



BY-LAWS
OF THE TEXAS STATE SOCIETY

ARTICLE I – MEMBERS

Only Active Members in good standing are eligible to vote, hold office, or otherwise participate in the business and social affairs of the Society. Active Members may bring guests to social functions of the Society. For the purposes of voting and other official business, Family Membership subscriptions shall be considered to enfranchise a maximum of four (4) Active Members, all of whom shall be from the subscriber's immediate family, while Individual Membership subscriptions shall be considered to enfranchise a single Active Member. For Active Members qualifying under the Family Membership subscription, only those immediate family members that are physically present at a Society meeting may cast a vote.

ARTICLE II – MEETINGS

- Section 1. Regular meetings of the Society shall be held at least four times during each calendar year.
- Section 2. Additional meetings or social functions of the Society may be held upon fifteen (15) days' notice by the Secretary to the active membership.
- Section 3. As required by the Constitution, the Annual Business Meeting shall be held each year prior to April 30. In keeping with the Society's tradition of commemorating the Battle of San Jacinto, which occurred on April 21, 1836, every effort shall be made to schedule the Annual Business Meeting on or about April 21 of each year, in conjunction with a celebration of the Battle of San Jacinto.

ARTICLE III – DUES

Each Active Member shall pay annual dues. The dues-paid for each year shall be from January 1st to December 31st.

ARTICLE IV – ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- Section 1. At least 30 days before the Annual Business Meeting each year, the President shall name a Nominating Committee of not less than five active members to report a slate of candidates for office to be voted on at the Annual Business Meeting of the Society. Other nominations may be made from the floor by any Active Member present.
- Section 2. Installation of new officers shall occur upon completion of the election at the Annual Business Meeting.

ARTICLE V – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and the Executive Board, call special meetings of the Society and the Executive Board, fill vacancies occurring in an office with the approval of the Executive Board, appoint Special and Standing Committees, uphold the Constitution and By-Laws, and present at the Annual Business Meeting a condensed report of the work and activities of the Society for the past year. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.
- Section 2. The Vice Presidents (in their order) shall assist the President in the work of the Society and, in the absence of the President, perform the duties of the office.
- Section 3. The Secretary shall keep in permanent form the minutes of the meetings of the Society and of the Executive Board, conduct the Society's correspondence, and send out notices of meetings.
- Section 4. The Treasurer shall record all moneys received by the Society, pay bills and make disbursements as directed by the Executive Board, and make an annual statement of finances.
- Section 5. The Historian shall keep a scrapbook, and preserve and write a history of the Society.
- Section 6. At least 30 days prior to the Annual Business Meeting, the Executive Board shall appoint an Auditing Committee of not less than three nor more than five persons to make an audit of the receipts and disbursements of money by the Society for the preceding year. No member of the Executive Board shall be eligible for appointment to the Auditing Committee. The Auditing Committee so appointed shall make a report which shall be read to the membership at the Annual Business Meeting and shall be filed as part of the permanent records of the Society.
- Section 7. There shall be three standing committees, known as the Entertainment Committee, the Membership Committee, and the Sponsorship Committee. Duties and responsibilities of these committees shall be as directed by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE BOARD

- Section 1. The Executive Board shall hold meetings as needed to conduct the business of the Society.
- Section 2. Special meetings of the Executive Board shall be held at the call of the President or upon written request of three members, due notice having been given.

ARTICLE VII – FINANCES

- Section 1. The Society shall be supported by Annual Dues and proceeds for social affairs.
- Section 2. No committee or part of this organization shall undertake any financial responsibility except as authorized by the Executive Board.
- Section 3. Only such funds as pass through the hands of the Treasurer shall be included in the annual financial report of the Society.
- Section 4. An annual operating budget shall be presented at each Annual Business Meeting, for the ensuing fiscal year. The Society's fiscal year shall run from January 1st through December 31st.

ARTICLE VIII – QUORUMS

- Section 1. Seven members shall constitute a quorum for a meeting of the Executive Board.
- Section 2. Twenty-five members shall constitute a quorum for a meeting of the Society.
- Section 3. Three members shall constitute a quorum for Committee Meetings.

ARTICLE IX – CHERRY BLOSSOM PRINCESS

In a membership mailing prior to October 1st each year, the Society shall announce its intention to select a Princess to represent the State of Texas at the annual Cherry Blossom Festival for the following year and to invite the submission of qualified nominees.