

CONSTITUTION (rev 3.10.11)

ARTICLE I

This organization shall be known as "The Camera Club of Central New England".

ARTICLE II: OBJECT

The object of the club is the advancement of the knowledge of photography, in all its branches, and to educate, encourage, and expand the photographic knowledge and capabilities of its members, and the promotion of social contact among its members.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERS

Any person interested in photography shall be eligible for membership.

ARTICLE IV: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OTHER ELECTED POSITIONS

The officers of the club shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and a Treasurer, who shall be chosen annually. The Executive Committee shall include the following: officers of the club, the last available president, and four Members-at-large, the Digital Chair, and the webmaster. All executive board members shall be familiar with the Constitution and By-laws of the club. They shall always conduct club business in a manner that is in the best interests of the club. All elected positions including officers shall be elected by written ballot. Elected positions include: Exhibition Chair, Workshop Chair, Multiscreen Chair, Welcoming Chair, Banquet Chair, Refreshment Chair, Publicity Chair, Artistic Development Chair, Digital Chair, Arbitration Chair, Competition Chair, Scavenger Hunt Coordinator, Trip Coordinator, Webmaster, Lens Editor, PSA Rep, NECCC Rep, Lynn International Rep, Glennie Rep and four Executive Committee Members-at-large. To qualify for any elected positions, members shall be in good standing.

ARTICLE V: AUTHORITY OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall have the general superintendence and management of the affairs of the club. The Executive Committee shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified. Executive Committee members shall be members in good standing in the club.

ARTICLE VI: ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND OTHER ELECTED POSITIONS

Nominations shall be solicited by the Executive Board. A written ballot shall be drawn up at an Executive Board meeting and will be presented at the Annual Meeting. All officers and other elected positions (see Article IV) shall be chosen by written ballot at the Annual Meeting.

At each annual meeting, the officers, members of the Executive Committee, and other elected positions shall be chosen by ballot and shall continue in office until the close of the meeting at which their successors are invested, or until removed by vote of the majority of the members of the club.

Members may hold only one Club Officer position. Executive Board members may cast only one vote unless to resolve a tie vote as described below. Position terms begin at the end of the annual meeting in May and run for one camera club year.

Should a tie vote occur, a second vote will be taken. If the second vote results in a tie, the President will cast the tie breaking vote. If there is a tie during the election of the President, the Vice President casts the deciding vote.

Process for Annual Election of Officers, Executive Committee, and Chairpersons:

- * Two weeks prior to first meeting in March, the President will e-mail members issuing a "Call for Volunteers for Club Positions". This list of all club positions will also be available in printed form at the first meeting in March.
- * One week before the first meeting in April, the President will e-mail members a listing of all club positions and names submitted to date. One week before the second meeting in April, the President will e-mail members with a final "Call for Volunteers for Club Positions". Nominations will be accepted until the start of the second meeting in April.
- * Within one week after the second meeting in April, the President will e-mail members the formal ballot showing volunteers names associated with the positions.
- * At the annual meeting, the secretary will provide a list of paid club members and one ballot for each paid member. Ballots will be handed out and member's names will be checked off as having received a ballot. Each position on the ballot will have a blank line to allow for write-ins at the time of the vote.
- * At the annual meeting, a check will be made to determine if the required quorum has been met. If not, a follow-up meeting will be scheduled.
- * Members vote by circling a candidate's name on the ballot or offering a write-in candidate. Ballots will be turned over to the Secretary for counting.
- * Following the count, the President will announce the results.
- * Following the election process, the President will request Chairpersons to solicit interest from the membership to fill their committees. Chairpersons will determine the make-up of their committee as needed

Special Elections

In the event that an elected member's position becomes vacant, the club shall hold a Special Election for that position and term remaining.

The President must announce, within two weeks of the vacancy, that the position is open and that a Special Election must take place at the next upcoming meeting, no matter what is on the agenda.

The election will follow written ballot rules in accordance with the Club's constitution. The elected member will assume all of the responsibilities of the position the evening of the election.

ARTICLE VII: QUORUM

A quorum at any regular, special, or adjourned meeting, shall be 40% of the paid membership for the transaction of all business, except the amendment of the Constitution or By-Laws, (see Article XII Amendments) or an appeal from a vote of the Executive Committee. Seven members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum at its meetings. If, at any meeting, it is found that there is no quorum, those present may adjourn to a specified time, of which notice shall be e-mailed to all members.

ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS

Proposed Constitution amendment(s) may be presented at any regular or Executive Committee meeting with advance notification. Then they shall be e-mailed to each member at least ten days before the meeting at which the amendment(s) are to be considered. A two thirds vote of paid members shall be required. A quorum at a meeting to vote on the amendment(s) of the Constitution shall consist of not less than 40% of the paid membership of the club. The Executive Committee may review any proposals and present their recommendations to the club membership.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I: MEETINGS

The regular meetings of the club shall be held on the evenings of the second and fourth Thursdays of each month from September through May. The first regular meeting in May of each year shall be considered the Annual Meeting. Should the day for a regular meeting be a holiday, the meeting shall be held one week earlier or one week later.

Special meetings of the club shall be called by the President, or at the written request of five club members by the Secretary.

Notices of the Regular and Executive Committee meetings shall be e-mailed with an agenda to members at least five days prior thereto, and a special or continued meeting at least three days prior thereto.

Regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held as needed. Club members may attend and participate in Executive Committee meetings (voting is limited to committee members). Committee Chair Persons are specifically urged to attend meetings when their area of responsibility is on the agenda.

The president may call a closed meeting to address a personnel issue per Penalties section of the Bylaws.

Conduct of all business meetings and or sessions shall be governed by Robert's Rules Of Order Newly Revised 10th Edition, insofar as they are applicable to and consistent with the provisions of the Club's By-Laws and Constitution.

ARTICLE II: THE PRESIDENT

The president shall be well-versed in parliamentary procedure and thoroughly familiar with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Camera Club of Central New England. He/she will use tact and consideration when presiding at meetings. He/she will open meetings at the scheduled time and call the meeting to order. He/she shall determine if a quorum is present. The president, or in his/her absence, the Vice President, if present, shall preside at all meetings of the club and of the Executive Committee. In the absence of both, the secretary shall preside, and in the absence of the secretary, then the treasurer shall preside, and in the absence of all officers, a chairman shall be elected by members present. The president shall advocate for all members of the club, be invited to be a member of all club committees, shall act as a public relations person with other clubs, and perform such other duties as usually pertain to his/her office.

ARTICLE III: THE VICE PRESIDENT

When the President is absent, the Vice-president shall perform the duties of the President.

ARTICLE IV: THE SECRETARY

The secretary shall keep a record of all meetings, and shall have custody of all papers belonging to the club. He/she shall keep the records of all activities of the club. He/she shall cause notices of the meetings of the club to be sent to all members at their e-mail addresses as shown on the records of the club in accordance with Article 1. He/she shall publish the minutes from the last meeting via email to all members, prior to the next scheduled meeting, at which time the President shall entertain a motion to accept the minutes. He/she shall keep on file all committee reports and make records and minutes of meetings available to members upon request. In the absence of the president and vice president, he/she shall call the meeting to order and preside until a chairman shall be elected to run the meeting. He/she shall also perform such other duties as usually pertain to this office. He/she shall keep a list of all members, their e-mail address, and their residence address.

ARTICLE V: THE TREASURER

The Treasurer shall collect all dues and notify all members in arrears. He/she shall have the custody of all monies collected by him/her or turned over to him/her, shall make all payments duly authorized, keep proper books of accounts, and make a written report at each meeting of the Executive Committee, and at the annual meeting of the club, and once per quarter at regular meetings of the club (September, January, and May). A receipt shall be given to members upon payment of annual dues.

ARTICLE VI: CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Any person may apply for membership in the club and, upon payment of dues, will be accepted into membership.

Student membership in the club is open to all bona fide high school or full time or part time college students. Dues for this class of membership is set at forty percent of the regular membership dues.

Students enrolled in 8th grade or lower must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Lifetime Membership: A Senior Member of the club may purchase a Lifetime Membership if they are over the age of 62. The cost of a lifetime membership for a member between the age of 62-69 is \$250, for those 70 and over the cost is \$150.

ARTICLE VII: DUES

The annual dues shall be fixed from time to time by the Executive Committee. It shall be payable on the first meeting date in October unless otherwise determined by the Executive Committee.

A family membership shall require one member to be assessed at full membership rate, and each other member in his/her immediate family desiring membership to be assessed at sixty percent of a full membership rate.

A member joining the club after January 1st shall be required to pay fifty percent of a full membership rate for the remainder of that year.

A member whose dues are in arrears shall be deemed delinquent, shall not compete, and shall be so notified by the Treasurer. If still delinquent thirty days after notice, he/she shall be dropped from membership. No member who has been dropped for nonpayment of dues shall be reinstated without full payment of any arrears against him/her on the books of the club.

ARTICLE VIII: RESIGNATION OF ELECTED MEMBERS

Elected members resigning from office shall notify the President or Secretary and shall be acted upon at the next regular meeting of the club.

ARTICLE IX: PENALTIES

Any member guilty of any conduct in violation of the Constitution, By-Laws, or rules of the club, or which is prejudicial to the interests of the club, may be censured, suspended, or expelled by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee. But no member shall be suspended or expelled until after he/ she has been notified in writing of the charges against them, and been given an opportunity to refute it before the Executive Committee,

Any member aggrieved by action of the Executive Committee under this By-Law, may appeal to the club within thirty days. The appeal shall be in writing and delivered to the President or Secretary to be incorporated in the notice of the next meeting of the club at which time the case shall be presented, the appeal read, and the appellant be given an opportunity to be heard.

The vote by eligible members shall be by written ballot, and a two-thirds vote shall be necessary to reverse the decision of the Executive Committee. 18% of the paid club membership, exclusive of the members of the Executive Committee, shall constitute a quorum for this question, and no member of the Executive Committee shall vote upon it.

ARTICLE X: FORFEITURE OF INTERESTS

Resignation, failure to pay assessments within the specified time, or expulsion, shall operate as an assignment and release to the club of all the right, title, and interest of such member in and to the property and assets of the club.

ARTICLE XI: DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB

The club may be dissolved at any regular or special meeting provided written notice has been e-mailed to each member at least ten days in advance of the meeting at which the dissolution is to be considered. A two-thirds affirmative vote of all active, participating members shall be required for dissolution, and for purposes of this By-Law, members whose assessments are fully paid shall be considered active, participating members. A quorum for the purpose of dissolution shall consist of two-thirds of the active, participating members of the club.

In the event dissolution is voted, all equipment and properties owned by the club shall be converted to cash and, with all other assets of the club, after payment of all debts, shall be transferred to the Memorial Scholarship Fund of the New England Camera Club Council. In the event that the Memorial Scholarship Fund is no longer in existence, the assets of the club shall be transferred to the New England Camera Club Council and the Executive Board of that organization shall determine its use.

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

Proposed amendment(s) to the By-Laws may be presented at any regular or Executive Committee meeting with advance notification. Then they shall be e-mailed to each member at least ten days before the meeting at which the amendment(s) are to be considered. A two thirds vote of paid members shall be required. A quorum at a meeting

to vote on the amendment(s) of the By-Laws shall consist of not less than 40% of the paid membership of the club.

OTHER INFORMATION

CANCELLATION OF MEETINGS

If meetings must be cancelled, due to inclement weather, please check the web page, your e-mail, or contact an officer of the club.

THE USE OF THE CLUB NAME

Executive Committee approval, in writing, is required hereafter, for any venture or undertaking of any member under the sponsorship of the Camera Club of Central New England.

REFRESHMENTS

Our club meeting refreshment breaks have proved to be a great opportunity for informal social contact and exchange of ideas among members. The Refreshment Chairperson will be responsible for obtaining volunteers to provide the refreshments, reminding the Refreshment Team of their upcoming participation, and assuring the kitchen is left in the same condition as when we arrive. Refreshments will be offered at the expense of the volunteers. A collection container will be available for those members wishing to donate money to offset the cost of supplies. Money donated will be turned over to the club Treasurer.

COMPETITION SCORE CARDS (See Competition Rules)

USE OF CAMERA CLUB ELECTRONIC MAILING LIST

Members should exercise discretion when using the mass email listing for our club. The master email list should only be used for communications which pertain to the camera club. All communications using this private master list must be appropriate in nature to all members of the camera club.