

**HEART OF AMERICA SINGLES SQUARE DANCE ASSOCIATION
(HASSDA)
GENERAL BY-LAWS**

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this non-profit association, incorporated in the State of Missouri, shall be, "Heart of America Singles Square Dance Association," commonly referred to as 'HASSDA.'

ARTICLE II

Purpose

Heart of America Singles Square Dance Association, hereinafter referred to as HASSDA, was established to:

1. Promote and stimulate interest in square dancing among solo dancers of all ages in the States of Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri.
2. Promote and oversee all HASSDA activities.
3. Furnish assistance to any group starting a new singles square dance club and support existing clubs in the HASSDA area welcoming to solo dancers.

ARTICLE III

Seal and Colors

The colors of HASSDA shall be red, white, and navy blue. The seal shall be as the badge – white background trimmed in red, the states in blue with white lines showing their boundaries, with a red heart superimposed over the midpoint of the states. The HASSDA name shall be in red letters across the top and down the sides.

ARTICLE IV

Membership and Dues

Section 1 – Membership

Two classes of membership in HASSDA shall be available: Individual membership and Associate membership.

- A. Individual Membership: Any single square dancer who is 18 years or older may become an individual member of HASSDA by paying the stipulated dues. Said

membership shall entitle the member to voting rights and the eligibility to hold office as outlined in the By-Laws herein and to receive the newsletter.

B. Associate Membership: Any non-single square dancer who is 18 years of age or older may become an associate member of HASSDA. Associate membership shall entitle the member to voting rights, and to receive the newsletter; however, such membership shall not entitle the member to hold an office.

Note: Membership in HASSDA or any rights of membership shall not be denied because of sex, race, or creed.

Section 2 – Dues

- A. The annual membership dues for Individual and Associate Membership are set each year by the Board the first meeting after the festival.
- B. The membership year of a HASSDA member shall be from Festival date to Festival date of the following year.

ARTICLE V

Officers, Board of Directors, and Advisors

Section 1 – Officers

The elected officers of HASSDA shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Editor, and Historian.

Section 2 – Terms of Office and Succession

- A. Elected officers shall take office at the first quarterly meeting after the annual HASSDA Festival, , rather than at the Festival, and serve to the first quarterly meeting after the Festival the following year.
- B. In the case of vacancy in the office of both President and Vice-President, the Secretary shall assume the office of President and serve as such until the next regular election and installation of the successor.
- C. In the event that any office other than that of President becomes vacant, the office shall be filled by special election. . Nominations and voting shall be limited to the Board and any eligible voting members of the Advisors to the Board, with the President abstaining except in case of a tie.

D. If any elected officer of HASSDA marries during the term of office, said officer may, with the approval of the Board, complete the term of office. The officer may continue membership in HASSDA as specified in the By-Laws herein.

E. Officers elected by special election to fill vacancies shall take office immediately upon notification by the Secretary.

Section 3 – Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall be comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Editor, Historian, and Past President, if eligible.

Section 4 – Advisors to the Board

Advisors to the Board shall be comprised of prior year's past officers, and other advisors as appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI

Duties of Officers, Board of Directors, and Advisors

Section 1 – Duties of the

President A. Preside

at all meetings.

- B. Decide all questions of order, subject to appeal.
- C. Cast the deciding vote on questions of debate or in case of tie.
- D. Sign all checks and drafts; if the Treasurer is not available.
- E. Appoint Area Coordinators, Festival Advisor, and other advisors and committees as required.
- F. Appoint a nominating committee of three or more HASSDA members six months before the election. One member of the nominating committee shall also be a HASSDA officer. The President shall instruct the nominating committee to contact all the Area Coordinators and other HASSDA members to secure the best candidates available.
- G. Perform such other duties as the Board shall deem necessary in compliance with the By-Laws of HASSDA.

Section 2 – Duties of the Vice President

- A. In the absence of the President, preside at meetings and perform the duties of the President and render such assistance as may be required.

- B. Maintain contact with Area Coordinators, helping them develop programs to encourage individuals to join HASSDA.

- C. Keep in contact with member and prospective clubs through correspondence and/or visitations and work in an aggressive manner to procure host clubs for future HASSDA festivals.

- D. Work in cooperation with the Festival Advisor on the immediate upcoming Festival.

- E. Submit at least four names of individuals to the Board from which the Board will choose two to audit the books of the Treasurer prior to the HASSDA Festival.

Section 3 – Duties of the Secretary

- A. Keep an accurate record of membership, membership renewals, and handle all correspondence of HASSDA.

- B. Record draft minutes of all Board and General meetings and distribute to the Board members prior to the next Board meeting.

Section 4 – Duties of the Treasurer

- A. Have custody of all funds of HASSDA and keep an accurate account of all funds received and disbursed.

- B. Sign all checks and drafts.

- C. Give an accurate accounting at each HASSDA Board Meeting showing all receipts and expenditures.

Section 5 – Duties of the Editor

A. Shall be responsible for the HASSDA Newsletter – to compose, edit, print, and distribute said newsletter.

Section 6 – Duties of the Historian

A. Maintain a scrapbook of photographs, flyers, ribbons, newspaper clippings, etc., of HASSDA Festivals and regional festivals where HASSDA is granted representation.

B. Maintain possession of the scrapbook(s) and be responsible for its display at HASSDA Festivals and other festivals and/or dances.

Section 7 – Duties of the Festival Advisor

The Festival Advisor shall maintain contact and offer all possible assistance and information to the host club of the upcoming HASSDA Festival, working in close cooperation with the Vice President of HASSDA.

Section 8 – Duties of the Ambassadors and Area Coordinators

Ambassadors (Non-Board Member) promotes interest in HASSDA individual, associate memberships and the Annual HASSDA Festival when visiting area club dances using supplied materials. Report area club information to their coordinator, or a Board member.

Area Coordinators –(Non-Board Member) - 1 per state - In addition to promoting HASSDA and the annual HASSDA festival as an Ambassador , Area Coordinators serve as the contact for their state for Ambassadors and clubs that may be looking for assistance/promotion in solo clubs/ programs. This information is then passed on to the vice-president or any other board member and included in the newsletter.

Section 9 – Resignation

Any officer wishing to resign may do so by presenting such resignation in writing to a member of the Board.

ARTICLE VII

Nominations and Elections

Section 1 – Nominations

- A. Nominations of the candidates for office will take place at the Annual Meeting. The method of nominations shall be orally by the Nominating Committee and/or Individual HASSDA members and/or by the Board of Directors.

- B. Any member of HASSDA shall be eligible for office that is single, in good standing, and not disqualified by HASSDA By-Laws. No member shall be eligible to hold more than one office at any time.

- C. After votes have been counted, the totals shall be submitted to the Secretary, naming the candidates and total number of votes received by each. The Secretary will then announce the winner to the membership.

ARTICLE VIII

Notice of Intent to disband HASSDA shall be USPS mailed and/or emailed to all current individual members and associate members at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting, at which disbandment will be voted upon. Such notice shall contain Date, Time, Place, and Purpose of said meeting.

- A. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote by paid membership present shall be required to disband HASSDA.

- B. In the event of dissolution of HASSDA, all property and funds of HASSDA shall be disposed of in accordance with the Incorporation Laws of the State of Missouri.

ARTICLE IX

Amendments

To alter or amend or rescind these By-Laws or to substitute new By-Laws, the proposed changes must be submitted in writing to the Board at least seventy-five (75) days prior to the regular Annual Meeting.

The Board must inform the Individual Members of all requested change(s) in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to the regular Annual Meeting. This notice shall be published in the Newsletter, if possible, or by a special mailing, if necessary.

A two-thirds (2/3) majority of the votes cast will be necessary to accomplish any change of the By-Laws. All By-Laws shall take effect immediately following a voted adoption unless specified otherwise.

AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

These By-Laws reflect changes that were made in the following years:

3/20/82

3/26/83

3/24/84

4/19/86

4/26/97

4/04/09

7/30/22