

**BY-LAWS OF: INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE  
BLUE GAVEL AUXILIARY  
(5<sup>TH</sup> REVISION APRIL 2021)**

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**ARTICLE I**

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***NAME***

The name of this organization shall be INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL AUXILIARY (hereinafter referred to as the IOBGA).

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**ARTICLE II**

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***PURPOSE***

The purposes of the organization are:

1. To support the activities of the International Order of the Blue Gavel (IOBG).
  2. To promote fellowship among the members of the Auxiliary and to stimulate interest in ceremonies, customs and etiquette of the IOBGA in Districts and International.
  3. To serve as a support group in time of need.
  4. To work for the benefit of the yachting communities preserving local traditions, ceremonies, customs, ethics and etiquette of good fellowship.
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**ARTICLE III**

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***AUTHORITY***

These By-laws, as approved by the IOBG, shall serve as authority to function as an International Auxiliary and to use the name “Blue Gavel” and an appropriate logo.

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**ARTICLE IV**

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***MEMBERSHIP***

1. Membership in the IOBGA will be limited to spouses or domestic partners of approved members of IOBG (IOBG members in good standing), or spouses/domestic partners of deceased IOBG members.
2. An IOBGA member in good standing shall be defined as meeting the above membership criteria with international and district dues paid for the current year or having been granted lifetime membership or being deemed to be a member-at-large. Annual membership cards will be issued to members in good standing only.
3. Member-at-large shall be limited to a member in good standing whose district is not IOBGA-chartered, or who is or whose spouse is active military without a permanent residence.
4. All International Past Presidents of the IOBGA shall automatically become life members and shall no longer pay International dues as required by Article V.

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**ARTICLE V**

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***DUES***

1. The dues of the IOBGA shall be established by the Board of Directors and approved by a majority of members present at the annual meeting.
  2. Dues must be paid by January 1 of each year and shall be delinquent after that date.
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**ARTICLE VI**

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***OFFICERS***

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, the President Elect, the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Immediate Past President.
2. The term of the Executive Committee shall be for a period of one or two years, pursuant to Article VIII paragraph 4.
3. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Executive Committee, and the Regional Directors.
4. The duties of the President shall be:
  - to administer the affairs of the IOBGA and preside over all meetings;
  - to serve as the liaison to the International Order of the Blue Gavel; and
  - to appoint such committees as are deemed necessary.The President shall have the authority to authorize expenditures not to exceed \$150.00 in excess of the approved budget. Any expenditure exceeding the \$150.00 must be approved by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee acting in their stead.
5. The duties of the President Elect shall be:
  - to assist the President; and
  - to preside over all meetings in the absence of the President.The President Elect shall automatically become President at the expiration of the President's term. The President Elect and the Treasurer shall present a Budget for the ensuing year.
6. The duties of the Vice Presidents shall be:
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President shall act as a liaison to the Regional Directors east of the Mississippi (if only one Vice President, both east and west).
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President shall act as a liaison to the Regional Directors west of the Mississippi.
  - c. One or both Vice Presidents shall act as a liaison to the IOBG Supply Officer.
7. The duties of the Secretary shall be:
  - to record the minutes of the meetings;
  - to keep the records of the IOBGA;
  - to communicate with the District Authorities and/or the membership; and
  - to conduct all necessary correspondence.

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**( 5<sup>T H</sup> R E V I S I O N April 2021 )**

8. The duties of the Treasurer shall be:
  - to renew the IOBGA's registration to the appropriate state.
  - to keep complete financial and membership records;
  - to receive all monies;
  - to make all disbursements as authorized;
  - to submit a written financial report to the membership at the annual meeting;
  - to make all required reports to the Internal Revenue Service;
  - to distribute membership cards; and
  - to assist the President Elect with the budget.
  
9. The duties of the Immediate Past President shall be:
  - to serve as the Chair of the Nominating Committee;
  - to submit a slate of Officers for the Annual Meeting;
  - to chair the Audit Committee; and
  - to submit a written audit report at the Annual Meeting.

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## **ARTICLE VII**

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### ***COMMITTEES***

1. Standing Committees of the IOBGA shall be the Nominating Committee and the Audit Committee.
2. The Nominating Committee shall consist of the President, the Immediate Past President and the President Elect. The chairperson shall be the Immediate Past President.
3. The Audit Committee shall review the Treasury books annually and report its findings at the Annual Meeting in writing.

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## **ARTICLE VIII**

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### ***MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS***

1. The Annual Meeting of the IOBGA shall be held in conjunction with the IOBG Annual Meetings.
2. Regional Meetings may be held in conjunction with the IOBG Regional Meetings.
3. Special Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the IOBGA President or by a majority of the Board of Directors.
4. Elections shall be held annually and shall coincide with the terms of the IOBG, except when it is deemed by the IOBGA Board of Directors and approved by 2/3 of the voting members present, that it is in the best interest of the organization for the terms of the offices of the IOBGA Board of Directors to be set at two years.
5. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern in all cases to which they are applicable.
6. Each Past President shall be allowed to vote at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors provided he/she is in attendance.

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## **ARTICLE IX**

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### ***EMBLEM***

The Official Emblem of the IOBGA is a rectangular red flag upon which is superimposed in the left upper quadrant a ship's wheel of white, and upon that is superimposed a blue gavel, in addition, superimposed in the right lower quadrant is a white letter "A."

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## **ARTICLE X**

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### ***AMENDMENTS***

These By-laws may be amended at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors when published at least 30 days prior to such meeting and approved by 2/3 of the voting members present.

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## **STANDING RULES**

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1. The standing rules shall be amended as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors. They shall be approved by a simple majority of the voting members in attendance at a Regional Meeting or the Annual Meeting.
2. Any spouse or domestic partner may be a member of the IOBGA whether or not he or she is affiliated with an active District Auxiliary.
3. The Districts may set dues as they see need for their organization and chapters.
4. All IOBGA members in good standing in attendance at the Regional and Annual Meetings may vote.
5. Spouses or domestic partners of IOBG members wishing to form an Auxiliary should make application through their local IOBG District Director, and then notify the IOBGA President who will present the application for approval to the IOBG Executive Committee Liaison.
6. The IOBGA President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, may appoint committee chairpersons as deemed necessary for the good of the organization.
7. The fiscal year of the organization is from January 1 to December 31.
8. Should the organization dissolve, all funds will be donated to a 501 (c) 3 organization.
9. In order to acknowledge and recognize bereavement of current and past International IOBGA officers, District Directors and above, including spouses and significant others, a memorial donation of \$50 shall be given in their name to the International Order of the Blue Gavel Humanitarian Foundation.