

Constitution and By-Laws Of
KAMO Square Dance Callers, Cuers and Partners, Inc.
March, 2021

Article I - NAME

The name of this corporation shall be KAMO Square Dance Callers, Cuers and Partners, Inc. and in these by-laws shall be known as the "Corporation".

1. The term cuer is construed to mean all leaders (except square dance callers) of dances recognized as associated with the square dance activity.

Article II - PURPOSE

To pledge the membership to the betterment of square, round and line dance calling and cueing, to ensure friendly cooperation among its members and to promote cooperation between this organization and all other caller, cuer and dancer organizations

Article III- ELIGIBILITY TO MEMBERSHIP

- A) All members must be licensed according to the requirements of their respective activities
- B) All members must maintain in force liability insurance
- C) Active members and their partners will each have one (1) vote.

Active Member Requirements:

Shall be made up of callers, cuers and partners who are actively calling, cueing or teaching.

1. Calling shall be defined as having the ability to call full dances at or above the mainstream level, consisting of approximately one-half patten and one-half singing calls or cueing rounds at or above phase II, or lines at or above square dance club level.

2. Teaching shall be defined as: The instructor of a course of adequate instructions to beginner dancers for entry into a square, round or line dance club at or above the mainstream, Phase II, or lines at or above square dance club level. The instructor must have completed at least two classes and must continue to teach at least one class annually to qualify for active member. An active member not continuing to meet these requirements shall be given the opportunity to retain membership in the Corporation at the member status of their qualifications. Determination of the appropriate course of instructions shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

3. Callers or cuers who have been active members of the Corporation for the last five consecutive years and who no longer qualify under 1 or 2, but wish to continue calling western parties, occasional dances or other activities benefiting square, round or line dancing may continue as active members.

Apprentice Member Requirements:

1. Shall be made up of experienced dancers and their partner who are interested in becoming active in teaching and calling square dances or teaching and cueing rounds or lines.

2. An apprentice member shall not be entitled to vote or hold office nor shall they call or cue at the caller/cuer festivals.

3. Apprentice members who meet the requirements of active member may submit an application for such membership in the same manner as a non-member.

4. Apprentice members may remain in that category for a maximum of two full years after being accepted. An apprentice member may be retained as an apprentice member on a year-to-year basis after this two year period, subject to a favorable recommendation from the membership committee and a favorable vote of the membership.

Honorary Membership Requirements and Privileges:

1. Any caller or cuer and their partner who is currently an active member of the corporation and has held active member status for at least 5 consecutive years must request in writing within 90 days of retiring from active calling, cueing or teaching to become an honorary member of the corporation. Should an honorary member choose to call/cue/teach occasionally they must continue to meet the license and insurance requirements set In Article III, A & B.
2. Honorary membership is subject to approval by a vote of the membership.
3. A surviving partner of a deceased caller or cuer shall also be accorded this honor.
4. Honorary members may attend regular meetings, workshops and social functions but will not vote or pay dues.

Article IV-APPLYING FOR MEMBERSHIP

1. A properly completed application form shall be presented to the membership chairman.

2. Verification of license and insurance must be provided before membership is in force, and within 60 days after acceptance into the corporation.

[The rest of Article IV is renumbered as needed].

3. Applicants for membership in the corporation shall be sponsored by two active callers or cuers in good standing of the corporation. An applicant must be deemed qualified by the two sponsors. This recommendation must be based on actual knowledge of the applicant's abilities.

4. Any applicant of age 16 or less and/or a high school undergraduate is required to have written consent of a parent or legal guardian accompanying the application.

5. All applicants, as well as parents or guardians when consent is required, shall be required to read the by-laws of this Corporation before applying for membership. Agreement by them to abide by these by-laws shall be binding upon the signing of the application for membership. The current initiation fee, set by the Corporation, shall accompany the application.

6. Dues shall be paid at acceptance of membership.

Article V - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The Board of Directors shall consist of six caller/cuer members to be elected by the members of the Corporation every year.
2. A nominating committee of two caller/cuer members shall be appointed by the president no later than the regular meeting in September.
3. The nominating committee shall present a slate of eligible nominees for each office who have been active members for one or more years. Nominations from the floor must be eligible candidates who have been active members for one or more years and must accept the nomination by verbal or written statement. Nominations and election will be held at the regular meeting in November. If any office has more than one candidate, vote will be by secret ballot.
4. The Board of Directors of the Corporation shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Workshop & Callers Aid Chairman and Membership & Hospitality Chairman.
5. Term of office shall be one year.
6. The President and Vice President cannot hold these offices more than two consecutive terms. A term is a calendar year or any portion thereof.
7. The new board will be empowered on the first day of January following the election.
8. Vacancies on the Board of Directors, except President, shall be filled by a majority vote of the voting members present at the first business meeting of the Corporation following the occurrence of the vacancy.

Article VI - DUTIES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. **PRESIDENT** - Shall act as chairman of the Corporation and Board of Directors, shall preside over all meetings of the general membership, shall appoint committees to perform in accordance with these by-laws, shall conduct business of a general nature and coordinate the efforts of the Board of Directors.
2. **VICE-PRESIDENT** - Shall assume the duties of the president in his absence, shall be responsible for facilities and accommodations required by the Corporation in conducting their activities including special events, shall assume other responsibilities as directed by the president. Shall assume the office of President in the event of a vacancy.
3. **SECRETARY** - Shall maintain the record of meetings, membership roster, attendance and other records except those of the treasurer. Shall notify members electronically of all upcoming meetings and include a copy of the previous meeting's minutes.
4. **TREASURER** - Shall have custody of all funds of the Corporation. These funds shall be deposited in a bank under the name of the Corporation. Disbursements from these funds to be passed upon by the Board of Directors and periodically accounted for to the members of the Corporation. The Treasurer will be allowed a discretionary fund of up to \$100.00 for incidental expenses. Records shall be audited annually prior to the first business meeting of the new year.

5. WORKSHOP & CALLERS AID CHAIRMAN - Shall conduct workshops in the presentation of new and existing materials, shall secure and present information about calling and cueing techniques, mic, sound equipment and related-subjects. Is encouraged to enlist the help of others in this process. Shall act upon requests for assistance from members. Shall present themselves to all new members in the Corporation and offer their assistance. Shall provide sound for workshops and meetings and arrange sound for all corporation events.

6. MEMBERSHIP & HOSPITALITY CHAIRMAN

- 1) Shall chair the membership committee. Shall accept all membership applications and ensure they are properly completed. Shall present all applications to the membership committee and then to the general membership with appropriate recommendations. If membership is approved, shall order 1 badge each for the new member and their partner.
- 2) Will send flowers and cards on behalf of the corporation. Flowers to be sent at the time of death of a member, member's spouse, parent or child in the recommended amount, not to exceed \$75.00.
- 3) Shall ensure that appropriate refreshments are available at meetings, workshops and festivals.

Article VII - MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The President shall appoint from the general membership no fewer than two active members, who are not sponsors, one of which can be the Committee Chairman, to serve on the committee. A minimum of two members of the committee are required to perform these duties.

It shall be the duty of the membership committee to:

1. Investigate all applicants and submit a recommendation to the membership indicating the applicant's qualifications.
2. Investigate all apprentice members desiring to remain after the two years and submit a recommendation for retention or dismissal to the membership. The committee should consider participation in square, round or line dance related functions, continuing preparation and improvement, and goals for the apprentice member as well as other factors deemed advisable by them in reaching this recommendation.

Article VIII - MEETINGS

1. Regular business meetings and workshops of the Corporation shall be held in January, March, July, September and November. A regular business meeting may be cancelled or rescheduled by the President in case of an emergency or at the request of the general membership. The Corporation may host social functions in June and December.

2. The meeting time, place, length and activities of business meetings and workshops and other activities shall be specified by the Board of Directors subject to the approval of the membership.

3. A quorum at a regular business or special meeting shall consist of 50% of the voting members of the Corporation.. In the absence of a quorum, the meeting is to be conducted as a committee, subject to a quorum vote at the next meeting.

4. All members shall be encouraged to attend all meetings and workshops each year and to participate in all activities of the Corporation. If a member makes a reservation where the Corporation is obligated to pay and does not show, the member shall reimburse the Corporation. Exceptions for special circumstances can be considered by the Board of Directors.

5. In case of a dispute over procedures, Robert's Rules of Order shall prevail.

Article IX - VOTING PROCEDURE

Voting on all matters shall be by secret ballot or show of hands of those voting members present. Absentee ballots may be cast where issues and circumstances permit, provided said ballots are in a sealed envelope, marked absentee ballot and in the hands of the secretary prior to the time of presentation of an issue to the floor for a vote. The secretary shall read the section of the by-laws which pertains to the issue to be voted on. Simple majority of voting members present shall be required unless otherwise stated in the by-laws.

Voting on Membership:

1. There shall be a 75% approval of voting members present.

2. An applicant for active member who fails to meet the qualifications and has not been rejected for reasons detrimental to the Corporation shall at that time be offered an apprentice membership. Applicants being rejected for reasons detrimental to the Corporation shall not apply again for a period of three years.

3. An applicant shall not be in the room when the vote on said membership is taken.

4. Voting shall be by secret ballot.

Article X - REVOKING MEMBERSHIP

A membership may be revoked at any time without recourse of reimbursement for a good and just cause, such as, failure to comply with the by-laws of the Corporation, conduct or any reason found to be detrimental to the Corporation. The Board of Directors shall investigate all issues of this nature, upon their own findings or at the request of any member. Finding this issue to be of sufficient cause, the Board shall direct the secretary to notify the member of the action about to be taken against him/her at least twenty one days prior to such action. He/she shall have a maximum of ten days to request an audience with the Board of Directors to show cause why such action should not be taken. If the issue is not resolved the Board shall present its findings to the general membership for a vote. Three-fourths of the voting members shall be present before any action can be taken. A two-thirds majority of the voting members present shall be required to sustain the Board of Directors findings. Voting shall be by secret ballot.

Article XI - DUES

1. The annual dues of this Corporation shall be determined by a majority vote of the members of the Corporation present at a regular business meeting. Dues shall be reduced to one-half for new members accepted after July 1st.

2. Dues shall be paid by January 1st of the dues year. Members whose dues are not in the hands of the Treasurer on the last day of January of the dues year shall be deemed delinquent and removed from the roster on February 1 of the dues year. Members who were in good standing

may be reinstated by payment of the delinquent dues and applying for reinstatement to their former membership category in the same manner as a non-member after that date.

3. Initiation fees of the Corporation shall be determined by a majority vote of the members of the Corporation present at a regular business meeting. The initiation fee will be waived for the reinstatement of past members who were in good standing.

Article XII - GENERAL

1. Members are encouraged to regulate their activities to conform to (replaces "with") all functions of the Corporation.

2. A suitable form, containing such information as the Board of Directors deems necessary to retain membership in the Corporation, shall be submitted by each member prior to the beginning of each year. Said form shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors as to qualifications of each member to retain membership in the Corporation.

3. One Corporation name badge shall be provided by the Corporation for each caller, cuer and partner. Apprentice badges shall be so noted.

4. The By-Laws shall be reviewed at least once every five years.

Article XIII - CODE OF ETHICS

Corporation members shall conform to the following code of ethics:

IT SHALL BE DEEMED ETHICAL TO:

1. Aim primarily to give his group enjoyment.
2. Promote fellowship.
3. See that proper decorum is observed at dances.
4. Maintain a good reputation for personal integrity.
5. Maintain a professional attitude toward other callers.
6. Adhere to uniform nomenclature, using the CALLERLAB suggested list of calls, or ROUNDALAB standard cues.
7. Keep scheduled engagements.
8. Discourage cliques.
9. Help beginners or dancers of lesser ability.

IT SHALL BE DEEMED UNETHICAL:

1. To knowingly call or cue for any group using illegal drugs.
2. To promote self or club promiscuously at any activity conducted by another caller or cuer.
3. To encourage or permit any member of your group to act in a like manner.

4. To obligate any dancer except in the wholesome enjoyment of square, round or line dancing in the group of their choice.

5. For a caller or cuer member to allow the consumption of alcoholic beverages at any dance or class, or to call or cue for any group of individuals under the influence of alcoholic beverages with the exception of a private party.

6. For a caller or cuer attending any dance not to offer to pay a donation.

7. For a caller or cuer visiting a dance to approach the caller or cuer of that dance in reference to calling a tip, cueing a round or line dance or to have a dancer intervene in his behalf.

8. For a member to discuss the mistakes or shortcomings of any caller or cuer with a dancer.

9. For a member to teach or encourage anything other than uniform nomenclature.

10. For a member to wear a caller or cuer bar under a club badge of any club for which they are not a caller or cuer.

11. For a member, when acknowledged incorrectly as the caller or cuer of a club for which they are not the caller or cuer to fail to correct same as soon as possible.

Article XIV - AMENDMENTS

1. Proposed amendments to these by-laws shall be submitted in writing to a member of the Board at the next board meeting of the Corporation. Said proposal, in writing, shall then be sent to each member not less than fourteen days prior to the next regular business meeting and shall be voted on at this meeting.

2. Amendments presented by the Board of Directors shall require a three-fourths majority of the voting members of the Corporation for their passage.

3. Absentee ballots shall be accepted providing they are in the hands of the secretary prior to the issue being voted on. Absentee ballots shall be in a sealed envelope, marked absentee ballot.

#

#

#