

# **HEART OF AMERICA AQUARIUM SOCIETY OF KANSAS CITY BY-LAWS**

**Rev. November 2024**

## **ARTICLE I - NAME**

The name of the organization shall be the Heart of America Aquarium Society of Kansas City, hereinafter referred to as the HAAS KC (KCFISHCLUB).

## **ARTICLE II - PURPOSE**

The Heart of America Aquarium Society of Kansas City is a not-for-profit hobby and recreation organization dedicated to the advancement and dissemination of information relating to all aspects of the biology of aquarium and pond-related fauna and flora, with particular reference to their maintenance and propagation in captivity.

## **ARTICLE III - OFFICERS**

**Section 1: The officers (Executive Board) of HAAS KC shall consist of the following:**

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Recording Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Member-at-Large

**Section 2: Individuals may hold more than one (1) officer position simultaneously.**

**Section 3: In the event of a vacancy in any office, the following procedures shall apply:**

- **President:** The Vice President shall assume the role of President for the remainder of the term.
- **Other Officers:** The Board of Directors will appoint a replacement for the vacant office. The appointee shall serve until the next scheduled election.

**Section 4: The Board of Directors shall consist of the Executive Board, chairpersons of all standing committees, and the last active Past President.**

**Section 5: The Board of Directors shall manage the business and property of HAAS KC, oversee committee activities, and ensure compliance with the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation.**

## **Section 6: Officer Removal Process:**

- A motion to remove an officer must be brought forward by a member of the Board of Directors or via a special meeting request signed by five (5) voting members.
- A special meeting will be called, where the Board of Directors will hear the charges and the officer's defense.
- A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors present is required for removal.

## **ARTICLE IV - AMENDMENTS**

The Bylaws may be changed or amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the voting members present at any general club meeting. Proposed changes must be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors for review. Members must be notified of the proposed changes one (1) month prior to the vote through a reading at a general club meeting and by electronic means or publication.

## **ARTICLE V - MEETINGS**

**Section 1: All meetings of HAAS KC shall be held at such time and place as determined by the Board of Directors.**

**Section 2: Special meetings may be called by the President upon written request of five (5) voting members in good standing. The Secretary shall notify all members of the purpose of the meeting.**

**Section 3: Meetings shall be conducted according to "Robert's Rules of Order" unless inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation and/or these Bylaws.**

## **ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1: Prospective members must submit an application and applicable dues to the Membership Committee. Upon approval, they will receive a membership card signed by the Membership Chairperson.**

**Section 2: A member may be suspended or expelled for conduct injurious to HAAS KC, following a formal written complaint and review by the Board of Directors. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board is required for disciplinary action.**

## **ARTICLE VII - DUES**

**Section 1: Annual membership dues are as follows:**

1. Individual Voting Membership - \$18.00
2. Family Membership - \$18.00 (includes up to 2 voting members)
3. Individual Junior Membership (non-voting) - Free

**Section 2: Membership dues cover January 1 through December 31. Unpaid memberships will be terminated on March 1.**

## **ARTICLE VIII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1: The Board of Directors shall oversee the operation of HAAS KC, including but not limited to financial management, event planning, and program development.**

**Section 2: The Board meets monthly. A quorum of five (5) members is required for official business.**

**Section 3: Board members may be removed for failure to attend two (2) consecutive meetings or three (3) meetings within six (6) months, pending a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board.**

## **ARTICLE IX - OFFICERS**

**President: Presides over meetings, appoints committees, and represents HAAS KC.**

**Vice President: Assists the President and serves as Acting President when needed.**

**Secretary: Maintains records, minutes, and correspondence.**

**Treasurer: Manages funds, financial reports, and tax filings.**

**Member-at-Large: Maintains historical records and ensures procedural adherence.**

## **ARTICLE X - INDEMNIFICATION CLAUSE**

HAAS KC shall indemnify its officers, directors, and committee members against liabilities incurred in the performance of their official duties, except in cases of willful misconduct or gross negligence.

## **ARTICLE XI - ELECTED STANDING COMMITTEES**

- **Public Relations**
- **Program**

- **Finance**
- **Membership**
- **Publications**

## **ARTICLE XII - OPTIONAL APPOINTED COMMITTEES**

The President may appoint ad hoc committees as necessary, including By-Laws Review, Bowl Show, and Sunshine Committees.

## **ARTICLE XIII - ELECTIONS**

- Elections are held annually in November for officers and committee chairpersons.
- A Nominating Committee will present candidates at the October meeting, with additional nominations accepted in November.

## **ARTICLE XIV - ORDER OF BUSINESS**

1. Call to Order
2. Introduction of Visitors
3. Program
4. Refreshments
5. Committee Reports
6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Mini Auction
9. Adjournment