

2025 GENERAL LAWS CHANGES EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2025

ARTICLE II

Composition of The Moose

The Moose shall be and is composed of Past Chairmen of the Board of Directors, members of the Moose International, Inc. Board of Directors, officers of The Moose, committeepersons of The Moose, Past Lodge Presidents, Past **Senior** Regents (having received the honor prior to May 1, 2021) and representatives of the member Lodges. Each member, as herein listed and defined, shall be entitled to one (1) vote, and except as otherwise defined herein, the majority shall rule.

ARTICLE X

Chief Executive Officer

There shall be a Chief Executive Officer, who shall be the ~~chief executive officer~~ **Chief Executive Officer** of Moose International, Inc. The Moose International, Inc. Board of Directors is authorized and directed to annually appropriate all necessary funds for compensation, expenses, and upkeep of this office.

~~Chapter 7—Lodge Corporations~~

~~Sec. 7.1—Board of Directors—Lodge Holdings, Inc.~~

~~Sec. 7.1(a)—Creation—The initial Board of Directors shall be composed of those individuals named in the Articles of Incorporation, who shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified at the organizational meeting held by the Directors. Thereafter, the number of Directors of the Corporation shall be three; provided however, that the number of Directors of the Corporation shall automatically be increased or decreased to equal the number of~~

“Note: Remove all of Chapter 7 dealing with Lodge Corporations.

Chapter 7

(not in use)

Sec. 24.11 - Procedure of Appeals - Any party interested in any decision, order or judgment mentioned in Sec. 24.7 or Chapter 60 may appeal the decision, order or judgment to the Supreme Forum as follows:

- (a) The party appealing shall file with the Clerk of the Supreme Forum, a notice of appeal from the decision, order or judgment. The notice shall be filed not more than ~~thirty (30)~~ **fifteen (15)** days after the decision, order or judgment being appealed has been made or entered, except matters within the purview of Sections 60.4, 60.5 and 60.6.

Sec. 33.5 - Eligibility of Officers - Only active Lodge members, who are also either active members of one of the men's higher degrees or a Women of the Moose unit (or establish such active membership within sixty (60) day following installation), may be considered for any elected office. Eligibility requirements for Lodge offices are as follows:

President - Been an active member of the Lodge for at least six (6) months immediately preceding the date of election and completed at least one (1) year in another elected office (not a combination of offices) of the Lodge in which they seek office.

Vice President - Been an active member of the Lodge for at least six (6) months immediately preceding the date of election.

Chaplain - Been an active member of the Lodge for at least six (6) months immediately preceding the date of election.

Treasurer - ~~Must be an active member of the Lodge.~~ **Been an active member of the Lodge for at least six (6) months immediately preceding the date of election.**

Trustee - Must be an active member of the Lodge.

Sec. 33.7 - Campaigning for Office Prohibited - The printing, circulating or distribution of resolutions, letters, tickets, other written or printed matters, or through any electronic **social media (texting, Facebook, etc.)** by a member or anyone acting on their behalf, suggesting, recommending, opposing or containing the names of proposed candidates for office, is hereby prohibited. For any violation of this section, the Chief Compliance Officer may suspend the offending member or members, and in their judgment, may declare the election of such officer or officers void and order a new election.

Chapter 34 - Junior Past President

Sec. 34.1 - Serves on the Board of Officers - The retiring President shall serve as the Junior Past President, provided the term of President for which they were elected or appointed commenced prior to November 1 of the preceding year and they completed the term. The Junior Past President shall be a member of the Board of Officers. If the retiring President is unavailable or unqualified to serve, the next Past Lodge President, in order of juniority by service, shall serve. Past Presidency is a condition, not an office and remains with the member so long as they continue their active status. **Must have served as the Governor/President of lodge in which they will serve as Junior Past President.**

Sec. 35.15 - Conferring Honor of Past Lodge President - The honor of Past Lodge President may be conferred upon any active member of a Lodge in good standing **with that same lodge for 5 consecutive years.** ~~A written resolution setting forth the reasons shall be filed with the member's Lodge, read by the Administrator in open session and recorded in the minutes of the Lodge. If adopted by the Lodge, an original petition and resolution form shall be sent to the Chief Compliance Officer. The petition and resolution form shall be accompanied by a written request for the conferring of the honor. The written request shall be signed by the Lodge President and the Administrator under the seal of the Lodge, setting forth the action of the Lodge upon the resolution as recorded in the minutes of the Lodge. If the honor is being conferred on the President, the Vice President and Administrator shall sign the resolution. If the honor is being conferred on the Administrator, the President and Treasurer shall sign the resolution.~~ **A written request must be submitted to the Chief Compliance officer stating the lodge's desire to honor the nominee. Once a request is received, a packet of information containing the Petition & Resolution, will be mailed to the lodge or officer requesting the honor on behalf of a nominee. The original Petition & Resolution must be filled out and returned, along with other items, to the Chief Compliance Officer for presentation to the Moose International Board of Directors.**

The Chief Compliance Officer shall submit the required documents to the Moose International, Inc. Board of Directors at its next regular session for its consideration. **Once a designation has been granted, a letter will be sent to the lodge to be read on the lodge floor. If denied, a letter will be sent to the lodge notifying them of the denial and instructions for resubmission.** There shall be no appeal from the decision of the Moose International, Inc. Board of Directors. Except as otherwise stated in these General Laws, any member receiving the honor of Past Lodge President shall enjoy all of the rights and privileges as any Past Lodge President.

Chapter 36 - Administrator

Sec. 36.1 - Appointment and Election **A nominee for Administrator must have been an active member of the Lodge for at least six (6) months immediately preceding the date of appointment/election and completed at least one (1) year in another elected office (not a combination of offices) of a Lodge.** The Administrator shall be nominated by the Board of Officers and elected by a majority vote of the membership at a regular Lodge meeting.

Sec. 36.11 - Compensation - For their services, the Administrator may receive reasonable compensation as determined by the Lodge Board of Officers and membership. Compensation shall be paid or waived, but may not be accrued. If due to a vacancy in the office of Administrator, the Treasurer performs the duties and responsibilities of that office, they may receive the compensation allocated to the Administrator for the period of their actual service. **If the Treasurer is performing the duties due to a vacancy, they remain as Treasurer and do not receive the title of Acting Administrator.**

Chapter 41 - Appointed Officers

Sec. 41.1 - Sergeant-at-Arms - They shall introduce all visitors and conduct them to seats within the Lodge. They shall have charge of all the properties and paraphernalia of the Lodge, not otherwise provided for, and perform all other duties required of them by the President, and the laws of The Moose. They shall be in charge of the inner door, outer door and anteroom, if the Lodge does not have an Inner Guard and/or Outer Guard.

Sec. 41.2 - Inner Guard - If the Lodge has an Inner Guard, they shall have charge of the inner door of the Lodge room and perform all other duties required by the laws of The Moose.

Sec. 41.3 - Outer Guard - If the Lodge has an Outer Guard, they shall have charge of the outer door and the anteroom, and perform all other duties required by the laws of The Moose.

Sec. 41.4 – Voting – Appointed officers are non-voting officers.

Sec. 41.5—Appointed Officers- Appointed officers are not part of Executive Session and Board of Officers meetings.

Sec. 42.3 - Special Meetings - The President may at their discretion call a special meeting of the Lodge at any time. They shall call a special meeting any time they receive a request, in writing, by eight (8) members or two (2%) percent of the active members of the Lodge, whichever is greater. At special meetings, no business shall be transacted, except as specifically stated in the call notice sent to the membership. **A special meeting cannot be incorporated into a General Membership meeting and must be held as a separate meeting per the date & time on the notice to all active members.**

The Administrator shall prepare and mail (or personally deliver) all notices for special meetings to all active members of the Lodge at least seven (7) days previous to the special meeting. In calculating the seven (7) days-notice requirement, the Lodge shall not count the day of mailing or the day of the special meeting. The notice shall state the special business to be considered, and no other business shall be considered or transacted at the meeting. Lodges may notify members via electronic messaging if previously approved by members at a special meeting. Those members without access to electronic media must receive all notices by postal service mail.

Sec. 43.4 - Expenditures - Unless authorized by the Chief Compliance Officer, all expenditures must be by official check, and only as authorized and lawful. Cash payments are strictly prohibited, unless a reimbursement check is immediately written and included in the next appropriate deposit.

The following require membership approval **(Special Meeting)** and a dispensation from the Chief Compliance Officer:

1. Entering into any contract or lease

2. Purchasing personal property or equipment over ~~\$5,000~~ \$10,000
3. Borrowing money, including the use of a credit card
4. Withdrawal or reduction of savings
5. Encumbrance of assets
6. Any other transactions affecting the Lodge financial balance sheet

Purchases of personal property or equipment in an amount less than ~~\$5,000.00~~ \$10,000 requires membership approval but does not require a dispensation from the Chief Compliance Officer. All transactions involving real estate require membership approval (**Special Meeting**) and a dispensation from the Chief Compliance Officer. The provisions of Section 46.6 govern real estate transactions. A dispensation from the Chief Compliance Officer is not required when an existing approved loan is merely refinanced at a lower interest rate and/or for a shorter term, and the Lodge receives no funds.

Sec. 44.3 - Community Service & Charitable Fundraising - ~~Without the necessity of obtaining a~~ **With an approved** dispensation from the Chief Compliance Officer, a Lodge home may be utilized for legitimate community service programs and charitable fundraising events. Non-members involved in community service programs or fundraising events shall not enter the Lodge social quarters. Community service and charitable fundraising events are subject to the following restrictions:

1. The social quarters shall be closed to non-members.
2. Non-members shall not make purchases unless the purchase is directly related to the fundraising event.
3. No alcoholic beverages shall be involved unless specifically approved by the Chief Compliance Officer.
4. IRS regulations require that only "volunteers" be involved in charitable fundraising events. No Lodge employee (Administrator, SQ Manager, bartender, clerical personnel, etc.) shall participate in charitable fundraising events. Volunteers may not receive any form of compensation, including, but not limited to, tips, free meals, free drinks, etc.

[IMPORTANT - Income derived from an activity in violation of this condition may be classified as unrelated income and taxable.]

5. The Lodge shall not benefit financially from the activity.
6. All net proceeds shall be donated to the charity or community service for which the event was conducted.
7. A separate and complete record of each event must be kept on file. The file shall include, but not be limited to: details of the event, an itemized financial record (including gross and net proceeds, costs,

etc.) and the name, address, telephone number and tax ID or social security number of the organization or individual receiving the proceeds.

Sec. 45.2 - Advertising - Advertising any Lodge activity in any manner (i.e., newspaper, handouts, posters, radio, TV, **Social Media** or Lodge marquee) that is visible to the public shall conform to the following conditions:

1. Bingo prices and prizes may be displayed, as allowed by law, without a dispensation.
2. The words "MEMBERS AND QUALIFIED GUESTS ONLY" shall be prominently displayed.
3. Community Service & Charitable Fundraising events including non-members shall contain the following words: "This is a community service event" and "All net proceeds are going to...." [insert name of charity or community service for which the activity is being conducted].
4. With a dispensation from the Chief Compliance Officer, a Lodge can advertise prices (i.e., price of admission to a dance, prices of meals, drinks, etc.) for fundraising events open to the public.

Sec. 46.2 - Compensation of Lodge Officers – No elected Lodge officer, except the Administrator (and the Treasurer if they assume the duties of Administrator during a vacancy (See 36.11), shall receive any wage, gratuity or other form of compensation for their services as a Lodge officer, or be a paid employee in the service of dispensing alcohol. Elected officers can be compensated for services such as janitorial, landscaping, entertainment, etc . **They must be compensated by check written to their business as a vendor and not the individual as an employee** The Jr. Past President is not an elected officer and can receive compensation from the Lodge.

Sec. 46.3 - Bonding - The following persons shall be bonded by the Lodge in amounts as it shall determine: President, Administrator, Treasurer, Trustees, Social Quarters Manager, and other persons required by the Lodge. The Lodge shall pay the premium for all bonds. **Any member with approved dispensation that has a condition of obtaining a bond is personally responsible for their bond.**

Sec. 46.12 - Use of Lodge Home for Political Purposes - A Lodge home shall not be used for political purposes, fundraisers or rallies. A Lodge shall not participate or designate any funds toward any political activity. With approval of the Chief Compliance Officer, a Lodge may, as a community service, allow the community to use the Lodge for a "meet the candidates forum". Neither the Lodge, nor any member acting on behalf of the Lodge, shall endorse a political candidate or party and the activity shall not involve the raising of funds or the support of any particular candidate or party. A Lodge may not be used to promote any political cause or agenda. A Lodge may be used as a polling place with ~~the necessity of a dispensation.~~ **an approved dispensation and copy of insurance from election board.**

Sec. 46.21 – Meeting Space - In accordance with requirements established by Moose International, Inc. Board of Directors, any lodge operating a Moose home shall provide adequate meeting space for meetings at no expense to any lodge affiliated Moose Unit or committee of the lodge. This will include all affiliated Chapters, Moose Legion Jurisdictions, Associations or committees.

Sec. 48.2 - Provide and Enforce Rules - The Board of Officers shall prepare and formulate rules and regulations governing the operations of the social quarters or home including, but not limited to:

1. The conduct of members and their guests during all social activities
2. A dress code for members and guests during all social activities
3. The admission and conduct of minors

The use of any tobacco product or smoking device (including e-cigarettes) is strictly prohibited at any time in the social quarters or Lodge home. The use of any tobacco product or smoking device (including e-cigarettes) is allowed on Lodge property in lawful outdoor areas or areas for which the Chief Compliance officer has provided a dispensation. The use of all cannabis products is absolutely prohibited at any time in the social quarters, Lodge home, or on Lodge property. Vulgar, profane and indecent conduct or language is absolutely prohibited at any time in the social quarters, home, on Lodge property, or during a Moose sponsored activity. In addition to the General Laws, the Board of Officers shall enforce additionally adopted and approved rules.

Before becoming effective, all rules shall be submitted to and adopted by the Lodge at a regular general membership meeting. The membership may submit a written request to the Board of Officers that a rule or regulation be adopted or rescinded. If the Board of Officers declines to adopt or rescind the rule or regulation, the President shall call a special meeting of the Lodge membership whenever they receive a request, in writing, by eight (8) members or two (2%) percent of the active members of the Lodge, whichever is greater. At the special meeting, no business shall be transacted, except a discussion and vote on the adoption or rescission of the rule or regulation.

The Administrator shall prepare and mail (or personally deliver) all notices for special meetings to all active members of the Lodge at least seven (7) days previous to the special meeting. In calculating the seven (7) days' notice requirement, the Lodge shall not count the day of mailing or the day of the special meeting. The notice shall state the special business to be considered, and no other business shall be considered or transacted at the meeting **A special meeting cannot be incorporated into a General Membership meeting and must be held as a separate meeting per the date & time on the notice to all active members.**

No rule or regulation shall ever be adopted or approved in connection with the operation or maintenance of a social quarters or home that conflicts with the laws of The Moose or with the laws of any municipality, state or nation where the Lodge is located. Opening and closing hours are governed by Section 50.5 and are under the sole jurisdiction of the Board of Officers.

Sec. 48.8 - Enforce Decorum – The Board of Officers shall be responsible for maintaining decorum in an equitable manner for all members. During all social functions, it is the duty of the Board of Officers to enforce and maintain proper decorum at all times. Participation in the social quarters of any Lodge is a privilege and not a right of membership. This privilege is conditioned upon all persons conducting themselves, while in and about any social quarters, home or during activities sponsored by the Lodge or Board of Officers, in an orderly manner. Any person, who fails to comply with this law, shall be denied the privileges of the social quarters or home at the discretion of the Board of Officers which includes all social activities sponsored by the Lodge. The Board of Officers, upon receiving a complaint or on its own accord, shall investigate and take appropriate action regarding any alleged breach of decorum. Any member or guest may file a complaint with the Board of Officers concerning alleged misconduct occurring during a social function.

The authority of the Board of Officers to suspend the social quarters privileges of any member, after conducting a hearing, shall in no way affect the member's Lodge membership status, including the member's right to attend official meetings, (**The suspended member may arrive 5-10 minutes prior and enter the meeting room. They then shall leave after the meeting within 5-10 minutes with no social quarters privileges**). The Board of Officers may suspend a member's social privileges pending a hearing. The hearing may take place on the same day as the regular Board of Officers meeting, but shall be separate from the regular meeting. Separate minutes shall be taken for a decorum hearing.

Unless the accused member in writing waives the right to appear, he/she must attend a hearing before the Board of Officers can make a final decision. After proper notice, if the accused member fails or refuses to appear before the Board of Officers, the member shall remain suspended until they appear at a hearing before the Board of Officers.

The Board of Officers may not fine a member, but may assess restitution for damages to Lodge property against a Lodge member. Damages assessed against a Lodge member are enforceable as set out in Section 46.19. A Lodge member's social privileges may be suspended pending payment of restitution for damages, or a lawful debt owed the Board of Officers (i.e., bad checks). Action taken by the Board of Officers of one Lodge to suspend the social privileges of a member in that Lodge shall not affect the member's social privileges in other Lodges.

A Board of Officers hearing is an informal investigatory process. Any officer charged with a social quarters rule violation or who has a family member related by blood or marriage charged shall not participate in the determination of the charges. Any officer who has an interest in the outcome, which would prevent them from being fair and impartial, should not participate in the determination of the charges. Pending a hearing, the Board of Officers may suspend a member's social privileges. At least five (5) days prior to a hearing, (not counting the day of mailing or day of hearing) the member shall be given written notice of the following:

1. The date, time and location of the Board of Officers hearing.
2. A detailed statement of the alleged wrongful conduct, including the date and approximate time of the alleged incident, location, circumstances and other information sufficient for the accused to be apprised of the charge(s).
3. The rule or regulation violated.
4. The right of the member to testify at the hearing.

5. The right of the member to bring witnesses to the hearing.
6. That the member is not entitled to be represented or to confront and cross-examine witnesses.

(Note: Disciplinary proceedings involving formal charges between members are not under the jurisdiction of the Board of Officers. Any questions concerning the responsibilities and authority of the Board of Officers should be directed to the office of the Chief Compliance Officer.)

Sec. 48.9-Security Cameras

1. Video should be considered confidential and is only to be reviewed at the lodge by the Executive Board if needed for a hearing.
2. Once notified of an incident, video should be immediately secured for future review.
3. Anything viewed on video whether part of a hearing or everyday business is considered confidential and not to be discussed outside of a hearing between board members.
4. No remote access shall be granted, unless by Administrator, to view if needed for tripped alarm when not at lodge.
5. No audio recording shall be permitted.
6. Security cameras are recommended for safety of lodge and members.
7. Lodge must follow any local/state/federal laws on whether you have to post notice of cameras being used.
8. Release of any confidential video footage to anyone must be approved by the Chief Compliance Officer, unless a subpoena is served.

Sec. 50.2 - Admission Regulations -

1. All active members of The Moose shall be admitted to the social quarters of any Lodge of unless their privileges have been suspended in accordance with the laws of The Moose.
2. Only the following persons may be admitted as a "qualified guest" into the social quarters or home of any Lodge:

~~a: An active Lodge member's spouse. (Note—There are no limits on the number of times a spouse may be admitted as a guest.)~~

~~b:~~ **a:** An active Lodge member's immediate family. (Note – ~~There are no limits on the number of times a spouse or~~ **A** qualified family member under the age of 21 may be admitted as a guest, however, all other immediate family members would be limited to two visits as they now qualify as a prospective member of the person signing them into the social quarters.)

~~⚡~~ **b:** A prospective member is defined as any guest that is accompanied by a member who can sponsor them for membership in The Moose, with the exception listed in 2 (a) of this section. As permitted by the Board of Officers, a prospective member may be admitted subject to the following:

- (1) The prospective member is accompanied at all times by their sponsor.
 - (2) The prospective member is properly signed in as a guest.
 - (3) The prospective member shall not make purchases.
 - (4) The prospective member shall leave when their sponsor leaves.
 - (5) The prospective member shall be limited to two (2) visits.
3. ~~All adult guests of members must be signed in as a guest and leave when the member leaves.~~
 4. Only active members of The Moose, whose active status has been verified, are permitted to make purchases. Unless prohibited by local law, the sale of refreshments to qualified minor family guests is permitted. It is the responsibility of the Board of Officers to ensure that all persons entering the Lodge home and social quarters are either active members or qualified guests. It is recommended that the Board of Officers adopt a method of distinguishing members and guests to prevent guests from inadvertently making purchases.
 5. Members shall at all times be responsible for the conduct of their guests.
 6. Appropriate (orderly) conduct is required of all persons in the social quarters or home at all times.
 7. The Moose International, Inc. Board of Directors may adopt additional rules and regulations for the operation of social quarters by Moose Lodges and these rules and regulations shall be effective as provided in the written action of the Moose International, Inc. Board of Directors.
 8. Each member of The Moose shall submit proof of membership when requested by any member of the Board of Officers or its authorized person.
 9. Using the social quarters for any Lodge community service activity is prohibited unless prior approval is obtained from the Chief Compliance Officer.

~~The term "guest" includes non-member spouses.~~ A member in expired status shall not enter any Lodge except to pay dues. An expired member does not qualify to be admitted as a guest.

Sec. 52.1 - Supervision by The Moose - All state, territorial, and provincial associations now or hereafter organized and maintained shall at all times be subject to the supervision and control of Moose International and its qualified officers. Activities involving non-members, leases, purchases and sales of real property, sales of personal property, and purchases of personal property in the amount of ~~\$5,000~~ **\$10,000** or greater are subject to approval by the Chief Compliance Officer. The Chief Compliance Officer may declare any association office or position vacant for a violation by the officeholder of the General Laws or policies of Moose International, or the by-laws of the association.

