

THE SOCIETY OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS OF KENTUCKY
BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

- Section 1. This organization shall be known as the "Society of Dispensing Opticians Of Kentucky."
- Section 2. The address of this Society shall be P. O. Box 24214, Lexington, KY 40524-4214, or elsewhere as designated by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE II

- Section 1. The objects and purposes for which this Society has been formed are:
- a. To improve, foster, and promote the welfare of dispensing opticians and/or ophthalmic dispensers.
 - b. To cooperate with public authorities for the protection of the public in all matters pertaining to ophthalmic dispensing
 - c. To promote legislation that would be in the public interest in respect to ophthalmic dispensing.
 - d. To instill mutual understanding between ophthalmic dispensers.
 - e. To further any other purpose that would be in the interest of the public and hi the interest of ophthalmic dispensing.

ARTICLE III

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. There shall be four classes of membership in the Society:
- a. Active
 - b. Honorary
 - c. Life
 - d. Associate
- Section 2. Active membership shall be open to retail dispensing opticians who are licensed by the Commonwealth of Kentucky as Ophthalmic Dispensers. All active members shall be accorded voting privileges and the right to run for office, provided they were a member in good standing as of January 1 of the election year.

- Section 3. Honorary membership may be conferred upon any person not necessarily a dispensing optician, who has rendered meritorious service to the Society. Honorary members shall be elected by a majority vote of the membership present at a meeting of the Society and shall be exempt from the payment of dues and assessments. Honorary members shall not be privileged to take part in the discussion of Society affairs and shall not be permitted to vote on Society business.
- Section 4. Life membership may be bestowed upon any active member of the Society by unanimous agreement of the Board of Directors. It may only be awarded as recognition of outstanding services rendered to the Society or in the best interest of the Society. Life members shall continue to exercise the full rights and privileges accorded active members.
- Section 5. Associate membership shall be composed of those persons holding an apprentice dispensing license in the state of Kentucky, out-of-state licensed opticians, wholesale vendors and those holding an inactive Kentucky license shall have all rights and privileges of an active member except they will not be able to hold an office or vote.

ARTICLE IV

CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. Application for membership in the Society shall be made in such form as approved by the Board of Directors. Applicants must use the form so adopted.

- Section 2. Application shall be addressed to the Society office. Who will record membership status.
- Section 3 The following Principals of Organization shall be binding upon all members of the Society:
- a. To consider the profession of a Dispensing Optician a worthy one and the rendering of his or her service as a distinct responsibility to the public.
 - b. To restrict dispensing of ophthalmic materials and services to transactions of an ethical nature, realizing that only thus are all best interests best served.
 - c. To consider quality of materials and services fundamental to proper public eye care.

ARTICLE V.

FEES. DUES. AND ASSESSMENTS

- Section 1. There shall be a new member fee of \$75.00, which shall include the dues for the remainder of the fiscal year. This amount must accompany the application for membership in the Society.
- Section 2. The annual dues for Active members shall be \$50.00. Dues shall be payable on January 1st. of each year. No late fee will be incurred if paid by March 31st, after this date new membership fees will apply.
- Section 3. The annual dues for Associate members shall be \$25.00. There shall be a \$10.00 initiation fee payable upon application.
- Section 4. The fiscal year of the Society shall be January 1st. to December 31st.

Section 5 Assessments: OAA assessment - Society dues to the OAA are in the form of an assessment levied against our Society based on our number of Active members. This assessment will be passed on to each Active member as an addition to his or her annual membership dues.

ARTICLE VI

WITHDRAWAL AND EXPULSION OF MEMIBERS

- Section 1. Any member may resign from the Society at any time provided that he or she is not in arrears in the payment of dues and/or assessments. Such resignation shall be made in writing to the Secretary.
- Section 2. The Board of Directors, by unanimous agreement, may expel any member for violation of any provision of the By-Laws or for conduct, which is improper and prejudicial to the welfare, and reputation of the Society, No member shall be expelled without written notice of the charges against him or her and of the opportunity to appear before the Board of Directors to answer such charges.
- Section 3. A member of the Society who fails to renew his or her state Ophthalmic Dispensing License or has his or her license revoked by the Kentucky Board of Ophthalmic Dispensers, shall automatically be expelled from the Society.

ARTICLE VII

DIRECTORS

- Section 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of seven (7) members. The board shall be composed of the President, who shall be Chairperson; Vice-President; Secretary; Treasurer and three (3) Directors.
- Section 2. The three Directors shall be elected for a term of two (2) years. During the first year of the Society organization, on of these Directors will be elected for one year only.
- Section 3. The Board of Directors shall have general charge and management of the property, affairs, business and concerns of the Society in accordance with the provisions of these By-Laws. The Board of Directors shall have the power to hold meetings; to admit members; to make appropriations for specific purposes, to take measures to advance the best interests of the Society.

Section 4. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held upon the call of the President. At least seven (7) days' notice will be given of the time and place of such meetings. Five (5) members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. In the absence of the President, and Vice-President, the quorum present may choose a Chairperson for the meeting.

Section 5. The immediate Past President of the Society shall serve as advisory member of the Board of Directors. He or she shall be privileged to attend all meetings of the Board and to enter into discussion of matters brought before the Board, but shall not have the right to vote at any meeting of the Board of directors.

ARTICLE VIII

OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers of the Society shall be a President, Secretary, and a Treasurer. In addition, these officers are members of the Board of Directors under the provisions of Article VH, Section 1.

- Section 2.
- a. The term of office of President shall be One (1) year. The term of office of Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be one (1) year. The President may not succeed himself or herself, but may not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.
 - b. Officers shall be elected at the annual election meeting, by the majority of the membership of the Society present.
 - c. All Active members in good standing are eligible to run for any office, except the office of President.
 - d. Candidates wishing to run for the office of President shall have served tenure of at least one (1) year on the executive board (present to prior).
 - e. Not more than two (2) Active members working for the same firm shall be allowed to run for office in the same location.

Section 3. The President shall preside at meetings of the Society and of the Board of Directors and shall be member ex-officio of all committees. He or she shall perform all duties that are necessarily incident to his or her office.

- Section 4. The Vice-President, in the absence of the President, shall preside at the meetings of the Society and of the Board of Directors. In the event of the death or resignation of the President, the Vice-President shall succeed to the office of the President for the remainder of the term.
- Section 5. The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Society and of the Board of Directors and keep a record of the minutes and such other transactions as may take place. He or she shall see that due and proper notices are given of all meetings of the Society and of the Board of Directors and shall perform all other duties usually performed by the Secretary of a similar organization.
- Section 6. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of the Society funds and other assets and shall maintain suitable records of all financial transactions. He or she shall make an annual detailed report to the Society membership and such other reports as the Board of Directors may require of him or her.
- Section 7. There shall be an Executive Director whose employment shall be approved by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall manage, supervise, and direct the operation of the Association with the Authority delegated to him by the Board of Directors. He shall be an ex officio member of the Board of Directors without voting rights.

ARTICLE IX

PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS

- Section 1. The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of at least three (3) members at least two (2) months prior to the annual meeting of the Society. It shall be the function of this committee to make nomination of candidates for election as officers and directors at the annual meeting of the Society.
- Section 2. There shall be a Finance Committee to consist of one Director, who shall be Chairperson, and two (2) other members appointed by the President, it shall be the function of this committee to study ways and means to improve the financial condition of the Society and to make recommendations to the Board of Directors on financial matters. The Finance Committee shall conduct an annual audit of the Treasurer's records.
- Section 3. There shall be a Membership Committee to consist of one (1) Director, who shall be Chairperson, and at least two (2) other members appointed by the President. This committee shall review all application for

membership in the Society and make recommendations concerning same to the Board of Directors. This committee shall study ways to expand the membership of the Society, promote the spirit of fellowship among the members of the Society.

- Section 4. Delegates to the OAA Assembly. The President shall be an automatic delegate to the OAA Delegate Assembly. If the President has appointed an Executive Director, it is recommended that he or she also be an automatic delegate. The President shall appoint as many other delegates as allowed from the membership at large.
- Section 5. The President may appoint such other individuals or committees as he or she deems necessary.

ARTICLE X

MEETINGS

- Section 1. There shall be at least one general meeting each year for the election of officers or directors.
- Section 2. A quorum for the transaction of business and the election of officers and directors at the annual meeting shall be those members present at the time designated in the notice of the meeting given under Article VIII, Section 5. The quorum provisions of this Section shall apply to any meeting of the membership of the Society. Each member shall have one vote and must be present to cast his or her vote.
- Section 3. The election of officers and directors will be conducted by secret ballot. The Nominating Committee created by Article IX, Section 1., shall make the necessary preparations for the election and the members of the committee shall act as election officials.
- Section 4. At meetings of the membership of the Society, the following order of business shall be observed:
- a. Call to order
 - b. Calling the roll
 - c. Reading the minutes of the previous meeting
 - d. Report to the President
 - e. Report to the Treasurer
 - f. Report of Committees
 - g. Election of officers and directors
 - h. Unfinished Business
 - i. New Business
 - j. Adjournment

Section 5. Special meetings of the Society may be called by the President at his or her discretion.

ARTICLE XI

AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the General membership of the Society by a vote of two-thirds of the members present. Notice that a By-Law change is proposed must accompany notice of said meeting.

Adopted the 13th day of May 1964

Amended the 14th day of May 1975

Amended the 11th day of May 1977

Amended the 10th day of September 1980

Amended the 14th day of September 1983

Amended the 8th day of May 1985

Amended the 14th day of September 1988

Amended the 10th day of May 1989

Amended the 16th day of October 1994

Amended the 18th day of January 2009