

Association of Shrine Oriental Bands International BY-LAWS

AS AMENDED 2018

Vision: A healthy oriental band community for the benefit of Shriners Hospitals for children.

Mission: To provide the tools for fun, music, recruitment and fundraising for the oriental band community

ARTICLE I – NAME AND OBJECTIVES

Section 1 – This Association shall be known as the Association of Shrine Oriental Bands.

Section 2 – The purpose of this Association is to promote the organization and betterment of Oriental Bands among various Shrine Centers; to create and devise instruments that fit in with the ritualistic style and display purposes of this Association; to originate and encourage the development of suitable and appropriate music which can be played on Oriental Band instruments; to promote cordiality and good fellowship among its members.

Section 3 – This Association, as a body, shall not use its influence in any way nor take sides in any manner whatsoever in the affairs of Shriners International nor shall it enter into collusion with others having that intent.

Section 4 – This association will facilitate and manage a Fund known as the “Ladder of Smiles” to raise money for the Shriners Hospitals for Children.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 – Membership in this Association shall be composed of Active Members, Members-at-Large and Life Members.

Section 2 – An Active Member shall be a Shriner who is a member of a Shrine Oriental Band affiliated with this Association.

Section 3 – A Member-at-Large shall be a Shriner, formerly an Active Member of a Member Band of this Association, but whose Band has disbanded; or who has moved his place of residence from the

jurisdiction of the Band of which he was a former member; or who has become a member of the “Retired Veterans” group that is recognized by his band. In order to qualify, as a Member-at-Large, such Shriner shall pay such annual dues as required by Active members to the Association of Shrine Oriental Bands.

Section 4 – Life Membership

- (a) All Past Presidents of the Association shall receive a Life Member Certificate upon completion of their term of office and thereafter shall be exempt from payment of annual dues to the Association.
- (b) Prior to June 25, 2002, A Life Member shall be a Shriner who is an Active Member in the Association of Shrine Oriental Bands who has acquired life membership upon payment of the requisite fee (\$100.00) to the Association and who shall thereafter be exempt from payment of annual dues to the Association.
- (c) After June 25, 2002, A Life Member shall be a Shriner who is an Active Member in the Association of Shrine Oriental Bands who has acquired life membership upon payment of the requisite fee (\$100.00) to the Association who shall thereafter receive a Life Member Certificate but will continue to pay annual dues to the Association.

Section 5 – Shrine Oriental Bands desiring to affiliate with this Association shall submit an application on a form furnished by the A.S.O.B. Secretary Treasurer, listing its Officers and Members, together with the current year’s dues, and upon approval of the Secretary Treasurer and the President, shall then become a member of this Association.

Section 6 – Regional Oriental Band Associations shall submit their By-laws to the Executive Committee of the A.S.O.B. for approval before the Association of Shrine Oriental Bands can sanction them. The Member Bands of the Regional Association must also be Member Bands of the A.S.O.B.

Section 7 – Each Regional Secretary shall submit a list of Oriental Bands that are members of their Regional Association to the Secretary Treasurer of the A.S.O.B. prior to the Annual Meeting of the A.S.O.B.

Section 8 – Reinstatement:

- (a) All Oriental Bands that have been dropped from A.S.O.B. membership for any reason may apply for reinstatement.
- (b) They shall submit an application on a form furnished by the A.S.O.B. Secretary Treasurer, listing its Officers and Members, together with the dues for the current year plus the dues for the preceding year.
- (c) Upon approval of the A.S.O.B. Secretary Treasurer and the A.S.O.B. President, the band and its members shall be reinstated as members.

ARTICLE III – MEETINGS

- Section 1 – The annual Meeting of this Association shall be held at a place and time as determined by the A.S.O.B. President.
- Section 2 – The annual Mid-winter Meeting of this Association shall be held at a time and place as directed by the President. The members of the Executive Committee will attend this meeting.
- Section 3 - The annual executive planning meeting of this Association shall be held at a time and place as directed by the president, prior to November 1. The members of the executive committee shall attend this meeting.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

Section 1 – Officers

- (a) The Officers of this Association shall be a President, a First Vice President, a Second Vice President, a Third Vice President, a Sergeant At Arms, and a Secretary Treasurer, all of whom shall be elected for a term of one (1) year at the Annual Meeting and who shall serve until their successors have been elected and installed.
- (b) The order of election of officers shall be: If two (2) candidates shall be proposed for election, the candidate receiving the majority of the votes cast shall be elected, (in excess of fifty percent (50%) of the vote cast). If more than two (2) candidates shall be proposed, the candidate receiving in excess of fifty per cent (50%) of the votes cast shall be elected. In the event neither of the candidates receive the votes required, then the (2) candidates with the largest number of votes will be subjected to a runoff vote and the candidate with the majority of the votes cast shall be elected.

Section 2 – The Board of Governors shall consist of:

- (a) The Elected Officers of the A.S.O.B.
- (b) All Past Presidents of the A.S.O.B.
- (c) The Secretary of each Regional Association or alternate appointed by him.
- (d) One elected or appointed Representative from each member Oriental Band of the A.S.O.B. with proper credentials for presentation to the A.S.O.B. Secretary Treasurer.
- (e) If the regular designated Representative is unable to attend, his band may select an alternate, and he shall qualify and function as a Representative.

Section 3 – Meeting Responsibilities for Officers

- (a) The Board of Governors shall transact all the business of this Association at the Annual Meeting.
- (b) Active Members and Members-at-Large shall have the right to attend all meetings of the Board of Governors and may participate therein, but shall not have any vote and may not propose any motion unless he is a representative of his own Oriental Band.
- (c) The Elected Officers of this Association and the Past Presidents shall constitute the Executive Committee. Said Committee may transact the interim business of the Association.
- (d) The President of the A.S.O.B. shall be the Chairman of the Executive Committee and said Committee shall have the authority to fill any vacancy until the next Annual Meeting, at which time the vacancy shall be filled by the Board of Governors.

- (e) The A.S.O.B. Action Plan will be maintained by the President of the A.S.O.B. and will be used as the working tool for the Executive Committee Meeting as specified by the time frame ARTICLE III Section 1.
- Section 4 - The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and carry out all orders and resolutions of the Association. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. He shall appoint all Committees and fill any vacancies occurring therein. He shall, at least one day prior to the Annual Meeting, appoint an Auditing Committee consisting of the Chairman (1st Vice President A.S.O.B.) and two other members to audit the books and accounts of the Association and will audit the books and accounts of the Ladder of Smiles Fund and report their findings to the Association at said Annual Meeting.
- Section 5 – The First Vice President shall, in the absence of the President, perform the duties of the President. The remaining Vice Presidents shall, in their order, in the absence of the President and the First Vice President, perform the duties of the President. They shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to them by the President.
- Section 6 – The Sergeant At Arms shall properly tile all meetings of the Association. He shall provide a Registration Book wherein each person attending the meeting of the Associations shall register his name and Temple and shall deliver the same to the Secretary Treasurer of the Association at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting. He shall also provide identification badges or insignia for member of the Board of Governors, cost of same to be paid by the Association.
- Section 7 – Secretary Treasurer
 - (a) The Secretary Treasurer shall keep all records of this Association and record its minutes; he shall receive all dues and funds of the Association which shall be kept in separate accounts for accountability and deposit same in a reputable bank, covered by Federal Deposit Insurance, in the name of the “Association of Shrine Oriental Bands, INTL” and disburse the monies from these funds on the order of the Executive Committee; he shall, within three (3) months after the time of the Annual Meeting, cause to be published in the Association’s Official Publication, Na Khabar, a summary of his annual report, together with a copy of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting.
 - (b) The Secretary Treasurer shall give good and sufficient bond for the faithful performance of his duties, in such an amount as the Executive Committee shall require, and the cost of said bond shall be paid out of the Association’s Treasury. This bond shall be kept in the custody of the Secretary/Treasurer and A.S.O.B. records.
- Section 8 - Management Framework – Regional Integration
Each elected officer is the principal contact for the Ambassador of the regions assigned to them. These assignments are shown below:
 - (a) Sergeant at Arms -
 - (1) Florida
 - (2) Mid Atlantic
 - (3) South Atlantic
 - (b) 3rd Vice-President
 - (1) Pacific North West

- (2) Great Lakes
 - (3) Midwest
- (c) 2nd Vice-President
 - (1) Central States
 - (2) Southeast
 - (3) Northeast
- (d) 1st Vice-President
 - (1) South Central
 - (2) Texas
 - (3) New York - Ontario
- {e) President

Others at the discretion of the President

Regional contact accountabilities by elected executive officers for the Association of Shrine Oriental Bands, ASOB.

The following are expectations are in place for each officer:

1. Ensuring the ambassadors are engaged with the bands in their responsible territories,
2. That updated membership lists are managed by the ambassadors and forwarded to the ASOB Secretary.
3. Attend monthly executive telephone meetings (on a pre-determined schedule basis) to update the rest of the executive team and the president about the goings on in the various regions of the association.
4. Travel to their assigned region to develop close relationships with the membership, and promote potential candidates for the A.S.O.B. Officer line.

ARTICLE V – DUES

Section 1 – The annual dues shall be ten (\$10.00) dollars, per member of each band; Ten (\$10.00) per each Member-at-Large and shall be paid into the Treasury of this Association on or before January 31st of each year. The Association shall, from the receipts, pay the expenses of the Secretary's office, the rental, if necessary, of Headquarters and Convention meeting rooms during the Annual Meeting, and there shall be furnished a copy of the Na Khabar in such quantity as deemed by the Executive Committee.

Section 2 – Should the dues of any Affiliated Band, or any Member-at-Large not be paid before the Annual Meeting is called to order, it and all its members or the offending Member-at-Large, shall be denied all the rights and privileges of the A.S.O.B. and shall be immediately suspended from membership. Reinstatement of such Band and its members or such Members-at-Large, shall be under such terms and conditions as may be imposed by the Executive Committee.

Section 3 – Membership cards in this Association, signed by the Secretary, shall be issued at Active Members and Members-at-Large upon payment of the Annual Dues. A Life Membership card, signed by the Secretary, shall be issued to all members acquiring that status.

Section 4 – A charter shall be issued to each Member Band of the Association. The Charter shall remain the property of the Association and shall be surrendered to the Secretary

Treasurer should the Band to which it has been issued become non-affiliated for any reason.

ARTICLE VI – COMMITTEES

- Section 1 – The President shall appoint a Communication Chairman, who shall publicize the Association of Shrine Oriental Bands at every opportunity and offer all possible assistance to the Convention Committee of the Annual Meeting of the A.S.O.B.
- Section 2 – The President shall appoint a General Chairman of the Ladder-of-Smiles who shall direct and coordinate all Shrine Children's Hospital fund raising activities of the Association. The Chairman shall recommend to the President, for appointment, such members as are needed to assist him in the performance of his duties.
- Section 3- The President shall appoint such Ambassadors as deemed necessary upon geographical boundaries. The Ambassadors shall encourage and assist in the organization of Oriental Bands in the various Shrine Centers and shall promote the affiliation of such Oriental Bands with the Association. He shall report the names of all new Oriental Bands with their Officers to the President and the Secretary-Treasurer of this Association.
- Section 4 – The President shall appoint a Historian. The Historian shall compile a record of the Association and assist the President as asked.
- Section 5 – The President shall appoint a Chaplain. The Chaplain shall assist at all meetings and events as assigned by the President.
- Section 6 - The President shall appoint a Quartermaster. The Quartermaster shall assist with requests from member bands regarding the sourcing of replacement instruments, uniforms etc. for the benefit of the Association.
- Section 7 – The President shall appoint a Parliamentarian. The Parliamentarian shall assist the President and all Officers as required on Parliamentary law. He will also be Chairman of any changes in the A.S.O.B. By-laws, and will work with all other committees as needed.

ARTICLE VII–A.S.O.B. BANDSMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

1. Purpose: The purpose of the A.S.O.B. Bandsman of the Year Award is to recognize an Oriental Band member who has demonstrated outstanding service to the A.S.O.B., to the Ladder of Smiles, to his Shrine Center, and to his Oriental Band.
2. Criteria The criteria for this award are as follows:
- a. **Letter of recommendation by an association member in good standing of the A.S.O.B.**
 - b. Member in good standing in his Shrine Center
 - c. Letters of recommendation from the Potentate of his Shrine Center and the Area A.S.O.B. Ambassador.
 - d. Demonstrated Leadership within his band, and the A.S.O.B.
 1. Willingness to assist and lead where possible
 - e. Identifiable support for the Ladder of Smiles
 1. Responsible for coordinating and managing a fund raiser for his band and or Shrine Center.
 - f. Attendance at either his Regional Association Meetings or Imperial Session.

- g. Must demonstrate goodwill towards all OB Members

3 Nomination

- a. Nominations should be submitted to the A.S.O.B. Secretary/Treasurer prior to the A.S.O.B. Mid-Winter Meeting. All Nominations will be reviewed by the A.S.O.B. Executive Committee to ensure that the candidate meets all of the criteria. If more than one nomination has been submitted, they will vote on the candidates.

4 Award Presentation

The A.S.O.B. Bandsman of the Year Award will be presented by the A.S.O.B. President. The presentation will take place during a Stated Meeting of the Bandsman of the Year's Home Shrine Center. In the event the A.S.O.B. President is not available to personally make the presentation, he may select another A.S.O.B. Line Officer or a member on the home temple to perform the presentation.

5 Award

The A.S.O.B. Bandsman of the Year Award will be a plaque with the A.S.O.B. Logo, A.S.O.B. Bandsman of the Year Award, Year, Member's Shrine Center, and his Name in letters in the appropriate size for the plaque.

ARTICLE VII – ORDER OF BUSINESS

Section 1 – Unless otherwise ordered, the order of business at meetings shall be as follows:

- (a) Roll Call
- (b) Reading of Minutes
- (c) Reading of the Financial Reports
- (d) Bills and Communications
- (e) Reports of Officers
- (f) Report of Standing Committees
- (g) Report of Special Committees
- (h) Unfinished Business
- (i) New Business
- (j) Election of Officers
- (k) Adjournment

ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS

Section 1 – These By-laws may be amended at any Annual Meeting of the Association by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of those present and qualified to vote, provided said amendments are submitted to the Secretary in time for publication in the electronic edition of the Na Khabar preceding the Annual Meeting.

Section 2 – By-laws Revised and Amended

22nd Annual Meeting – Chicago, Illinois July 21, 1949
24th Annual Meeting – New York, New York July 11, 1951
25th Annual Meeting – Miami, Florida June 18, 1952
26th Annual Meeting – New York, New York July 15, 1953
32nd Annual Meeting – Atlantic City, New Jersey July 8, 1959
33rd Annual Meeting – Denver, Colorado July 13, 1960
38th Annual Meeting – Washington, District of Columbia July 14, 1965
43rd Annual Meeting – Indianapolis, Indiana July 15, 1970
44th Annual Meeting – Miami, Florida July 30, 1971
46th Annual Meeting – Atlanta, Georgia July 4, 1973
48th Annual Meeting – Toronto, Ontario, Canada July 2, 1975
49th Annual Meeting – Kansas City, Missouri July 7, 1976
50th Annual Meeting – New York, New York July 6, 1977
51st Annual Meeting – Detroit, Michigan July 12, 1978
52nd Annual Meeting – Minneapolis, Minnesota July 11, 1979
53rd Annual Meeting – Cleveland, Ohio July 9, 1980
54th Annual Meeting – New Orleans, Louisiana July 15, 1981
60th Annual Meeting – Las Vegas, Nevada June 24, 1987
75th Annual Meeting – Vancouver, B.C. Canada June 25, 2002
78th Annual Meeting – Baltimore, Maryland July 6, 2005
86th Annual Meeting – Indianapolis, Indiana July 3, 2013
88th Annual Meeting – Houston, Texas July 8, 2015
89th Annual Meeting-Kansas City, Missouri, May , 2018