

# **Constitution and By-laws of the Kentucky Deaf Disc Golf Association**

## **Article I: Name and Definition**

**Section 1:** The name of this organization is the Kentucky Deaf Disc Golf Association and its abbreviated title is the KDDGA. The official address of the KDDGA shall be maintained by the KDDGA Board.

**Section 2:** The KDDGA is a player's organization. It is a non-profit organization, and it is open to all Deaf people and hearing people who are involved with the Deaf community, regardless of race, creed, gender, nationality, or political affiliation.

**Section 3:** KDDGA is a subsidiary of the Deaf Disc Golf Association (DDGA) while KDDGA is responsible for DDGA tournaments in Kentucky.

**Section 4:** All rules of play follow the current Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA) rules of play.

## **Article II: Purposes**

**Section 1:** To promote the sport of disc golf throughout the Deaf community. To enhance the enjoyment of the game for its members and the general public.

**Section 2:** To maintain an organized framework for representative government by the members of the association.

**Section 3:** To provide an outlet in which information regarding the sport of disc golf can be easily accessed by its members and the general public.

**Section 4:** To administer monthly KDDGA league tournaments, fundraising events, and special occasions.

**Section 5:** To communicate the tournament results and maintain the official point standings of participating members.

**Section 6:** To host one or two annual DDGA tournaments.

**Section 7:** To bid as a host of the DDGA Deaf National Championship Tournament.

## **Article III: Membership**

**Section 1:** The period of membership is from January 1 to December 31 every year.

**Section 2:** All applications for membership shall be accompanied by remittance of annual dues and/or the appropriate fee. Membership shall become effective upon verification of the applicant's qualifications and receipt of annual dues and/or appropriate fee. The classes of membership shall be Active and Non-Active.

**Section 3:** To qualify as an Active member, a person has to be a part of the Deaf community. The Deaf and Hard-of-hearing people, the hearing people who are involved with the Deaf community such as interpreters for the Deaf, CODAs, parents of Deaf child/children, teachers in

Deaf education, people married to Deaf, and friends/family to Deaf, are also qualified for Active membership.

**Section 4:** Active members must meet all the requirements as established in the Constitution and by the Board. Failure to maintain the obligations for Active membership will revert the member to Non-Active member status, and cause the member to lose all rights and privileges for Active membership for the period in question.

**Section 5:** Non-Active members are past Active members who choose not to meet the obligations for Active membership.

**Section 6:** An Active member whose membership has lapsed because of failure to meet his/her obligations may be restored to Active membership status by fulfilling the obligation.

**Section 7:** Privileges of Active membership over those Non-Active members are:

- To receive a membership package and official KDDGA communication
- To vote and hold office
- To make comments to the committees duly considered and acted upon
- To earn points in KDDGA league tournaments
- All other privileges as may be established by the Board

#### **Article IV: Order of Business Meeting**

**Section 1:** Business meetings shall take place in January before the season begins, summertime, and November to discuss league tournament sites, DDGA tournaments, fundraising events, and any other businesses deemed necessary by the officers of the membership.

**Section 2:** The order of the business meeting shall be as follows:

- Call to order
- Reading of the minutes
- Report of the President
- Report of the Secretary
- Report of the Treasurer
- Committee Reports
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Election of Officers - If necessary
- Announcements
- Adjournment

#### **Article V: Board**

**Section 1:** The Officers shall compose of the Executive Board consisting of the President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, the Secretary, and the Auditor. This Board shall be the governing body of the KDDGA, hereinafter called the Board, in which the government and management of the association is vested, except as otherwise provided for in the Constitution.

**Section 2:** The officers must be Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

**Section 3:** The officers shall be elected during the November business meeting biannually.

**Section 4:** Nominations of the Board shall be presented by Active members at the business meetings.

**Section 5:** Candidates for any office must be present in order to be nominated.

**Section 6:** The candidates must be KDDGA members for at least one year in order to be eligible to run for office.

**Section 7:** Only Kentucky residents are eligible to become officers.

**Section 8:** The term of office shall be two (2) years for all the Board members, with all officers being elected for terms beginning in even years.

**Section 9:** All Board members shall take office at the end of the KDDGA's final event of the year. The outgoing Board members shall promptly turn over all documents, funds, and other property entrusted to them by the KDDGA for the conduct of the office to the new Board members.

**Section 10:** If the office of the KDDGA President becomes vacant, the Vice-President shall become the KDDGA President for the remainder of the term of the vacated office.

**Section 11:** Vacancies occurring in a Board office other than the KDDGA president shall be filled by the vote of the Active members in the business meeting for the unexpired portion of the term.

#### **Article VI: Duties of the Officers**

**Section 1:** The KDDGA President is the chief executive officer of the KDDGA. The President shall preside at all the business meetings of the KDDGA and of the Board, and shall be responsible for administering the affairs of the KDDGA according to the policies and regulations established by the Constitution. The President will be responsible, along with the Treasurer, to oversee the KDDGA's finances and its budget. The President will be responsible to arrange KDDGA league tournaments.

**Section 2:** The Vice President shall, in the absence of the KDDGA President, perform all the functions in that office, and shall coordinate and monitor the progress of all standing committees.

**Section 3:** The Secretary will be responsible for communicating the actions of the Board and committees to the membership and will provide to any member upon request any available information about the PDGA and its affairs. The Secretary shall record and keep an accurate record of the minutes of all of KDDGA business and Board meetings.

**Section 4:** The Treasurer shall be responsible, along with the KDDGA President, to oversee the KDDGA's finances and its budget. The Treasurer shall be responsible for all funds of this organization and for the collection of debts owed to KDDGA. The Treasurer shall report in every business meeting or more often if requested by the KDDGA President, the financial status of the KDDGA, and ensure all required financial documents with any government body are filed, as required to fully comply with all laws and regulations of the United States of America.

**Section 5:** The Auditor shall audit and examine the books of the treasurer before all business meetings.

**Section 6:** In the Board meetings, a quorum of the Board shall consist of a majority of the Board. All Board decisions must be voted by open ballot and must receive a majority of the Board for approval. The KDDGA President shall hold Board meetings where the minimum of a quorum of the Board are physically present and which is closed to non-Board Active members. Outside the meeting, votes-by-mail, e-mail, or electronic voting may be not used. The KDDGA President is instructed to ensure that all sides of an issue have been heard before the Board decides on a particular issue.

**Section 7:** The Board shall have the power to make such regulations, not inconsistent with the Constitution, as shall be necessary for the protection of the property of the KDDGA and for the preservation of good order in the conduct of its affairs. It shall also be the duty of the Board to present the business for the action of the KDDGA membership. The Board shall have no power to make the KDDGA liable for debts amounting to more than half of the amount in the treasury, in cash, and not subject to any prior liabilities.

**Section 8:** When the Board is concerned that the KDDGA may be threatened by a person, the Board has the authority to ban the person with majority vote in the Board meeting from becoming a member or being present at the meetings, tournaments, and events.

#### **Article VII: Standing Committees**

**Section 1:** The Standing committees consist of the following:

- DDGA Tournament
- Fundraising
- Official KDDGA Website Management
- Annual Banquet

**Section 2:** The Board is empowered to establish committees as necessary to manage the business of the KDDGA. Each committee must be overseen by a Board member.

**Section 3:** The Board shall announce the openings in the Standing Committees and other Committees, giving Active members the option of nominating Active members for the Chairperson position.

**Section 4:** The Committee Chairperson shall be elected at the business meeting.

**Section 5:** The Committee Chairperson must be an Active member.

**Section 6:** Candidates for Committee Chairperson must be present to be nominated.

**Section 7:** Candidates must be KDDGA member for at least one year in order to be eligible to run for Committee Chairperson.

**Section 8:** Only Kentucky residents are eligible to become the Committee Chairperson.

#### **Article VIII: Election Procedure**

**Section 1:** No one person may hold more than one elected KDDGA Board position and no more than two KDDGA Committee Chairs. There is no limit as to the number of KDDGA committees a person may belong to.

**Section 2:** Nominations may be made orally by the Active members.

**Section 3:** Elections shall be closed and ballots shall only be issued to Active members for voting.

#### **Article IX: Membership Dues**

**Section 1:** Membership fees are to be paid annually.

**Section 2:** The new membership fee is \$20.00. Renewal membership fee is \$10.00 per year.

**Section 3:** Membership fees are to be paid before the first league tournament of the year.

**Section 4:** The annual dues shall be payable up to three months in advance. If the amount of the annual dues is changed after a member has paid, the member is exempt from the change for the term of the annual membership.

**Section 5:** Membership fees are nonrefundable.

#### **Article X: Financial Activities**

**Section 1:** The fiscal year for KDDGA begins on January 1 and ends on December 31 every year.

**Section 2:** The KDDGA shall never issue any shares of stock, nor shall a dividend of any part of its income be distributed to its members and Board.

**Section 3:** The KDDGA shall not make a loan to a Board member or member, nor lend its credit to or for any such Board member or member.

#### **Article XI: Guidelines**

**Section 1:** The KDDGA shall make available the following guidelines:

- KDDGA League Points System and Rules Guideline
- KDDGA Fundraising Guideline
- KDDGA Hosting DDGA Tournament Guideline
- KDDGA Website Management Guideline
- KDDGA Annual Banquet Guideline

**Section 2:** The requirements outlined in the guidelines shall have to be adhered to in order to receive KDDGA recognition.

**Section 3:** The Board shall be responsible for the maintenance of the Guidelines and addressing the grievances of any Active member.

#### **Article XII: The Constitution**

**Section 1:** The KDDGA Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the organization by the majority vote of the Active members.

**Section 2:** The KDDGA Constitution may be suspended at any regular meeting of the organization by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Active members for an explicit time period.

#### **Article XIII: Discipline of Active Members and Board**

**Section 1:** Charges of dishonesty, working against the principles of the KDDGA, or injuring the good standing of another Active member may be filed against Active member in a written petition signed by at least ten (5) Active members and submitted to the Vice-President or the KDDGA President.

**Section 2:** The Vice-President or the KDDGA President shall review the petition and make a recommendation of the action to the Board.

**Section 3:** Should the Board decide to take action, a hearing date shall be established and the accused and accusers notified. The charges will be discussed with all parties having equal opportunity to plead their case.

**Section 4:** The Board may demote any Active member by a unanimous vote to Non-Active member status and must refund in full the current year's membership fee paid by the demoted member. If, in the Board's judgment, the infraction is of such magnitude, the Board may expel and ban the member from the association.

**Section 5:** The Board may be remove any member from the Board, and/or any Committee Chairperson by an unanimous vote of all Board members except the member in question.

#### **Article XIV: League Tournaments**

**Section 1:** All association league tournaments shall be held in the state of Kentucky.

**Section 2:** Discs must be approved by PDGA.

**Section 3:** Hearing disc golfers who are not involved with Deaf community and Non-Active members are welcome to participate, but will not be eligible for the prizes and standing league points. They will not be required to pay any fee.

**Section 4:** Handicap points system is in effect in all league tournaments except the first tournament of the year.

**Section 5:** The top season's league finishers will be awarded at the annual banquets.

*This Constitution exists in thanks to the DDGA Constitution. Some parts are derived from the DDGA Constitution and the authorship of those parts is of the DDGA by precedence.*