a Membership Meeting - except that dates may be changed and individual meetings canceled for good reason, by majority vote of the members at a properly called Membership Meeting. **In order to transact any business, a quorum must be present. A quorum shall consist of 20% of the current members in good standing, which must include a majority of the Executive Board.** Lifetime members are not counted in quorum calculations but do retain voting rights. (Amendment 11/28/2017)

**Section 3.** The right to vote at a Membership Meeting shall be vested in all members in good standing of the Gaelic League, and only in such members.

**Section 4.** The order of business of the Membership Meeting shall be such as to facilitate and conduct the business of the Gaelic League. (Amendment 9/22/25)

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Prayer List / Moment of Silence (when appropriate)
3. Roll Call of Officers
4. Introduction & Election of Approved Applicants for Gaelic League Membership

**Article VI –THE MEMBERSHIP MEETING cont’d**

5. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting or Meetings.
6. Reports of Officers, Executive Board
7. Report of Auditors (when timely)
8. Reports of Committees and Delegates to United Irish Society (U.I.S.)
9. Unfinished Business (Old Business)
10. New Business
11. Proposal of new Applicants for Gaelic League Membership
12. Good of the Organization
13. Adjournment
14. (NOTE) Except, that changes or additions to the meeting agenda may be made by a majority of the members present.

**Article VII - THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**Section 1.** Between Membership Meetings the Executive Board shall conduct the affairs of the Gaelic League.

**Section 2.** The members of the Executive Board shall consist of all the Officers and Board members of the Gaelic League, as provided in Article VIII, herein. The IAC representative / Liaison will be the only exception to this section. (4-9-2025). Only these members shall have a vote in meetings of the Executive Board. A quorum shall be a majority of the existing Board.

**Section 3.** The President may, with the approval of the Board members, invite committee chairs or other members or guests of the Gaelic League to sit in on meetings of the Executive Board, but without vote.

**Section 4.** The Executive Board shall meet on a regular meeting schedule, as determined by vote of the Membership Meeting.

**Section 5.** Special meetings of the Executive Board may be convened by the President or by request of three (3) Board members for good cause, and with timely notice to all Executive Board members.

**Section 6.** All actions of the Executive Board must be approved by vote of the Membership Meeting in order to take final effect, except that urgent business of the Gaelic League may be conducted in a timely manner and under prior authorization from the Membership Meeting.

**Section 7.** Officers and members of the Executive Board have the obligation and duty to attend and be prompt at all Executive Board and General Membership meetings. Prior notification is required for all excused absences.

- a. IAC Liaison will attend all monthly Executive Board meetings, but not the general membership meetings unless invited by the President as a Guest. Guests do not have voting privileges. (4-9-2025)

**Section 8.** Violations of the bylaws by members, must be submitted in writing, with specifics of alleged violations, to the Executive Board (all 14 members max) within 10 days of the violation. The Executive Board will review the allegations and determine if further action is warranted. The Executive Board shall hold a special meeting with the accused member to discuss their findings. The Executive Board will present the violation and their findings to the General membership in a timely manner. (Nov 25, 2024)

**Article VII - THE EXECUTIVE BOARD cont'd**

Disciplinary Actions:

The Executive Board shall report their findings and recommend a course of action, if any, at the next General Membership meeting. Any recommended course of action would be voted on by private ballot at this meeting. A majority vote of membership present would be required for the recommended action to take effect.

If the recommended action fails to receive a majority vote, a motion could be made to open a discussion to membership, for possible modification (s) to the original course of action. If a modification is recommended, a vote can take place at this time. Again, a majority vote is required for the modified action to take effect.

**Article VIII - ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**Section 1.** The Officials of the Gaelic League shall consist of the following:

- a. President
- b. Vice-President
- c. Recording/Corresponding Secretary
- d. Financial Secretary
- e. Treasurer
- f. Nine Board Members (At any time one or more of these nine may also serve as one of the Officers listed (a. through e. above); in this event such person or persons may cast only one (1) vote). Note: The elected or appointed IAC Liaison will serve as the 10<sup>th</sup> Gaelic League board member but is not eligible to hold an Officer's position. (4-9-2025)
- g. Board or Auditors (See Section 6, Article VIII herein)

**Section 2.** Eligibility:

All candidates for office must be members in good standing of the Gaelic League. All candidates for Office of President and Vice-president must be of Irish birth or descent and have been members continuously for at least 24 months and must have attended at least one-half (1/2) of the regular meetings during the year immediately preceding their nominations. All candidates other than that of President and Vice-president must have been members for at least 12 months immediately preceding their nomination and must have attended at least one-half (1/2) of the regular meetings during that time. Note: The election or appointment of the IAC Liaison is not part of the Gaelic League election process. (4-9-2025) Reference Article VI / Section 1a of IAC Bylaws.

**Section 3.** Term of Office:

- a. The term of office for all officers except Board Members shall be one year
- b. The nine Board Members shall serve three-year staggered terms of office, with three to be elected each year.

**Section 4.** Limitation on number of Terms of Office:

The Office of President shall be limited to two (2) consecutive one-year terms.

**Section 5.** Vacancies in Office:

Special Election at a Regular Membership Meeting will handle vacancies in Office other than the President when necessary, under Roberts' Rules of Order, newly revised.

**Section 6.** Board of Auditors:

The Board of Auditors shall consist of three (3) members who shall elect their own Chairman. The term of office for the Board of Auditors will run concurrently with that of the Officers. The rules and regulations under "Vacancies in Office" as applied to the Officers, will also apply to the members of the Board of Auditors. The

**Article VIII - ELECTED OFFICIALS cont'd**

Auditor position is not an Executive Board position. An Auditor may be elected as a Executive Board member but not as an Officer. The Auditors do not serve as members of the Executive Board, but may attend any Executive Board Meeting when their duties necessitate, or are requested to do so.

**Article IX - DUTIES OF OFFICIALS**

**Section 1. PRESIDENT**

The President shall preside at all meetings whenever possible, enforce the Constitution, see that all Officers, Executive Board members and Auditors perform the duties assigned them, fill vacancies in committees in accordance with the rules governing the creation and conduct of committees. Direct the work and conduct of the meetings in an impartial and orderly manner; be one of three Officers to sign all checks issued against the Gaelic League/Irish-American Commercial Account and shall be one of two necessary on all other savings accounts, except the Brokerage / Investment (4-28-2025) The President may call a Special Meeting by causing the Recording/Corresponding Secretary to mail notices of same to the members, which notices must be mailed not less than four (delivery) days previous to meeting time. Where immediate action seems imperative, the President may call a meeting of the Executive Board. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all Committees.

**Section 2. VICE-PRESIDENT**

The Vice-President shall, in the absence of the President, or when requested by him/her perform all of the duties of the President and shall serve as a member of the Executive Board. In the event of vacancy in the office of President the Vice-President shall automatically assume office for the length of the term. The Vice President shall also serve as a member of the Finance Committee and be one of three Executive Board members authorized to make transfers between the Gaelic League Irish American Commercial checking and Brokerage / Investment accounts. (4-28-2025)

**Section 3. RECORDING/CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

The Recording/Corresponding Secretary shall keep and read the minutes of all meetings and prepare agenda for meeting. Minutes must be a true and complete record of the happenings in the League. The Secretary shall keep a complete mailing list of the membership as shown by the Financial Secretary's records and record meeting attendance for election eligibility. He/she will hold all application cards, fill out and deliver membership cards and collect dues for the same. Further, the Secretary shall conduct all correspondence on behalf of the League except that specifically assigned to the Financial Secretary. Act for the Financial Secretary where necessary, keep the organization posted on all matters, which in his/her judgment, are pertinent to the welfare of same or of interest to the members, and perform such other duties as may be assigned to that office by the body from time to time. The Secretary shall be a member of the Executive Board.

**Section 4. FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

The Financial Secretary shall receive all income of the Gaelic League of any kind and from whatever source including any income designated for the Irish American Club. The Financial Secretary shall make and keep records, which accurately account for such income by type and/or source. All income shall be reported to the Membership each month by placing the figures on the monthly Gaelic League Statement of Income and Expense and shall make timely deposits of the income to The Gaelic League checking account. The Financial Secretary shall work cooperatively with the Treasurer to insure a complete and accurate accounting of all Gaelic League money.

- a. Members, employees, volunteers, others, who directly receive income on behalf of the Gaelic League shall account for that income, and forward both the income and corroborating accounting data to the Financial Secretary. The Financial Secretary will be a member of the Executive Board and one of four Officers to sign Commercial Checking Account.

**Article IX - DUTIES OF OFFICIALS cont'd**

**Section 5. TREASURER**

The Treasurer shall work cooperatively with the Financial Secretary to ensure a complete and accurate accounting of all Gaelic League monies. The Treasurer shall ensure that all properly documented expenses of the Gaelic League are paid timely. Proper documentation shall be an invoice detailing goods delivered or services performed with an account of all costs. All expenses shall be paid from the Gaelic League checking account except for Petty Cash Fund expenditures. The Treasurer shall reimburse the Petty Cash Fund by check to the extent the receipts are available and keep record of the Petty Cash Fund balance immediately after the reimbursement.

The Treasurer shall;

- a. Keep and file all invoices so that Gaelic League Auditors, and other interested parties, may verify the correctness of all payments.
- b. Accurately account for all expenses by type and/or source
- c. Report all expenses to the Membership each month by placing the figures in the monthly Gaelic League Statement of Income and Expense.
- d. Be responsible for all postings to the checkbook, keeping it current, complete, and accurate.
- e. Make a bank reconciliation statement each month after the receipt of the bank statement. The Treasurer shall be a member of the Executive Board and shall be one of three Officers to sign all checks issued against the Gaelic League/Irish-American Commercial Checking Account and one of two necessary on all other savings accounts, except the Brokerage / Investment account. 4-28-2025)

**Section 6. BOARD OF AUDITORS**

The all important work of the Board of Auditors will be analyzing and verifying the monthly Financial reports to ascertain that all money received have been deposited and all invoices paid. In following this procedure they shall have and must be given access to the records of every officer, and committee, which in their judgment is essential to or has any bearing on their work of analyzing and verifying the correctness of all financial reports. The Chairman of the Board of Auditors will read the Auditors report to the membership and must be thoroughly familiar with all the details and circumstances surrounding the report so that he/she can readily account for and explain any item appearing therein. When the report is declared by the Board to be correct, and is accepted by the Membership, same shall be signed by the Board of Auditors or at least by the Chairman with one other member and turned over to the Recording/Corresponding Secretary. Any irregularities or discrepancies discovered by the Board of Auditors in the records of any officer or committee must be reported at once to the President or the Executive Board. The Board of Auditors shall give a minimum of quarterly reports.

**Section 7. JOINT MEETING**

The incoming and outgoing officers and Auditors must hold at least one meeting within one month of installation of new officers. The outgoing officers must have all their records complete and up to date in every respect, ready for auditing. The incoming auditors will confer with the officers and review the auditing work so that they may be entirely familiar with the records, accounts and financial set-up of the organization before assuming their duties.

**ARTICLE X – FINANCE**

The Gaelic League/Irish American Club Commercial Checking account may be signed by any one of three officers; (i.e. President, Financial Secretary and Treasurer) for normal Club expenses. The Bar Manager/Head Bartender may **also** be one of the authorized signers. However, this authorization must be reviewed and authorized by the Executive Board annually. **Authorization from Membership is necessary for capital items and capital expenses.**

**ARTICLE X – FINANCE cont'd**

**Section 1.** All proposed expenditures must be authorized in the exact amounts or as nearly as possible at regular or special meetings before indebtedness is incurred. Member's "Out-of-Pocket" expenses shall be paid when authorized by The Membership or Executive Board.

**Section 2.** All expenses other than every-day Club expenses must be verified through the minutes for authorization for payment. All contractual work, (for the Gaelic League/Irish American Club), over \$1,500.00 (fifteen hundred dollars), when authorized, shall be done on a bid basis, with not less than three (3) bids.

**Section 3.** A Savings Account may be established by the Treasurer when authorized by the Membership upon indication of advisability of same.

- a. In addition to a commercial checking and savings account and with the approval of membership, a brokerage / investment account has been established and maintained. The purpose of this account is to protect these funds by separating them from the other bank accounts and potentially increase in value.

This brokerage / investment account is to be funded by Gaelic League-Irish American Club funds. Transfers into or out of this account are to be made according to the financial institution's standard practice and are only to be at an amount approved by membership. Transfers are only allowed between the Commercial checking account and the Brokerage / Investment accounts.

In a time sensitive situation, and by majority vote, the executive board may authorize a transfer from the brokerage / investment account. This type of transfer cannot exceed 25 percent of the current funds available. Membership is to be notified of the purpose and amount at the next general membership meeting and recorded in the minutes. Every effort shall be made to replace the funds used as soon as economic conditions allow.

The authorized signers (representatives) for the brokerage / investment account shall be different than the commercial checking and savings accounts. At the adoption of this amendment, The Vice President plus two Executive board members, not Officers, shall be approved by majority vote at the General Membership meeting. The two Executive board members shall be serving terms that expire in different years. Each year, one of the newly elected Executive Board members will be selected to replace the outgoing member. Signers (representatives) cannot be related in any way. This process will provide continued access and control at times of transition or uncertainty. (4-28-2025)

**Section 4.** The above-mentioned account (accounts) may be held in the same bank or institution as the Commercial Account or otherwise as feasible.

**Section 5.** When it becomes necessary to transfer money from one account to another within the same institution through the medium of a transfer slip; same shall be signed by the Treasurer and President. The Treasurer shall make and keep a continuous log of such transfers.

**Article XI – ELECTIONS**

**Section 1. Election of Officers**

The election of Officers, Executive Board Members and Auditors of the Gaelic League shall take place at a December Membership Meeting called for that purpose.

**Section 2. Election Committee**

A (3) three member Election Committee shall be appointed by the President, subject to the approval of the Membership, when the order of business of the Election of Officers is called. The Election Committee shall conduct the nominations and elections, the counting of the ballots, and shall announce the results. It shall be made up of members in good standing and who will not be candidates for office in this election.

Article XI – ELECTIONS cont’

**Section 3. Nominations**

- a. Nominations and elections shall be held one office at a time, in the order in which the officers are listed in Article VIII, Sec.1.
- b. As each office is called for nomination, the chair of the Election Committee shall read the duties of that office, as specified in Article IX of this Constitution.
- c. Nominations for each office shall be taken immediately after the reading of the duties. Any member in good standing may make a nomination. No second for a nomination is required.
- d. To be eligible for nomination and election, a candidate must be a current member in good standing of the Gaelic League; and as further specified in Article VIII, Section 2.
- e. Following the close of nominations, the Secretary shall read the names of the nominees in the reverse order in which they were nominated, for acceptance or declination. If a nominee is not present, the member who made the nomination must present acceptable evidence that the nominee will accept, in order for that candidate to be voted on.
- f. If no candidate accepts nomination for an office, the Chair may reopen nominations.

**Section 4. Eligibility to Vote**

All members of the Gaelic League present and in current good standing shall be eligible to vote. No other person shall vote. The Chair of the Election Committee shall take reasonable precautions to enforce this.

**Section 5. Elections**

- a. Election of each office shall be held immediately following the acceptance of nomination for the office in question.
- b. If there are more candidates than positions to be filled, an election shall be conducted by secret ballot.
- c. Ballots shall be appropriate slips of paper, prepared by the Election Committee.
- d. The Election Committee shall distribute one blank ballot to each eligible member present and shall collect back the voted ballots.
- e. The meeting shall be recessed to allow the Election Committee to count the votes.
- f. To be elected, a candidate must receive a majority of the votes cast. (A majority is over 50% of ballots cast).

**Single Position(s)**: When there are FOUR or more candidates for one position, and no one receives a majority, only the top three vote getters move from the First Round to the Second Round. If a candidate receives over 50% of the votes cast in the Second Round, that candidate is elected to the position. Should a Third Round be required, the top two vote getters from the Second Round move to the Third Round.

**Multiple Positions such as Boards of Directors and Auditors:**

Only the top FIVE vote getters move from the First Round to the Second Round. If one receives more than 50% of the votes cast, they are elected to that position and the top FOUR vote getters will move to the Second Round.

In the **Second Round**, the top FOUR vote getters move to a Third Round unless one receives more than 50% of the votes cast, they would be elected to that position and the next three top vote getters move to a Third Round.

The **Third Round** would determine which of the remaining candidates would fill the open position(s). The top vote getters are elected.

- g. Upon completion of the count, the meeting shall be reconvened, and the results of the count announced.

**Article XI – ELECTIONS cont’d**

**Multiple Positions such as Boards of Directors and Auditors: cont’d**

- h. The chair shall entertain a motion to accept the election result announced. If there is any protest to the election procedure, it must be made and recorded before this motion is voted on. When a protest is made, the membership shall decide by majority vote what action, if any, shall be taken on the protest.
- i. If the election result is a tie, the Membership may decide either to hold a second ballot or to decide the winner by lot.
- j. When the election for a particular office is completed, the Election Committee shall proceed to the election of the next office, until all are completed.

**Section 6. Installation of Officers**

The Oath of Office shall be administered to the newly elected officers immediately following the conclusion of all elections. The newly elected Officers shall assume their duties on the First day of the New Year. **(11/28/22) A. The Oath of Office** – Do you solemnly swear that you will uphold and support the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution of the State of Michigan and administer the office to which you have been elected, to the best of your ability and judgment, in conformity with the By- Laws of the Gaelic League of Detroit.

If so, please say “I do”.

Now I proclaim each of you to be duly installed to the office to which you have been elected.

**ARTICLE XII – COMMITTEES**

**Section 1. General**

The Gaelic League shall establish such committees as are necessary or desirable in order to carry out the work of the organization. These may be designated as permanent committees or temporary committees, as the Membership shall decide.

**Section 2. Establishment of Committees**

Committees shall be established by majority vote of the Gaelic League Membership at any properly called meeting. A motion establishing a committee may be made by recommendation of the President or by motion of a Member present. Such a motion shall include:

- a. The name of the committee
- b. Whether the committee shall be permanent or temporary
- c. The approximate number of committee members
- d. A sentence describing the basic purpose of the committee

(Examples of possible **permanent** committees could include: club committee, membership committee, program committee, newsletter committee, cultural committee, etc.). (examples of possible **temporary** committees could include: concert committee, parade committee, fund drive committee, etc).

**Section 3. Committee Chair and Members – Appointed, Elected**

Unless the Membership shall vote that a specific committee shall be elected, the chair and members of each committee, shall be appointed by the President, subject to the approval of the Membership.

**Section 4. Committee Meetings**

Committee meetings shall be held as directed by vote of the committee members, or at the discretion of the committee chair, or upon direction of the President, or by vote of the Membership.

**ARTICLE XII – COMMITTEES cont’d**

**Section 5. Committee Reports**

- a. Membership meetings: “Committee Reports” shall be on the agenda of every regular Membership meeting. The chair shall call for a report by each committee currently in operation.
- b. At Executive Board meetings: Committee reports at Executive Board meetings shall be made according to the discretion of the President, or upon direction of the Membership. When such reports are to be made, the Recording/Corresponding Secretary shall notify and invite the appropriate committee chairs.

**Section 6. Ex-Officio Member**

The President of the Gaelic League shall be an ex-officio member of each committee.

**Article XIII - CODE OF ETHICS**

All duly elected Officers shall not receive any compensation for the performance of their duties. The Officers shall avoid any and all situations, which may be considered a “conflict of interest” between the Officer and the Gaelic League. A conflict of interest occurs when an Officer’s personal interests conflict with the Gaelic League’s interests. If there is any doubt, the situation shall be presented to the Executive Board for determination.

**Section 1.** Guidelines for ethical behavior in conflict of interest situations for all Officers have been established and are listed herein.

- a. Officers shall remove themselves from involvement in the matter when actual or potential conflict of interest situations arise or there is appearance of such conflict. In no case should the Officer become involved to the extent where they are or could be influenced to make decisions that are not in the best interest of the Gaelic League. Officers shall not solicit or accept personal gain through involvement in any matters on behalf or within the Gaelic League with the following exceptions; Pay for work contracted and approved through the bid process. Tips, Bartending, and Catering, on a limited basis.
- b. Officers shall ensure Gaelic League resources are used for only authorized Gaelic League activities. Gaelic League resources include, but are not limited to, assets, building, equipment, property, supplies and Gaelic League information. Members wishing to use the resources shall be charged a fair market rental fee unless said purpose is beneficial and non-profit. The Executive Board shall make final determination on the request for resource use.

**Section 2.** Since the ruling body of the Gaelic League is the Membership Meeting, good judgment shall also be used by the Members to avoid potential conflict of interest situations.

- a. Interest in outside business organizations. Members shall avoid significant financial or management interest in any business that does or seeks to do business with the Gaelic League if such involvement could cause members to make business decisions that are not in the best interest of the Gaelic League. If such interest is found to be unavoidable, that member shall be excused and remove themselves from any discussion or vote held by the Executive Board or membership meeting concerning their interest.
- b. Use of confidential or proprietary information. Members entrusted with such information shall restrict access and use to authorized individuals, inside and outside the Gaelic League, who have a need to know this information for conducting Gaelic League business.

**Article XIV - DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION**

The continued existence of the Gaelic League of Detroit/Irish American Club shall be contingent on the majority of the Officers and Board of Directors being Irish or of Irish decent. In the event of dissolution, all assets real and personal, after payment of just debts, will be distributed (04/22/24) as determined by a majority vote of Gaelic League members in good standing in compliance with Federal Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding provisions of a future United States Internal Revenue Law.

**ARTICLE XV - BYLAWS OF THE IRISH-AMERICAN CLUB**

The By-Laws of the Irish-American Club shall be considered as an Amendment to the Gaelic League Constitution.

**ARTICLE XVI - ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER**

Except, as otherwise provided in this Constitution, or in any By-Laws as properly adopted by the Gaelic League, or as required by any public statutes that are applicable, the meetings of the Gaelic League shall be conducted according to Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

**ARTICLE XVII - AMENDMENTS TO THIS CONSTITUTION**

Specific amendments or general revision of the Constitution of the Gaelic League shall be adopted according to the following procedure:

**Section 1.** First reading shall occur at a properly called and notified Membership Meeting. Each member shall have a copy of the proposed new language, along with a copy of the language to be amended or deleted. First reading adoption shall be by 2/3 (two thirds) vote of the members present and voting.

**Section 2.** Second and Final reading shall occur at the next properly called and notified meeting. Final adoption shall be by 2/3 (two thirds) vote of the members present and voting.

**ARTICLE XVIII – STANDING RULES OF THE GAELIC LEAGUE OF DETROIT**

The **IRISH AMERICAN CLUB OF THE GAELIC LEAGUE OF DETROIT BY-LAWS OF JULY 28, 1997** is included in THE CONSTITUTION OF THE GAELIC LEAGUE OF DETROIT with this Amendment.  
**IRISH-AMERICAN CLUB OF THE GAELIC LEAGUE OF DETROIT BY-LAWS**

(Amended September 22, 2025)

**ARTICLE I NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Irish- American Club of the Gaelic League of Detroit.

**ARTICLE II AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

1. The Irish-American Club is the social club of the Gaelic League.
2. The aims and objectives of the Irish-American Club are those of the Gaelic League (see Article III of the Constitution of the Gaelic League).

**ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP**

1. The membership of this organization shall be open to all persons who are 18 years of age and of good morals. Alcoholic beverages shall be served only to members and/or their guests who are 21 years of age or over.
2. Persons holding membership in the Gaelic League shall automatically become members of the Irish- American Club.
3. Irish-American Club Membership fees and/or annual dues shall be set by the Board of the Gaelic League.
4. Standing Rules of the Irish American Club (IAC) will be the same as the Standing Rules of The Gaelic League of Detroit as applicable or otherwise noted.
5. Private events / Maintenance & Emergencies: refer to Gaelic League ByLaw Article V: Membership & Dues / Section 6, subsection g: Closures.

**ARTICLE IV IAC LIAISON**

The IAC Liaison must be an active and contributing member for the immediately preceding 24 months & be in good standing. The representative will be the liaison between the IAC members and the Gaelic League Executive Board. The IAC Liaison will establish a channel of communication with all IAC members. Content of such communication requires prior approval by the Gaelic League Executive Board.

The IAC Liaison will sit on the Gaelic League Executive Board and have a vote. The Liaison's term of office is from January– December. The Liaison can serve for 3 consecutive terms, if elected.

At the adoption of this Bylaw and at any time an election has not taken place in the month of December, the IAC Liaison can be appointed by the President of the Gaelic League of Detroit as approved by the Executive Board. (4-9-2025)

**ARTICLE V OFFICERS**

All officers of the Gaelic League duly elected at its regular election shall become, by virtue of that fact, the duly elected officers of the Irish-American Club and shall be adopted as such.

**ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES**

By specific action of the board of the Gaelic League, members of the Irish-American Club, who are not members of the Gaelic League, may be appointed to serve on committees of the Gaelic League.

**Note: Active and contributing members are defined in the Gaelic League of Detroit Bylaws Article V section (a).**

**ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES cont'd**

**1. An IAC Election Committee is to be established consisting of 5 members, 4 Irish American Club members (IAC) and 1 Gaelic League of Detroit member (GL). The purpose of this committee is to conduct a yearly election of 1 IAC representative, to be the IAC Liaison, who will serve on the Gaelic League Executive Board. The Committee is tasked to seek out candidates, organize the election, prepare a ballot, tally results & notify the Gaelic League Executive Board of the results. (4-9-2025)**

IAC members must be active and contributing members in the immediately preceding 24 months to be eligible for this committee. The GL Executive Board will select or approve all the members to serve on this committee.

- a. The election shall take place by December 15, at a duly called election meeting of eligible IAC members per Article IV of the IAC Bylaws. This election meeting is not to be scheduled on the same day as the Gaelic League of Detroit election meeting. The quorum for this meeting shall be 2% of current IAC members of record.

Voting will be in person and by a paper ballot. Proof of IAC membership is required to receive a ballot and vote. Article XI of the Gaelic League of Detroit Bylaws will be used as a guideline for the election process. The Oath of Office will be administered at the duly called Executive Board meeting in January. (4-9-2025)

**ARTICLE VII FINANCES**

All membership fees and annual dues collected for the Irish-American Club shall be turned over to the Financial Secretary of the Gaelic League.

**ARTICLE VIII MEETINGS**

The meetings of the Irish-American Club shall be held at the call of the board of the Gaelic League.

**Amendment History Constitution and Bylaws of The Gaelic League/Irish American Club of Detroit**

**January 27, 1992** – Revised Constitution Adopted by vote of the Membership of the Gaelic League.  
(Constitution and Bylaws Committee of 1991 – M. Fleming, M. Kerwin, K. O’Neill, E. Tavarozzi.)

**July 28, 1997** – Irish American Club of The Gaelic League of Detroit Bylaws added to The Gaelic League of Detroit Constitution.

**April 22, 2002** – Irish American Club of The Gaelic League of Detroit Bylaws revised.  
(Constitution and Bylaws Committee of 2002 – J. Dewan, M. Fleming, J. Heinzman Sr., M. Kerwin, M. Klick, K. O’Neill, E. Tavarozzi.)

**November 11, 2002** - Revised Constitution and Bylaws of The Gaelic League of Detroit/Irish American Club of Detroit adopted by vote of the Membership of the Gaelic League. (Constitution and Bylaws Committee of 2002 – J. Dewan, M. Fleming, J. Heinzman Sr., M. Kerwin, M. Klick, K. O’Neill, E. Tavarozzi.)

**November 22, 2004** - Revised Constitution and Bylaws of The Gaelic League of Detroit/Irish American Club of Detroit adopted by vote of the Gaelic League Membership (Constitution and Bylaws Committee of 2004 – J. Dewan, M. Kerwin, P. McParland, J. Merritt, K. O’Neill, E. Tavarozzi.)

**June 16, 2008** - Revised **Article XI – Elections, Section 5. Elections, Sub Section f** . Adopted by vote of the Gaelic League Membership. (Constitution and Bylaws Committee of 2008 – J. Dewan, M. Kerwin, P. McParland, K. O’Neill, L. Steinhauer, E. Tavarozzi.)

**February 28, 2011** - Revised **Article V - MEMBERSHIP AND Dues, Section 5** . Adopted by vote of the Gaelic League Membership. (Constitution and Bylaws Committee of 2011 – Jesse Anaya, Jim Dewan, Patrick McParland, Kathleen O’Neill)

**September 28, 2015** - Revised **Article V - MEMBERSHIP AND Dues-Dates, Section 5.**  
Adopted by vote of the Gaelic League Membership.  
(Constitution and Bylaws Committee of 2015 – Jim Dewan, Patrick McParland, Kathleen O’Neill)

**November 28, 2017** - Revised **Article V - MEMBERSHIP AND Dues, Section 6 e, Life Time Status**  
Revised **Article VI – THE MEMBERSHIP MEETING, Section 2, Life Time quorum and voting status**  
Adopted by vote of the Gaelic League Membership.  
(Constitution and Bylaws Committee of 2017 – Jim Dewan, Paul Gowdy, Patrick McParland)

**November 28, 2022** - Revised **Article V - MEMBERSHIP AND Dues-Dates, Section 5.**  
Provided wordage of **Election Oath Article XI, Elections, Section 6A** Adopted by vote of the Gaelic League Membership.  
(Constitution and Bylaws Committee of 2022 – Theresa Anaya, Geff Bush, Aline Daniel, Agnes Gowdy, Paul Gowdy, Patrick McParland, Kathleen O’Neill)

**April 22, 2024** - Revised **Article XIV DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION – remove “to local recognized Charitable Organizations”** Adopted by vote of the Gaelic League Membership. (Constitution and Bylaws Committee of 2024 – Theresa Anaya, Geff Bush, Patrick McParland, Kathleen O’Neill)

**November 25, 2024** - Revised **Article VII – THE EXECUTIVE BOARD** added **Section 8, Violations of the Bylaws.** Adopted by vote of the Gaelic League Membership. (Constitution and Bylaws Committee of 2024 – Theresa Anaya, Geff Bush, Patrick McParland, Kathleen O’Neill)

**April 9, 2025** -Revised -Section **Irish-American ByLaws** -renumbered Articles and added new Article -**Article IV- IAC Liaison** and expanded on **Article VI – Committees**. Adopted by vote of the Gaelic League Membership. (Constitution and ByLaws Committee of 2025- Theresa Anaya, Geff Bush, Patrick McParland, Kathleen O’Neill, with the guidance and approval of the 2025 Executive Board ). **Updated Gaelic League ByLaws Article VII – Section 2; Section 7a and Article VIII – Section 1f; Section 2 to include the changes made to the Irish American ByLaws.**

**April 28, 2025** – **Article X Finance of the Gaelic League ByLaws, added Section 3a. Revised Article IX, Section 1 President; Section 2 Vice President & Section 5 Treasurer to include the changes made to Article X Finance / Section 3a.** Adopted by vote of the Gaelic League Membership. (Constitution and ByLaws Committee of 2025 – Theresa Anaya, Geff Bush, Patrick McParland).

**September 22, 2025** - Index sections; **Article VI: The Membership Meeting** (previously omitted from Index) & added new **Article XVIII: The Standing Rules of the Gaelic League of Detroit.**  
**Article V: Membership & Dues (updated).** **Article VI: The Membership Meeting – Section 4 updated.**  
**Article V: Membership & Dues – Section 6 new subsection “f” added -Standing Rules of the Gaelic League of Detroit. Irish American Club Bylaws -Article III: Membership -new subsection 4 added; Standing Rules of the Gaelic League of Detroit.** Adopted by vote of the Gaelic League Membership. (Constitution and ByLaws Committee of 2025 – Theresa Anaya, Geff Bush, Patrick McParland, and Melissa Walsh).

**February 23, 2026 -Article IV: Structure & Governing Powers – New Section 4 added.**  
**Article V: Membership and Dues – Section 6- subsection g added.** Adopted by vote of the Gaelic League Membership. (Constitution and ByLaws Committee of 2026-Theresa Anaya, Geff Bush, Patrick McParland and Melissa Walsh).