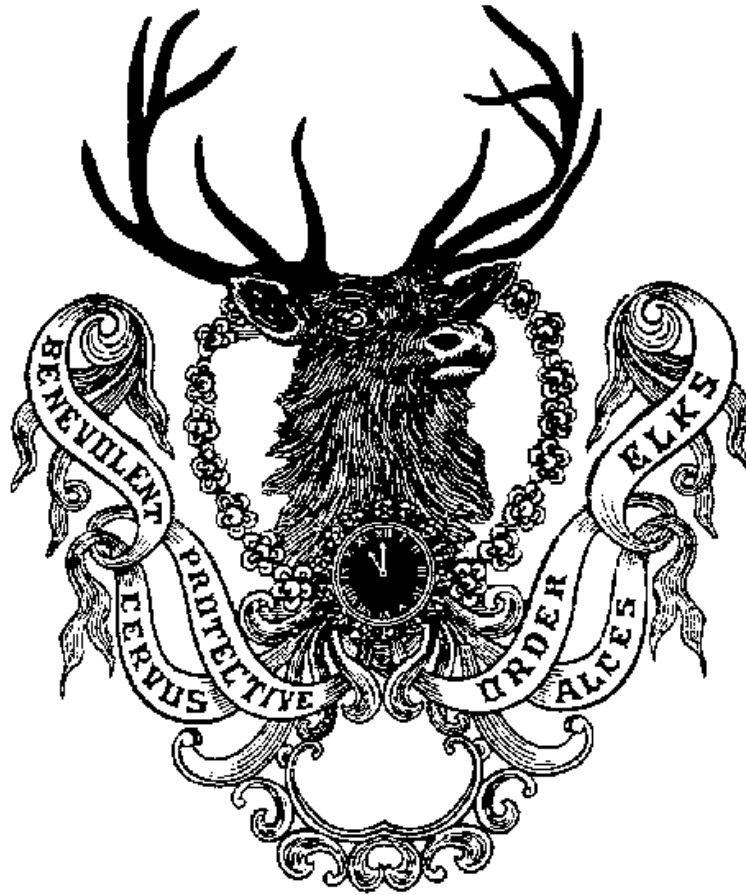


# *Maine Elks' Association*



Organized November 18, 1928  
Incorporated June 11, 2014

## **CONSTITUTION and BY-LAWS**

**CONSTITUTION**  
**and**  
**BY-LAWS**  
**Of The**  
*Maine Elks' Association*

Adopted November, 1928  
and Amended and Permanently Adopted  
August 18, 1929

Approved by John R. Coen  
Chairman of the Grand Lodge Judiciary Committee  
December 4, 1929

Amended at Annual Meeting in Houlton, Maine  
June 4, 1958

Amended at Annual Meeting in Millinocket, Maine  
May 18, 1975

Amended at Annual Meeting in Bath, Maine  
May 15, 1976

Amended at Annual Meeting in Rockport, Maine  
May 31, 1980

Amended at Annual Meeting in Waterville, Maine  
April 30, 1983

Amended at Annual Meeting in Rockport, Maine  
April 28, 1984

Amended at Annual Meeting in Saco, Maine  
May 17, 1986

Amended at Annual Meeting in Sugarloaf, USA  
May 21, 1988

Amended at Annual Meeting in Waterville, Maine  
May 15, 1999

Amended at Annual Meeting in Augusta, Maine  
May 3, 2003

Amended at Annual Meeting in Sunday River, Maine  
May 7, 2005

Amended at Annual Meeting in South Portland, Maine  
May 5, 2007

Amended at the Annual Meeting in Waterville, Maine  
May 5, 2018

## **APPROVAL**

Pursuant to applicable provisions of the Grand Lodge Statutes, the following

Amendments to Article II Section 4, Articles III Section 2, Article VI Section 1 & 2, Article VII Section 1 and Article X Section 1 of the Maine Elks Association of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, have been examined and, are hereby approved this 31st day of January, 2019.

### **COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

By Robert J. VanCampen

For Todd Deal, Chairman  
David R. Bailly  
Geoffrey B. Dobson  
Edward C. Johnson  
Thomas M. Zisa  
John H. Atwood  
Paul E. Robinson  
Robert J. VanCampen

Final No. AML-MAINE  
C & B yh

WHITE - GRAND LODGE YELLOW- LODGE PINK - COMMITTEE MEMBER
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# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

## *Of The Maine Elks' Association*

### **PREAMBLE**

This association of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks' Lodges of the State of Maine is formed to unite all Elks in closer bonds of fraternity; to further good fellowship among lodges; to protect and promote the interests of this Order in the State of Maine; to exchange ideas beneficial to the lodges of this State, and to bear true allegiance to the Constitution and Laws of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America.

### **ARTICLE I**

**Section 1.** This Association shall be known as the MAINE ELKS' ASSOCIATION.

### **ARTICLE II**

**Section 1.** Every lodge in the State of Maine shall be eligible to membership upon compliance with the provisions of the Constitution and Laws hereinafter expressed.

**Section 2.** Each lodge in the State having complied with Section I of this Article shall be entitled to representation at all meetings whether regular or special, as follows:

**(a)** One delegate and one alternate for each fifty members in good standing, based on the membership as certified to and contained in the report of the Grand Lodge, March 31st of the current year, or a major portion thereof, in whom shall be vested the right and authority to participate in and vote upon the business that may come before the Association.

**(b)** The Past Presidents of this Association, the Exalted Ruler of each local lodge, and all Grand Lodge members affiliated with the local lodges of the State of Maine in good standing in which lodge membership is held; also the members of all committees and officers of this Association during the tenure of office shall be vested the right and authority to participate in and vote upon the business that may come before the Association.

In no event shall any local lodge be entitled to more than twenty-five delegates as representatives of the lodge to this Association, exclusive of Past Presidents and Officers of this Association and Grand Lodge members in good standing in said lodge and the Exalted Ruler of said lodge.

**(c)** The Association may fix the maximum and minimum votes a lodge shall be entitled to cast at any session upon general business of the Association or for elective officers thereof.

**(d)** Any Elk in good standing who is a member of a local lodge in Maine and whose lodge does not comply with the provisions of this Constitution, may join this Association on application to the Secretary and acceptance, upon the payment of dues as specified in Section 4 of this Article.

Individual members included in this Article shall upon the compliance by their respective lodges with this Constitution, be considered as members under Section I of this Article.

(e) Only Elks in good standing with their respective lodges, and those who shall have complied with the provisions of sub-paragraph (d) of this Section, shall be entitled to attend any meeting of this Association.

**Section 3.** The delegates and alternates shall be elected at the first regular meeting in the Month of April of each year, or the lodge may authorize the Exalted Ruler to appoint the delegates and alternates and report the same to the lodge.

**Section 4.** To obtain the revenue necessary for defraying the expense of this Association, each local lodge shall annually pay an amount equal to Four dollars (\$4.00) for each member thereof in good standing on March 31st of each year. The Association itself, or through its governing body, may order suspension of payment of the per capita tax if the funds of the treasury of the Association warrant such action, but not exceeding the year in which such action is taken.

### ARTICLE III

**Section 1.** Annual Meetings shall be held by this Association. The place of such meetings of this Association shall be determined by vote of the Association in convention assembled, or the officers and trustees may be authorized to determine the place of the annual or special meetings of the Association, the date of the same to be fixed by the Association or the officers and trustees.

**Section 2.** Special meetings may be called by the President of the Association with the approval of a majority of the trustees upon fifteen days' notice to the Secretary of each local lodge or by approval of this Association at the Annual Meeting. Only such matters may be acted upon at special meetings, including amendments to the by-laws and constitution as set forth in the notice of such special meetings.

**Section 3.** If from any cause the city or place selected by the convention is unable to entertain the Association after such selection or fails to comply with the requirements or conditions agreed upon, authority is hereby placed and the President, Officers and Trustees vested with the power to select another meeting place.

**Section 4.** Quorum. Twenty-seven (27) accredited delegates shall constitute a quorum, provided that at least nine (9) lodges shall be represented.

### ARTICLE IV

**Section 1.** The proper officers of this Association shall furnish from time to time the Grand Exalted Ruler and Chairman of the Committee on State Associations of the Grand Lodge, the following:

(a) Copy of the proceedings of each meeting or reunion.

(b) Copies of the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, and amendments thereto or changes therein.

(c) All printed documents issued by it or under its authority.

(d) Copy of all general letters, circulars, and papers sent by it or its officers to lodges composing said Association.

(e) Correct list of its officers and the lodges composing it, together with the correct post office address of its President, President-Elect, Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary and each member of the governing body. Such list shall also be sent to the Grand Secretary.

(f) A copy of the annual report of the Treasurer.

- (g) It shall be the duty of the trustees to devise a system of financial accounting to safeguard and promote and protect the interest and welfare of this Association.
- (h) All Past Presidents of this Association shall become life members of the Association and have full powers as delegates in the annual convention so long as they remain an Elk in good standing.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Officers**

**Section 1.** The officers of the Association shall be a President, President-Elect, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Board of Trustees consisting of one member from each lodge, Administrative Assistant, Sergeant-at-Arms, Chaplain and Tiler. All of the said officers shall be elected annually, excepting the Administrative Assistant, Sergeant-at-Arms, Chaplain and Tiler who shall be appointed by the President for a term of one year immediately after installation.

No member shall be elected to the offices of President, President Elect, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer, unless present at the annual meeting, or in default thereof, has signified in writing to the Secretary their willingness to accept the office to which they may be elected.

Five members of said Board of Trustees will constitute a quorum.

**Section 2.** The President shall be the chief executive officer of the association and shall preside at all meetings, preserve order, appoint all committees not otherwise provided for, decide all questions of order subject to appeal to the Association, fill all vacancies unless otherwise specified, and perform all other duties that may be imposed upon him by law, and such as are customary to be performed by presiding officers.

To comply with Section 18.011 of the Statutes of the Order, the President-Elect, prior to being elected, shall be a Past Exalted Ruler as defined in Section 1.140 of the Statutes of the Order.

The President-Elect of this Association shall be elected alternately from the Maine Central, the Maine Northern and Maine Coastal Districts.

The President Elect shall become President without further election at the following annual meeting after being elected to the office of President Elect.

**Section 3.** In the absence or inability of the President to act, the President Elect or Vice President highest in rank shall perform the duties of the President. In case of vacancy in the office of President, the President Elect shall succeed to the office, the First and Second Vice Presidents shall succeed in like manner to the offices of the President Elect and First Vice Presidents respectively.

**Section 4.** It shall be the duty of the President to make such official visits to the local lodges composing this Association as may be deemed proper in the interests of the Association, and the President shall have power to direct the President Elect or Vice Presidents to make such visits, when, in the President's discretion, it may be deemed proper. In the event the President Elect or Vice Presidents shall not be available for such visits, the President may designate any such officer of the Association to make such visit. Any officer making an official visit under the direction of the President shall promptly thereafter make written report to the President thereof.

**Section 5.** The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Association, keep a true record of the proceedings of the same, preserve all books and documents, attend to all correspondence, prepare and submit an annual report to the Association showing the condition of the Association, receive all money paid into the Association, turn the same over to the Treasurer, taking a receipt therefore, and perform such other duties as may properly be required. The Secretary, before assuming the duties of the office, shall execute and deliver to the trustees such bonds for the faithful discharge of the duties as may be required by the Association, such expense of bond, if any, shall be paid by the Association.

Also, transportation to and from annual or special meetings of this Association, and office expenses, shall be paid for by this Association upon proper approval of the Trustees.

**Section 6.** The Treasurer shall attend all meetings of the Association, receive and be the custodian of all money belonging to the Association, shall payout the money of the Association only upon proper warrant drawn by the Secretary and countersigned by the President. The Treasurer shall submit a report to the annual meeting showing the transactions of the office during the preceding year. The Treasurer, before assuming the duties of the office, shall execute and deliver to the trustees such bonds for the faithful discharge of duties as may be required by the Association. Such expense of bond, if any, shall be paid by the Association.

The transportation to and from annual or special meetings of the Association, and the Treasurer's office expense, shall be paid by this Association upon proper approval of the Trustees, subject to the control and approval of the Association.

**Section 7.** The Board of Trustees shall, during the interim between meetings of the Association, take general charge of its property and direction of its affairs, and be the governing body of the Association, and perform such other duties as may be necessary to protect its interests and promote the objects of the Organization. It shall have control of the finances of the Association and recommend ways and means for raising funds to defray the expenses of the Association and set aside the same when received to the payments of such demands as are properly chargeable to it, and shall report all their acts at the next annual meeting. The President shall be a member of the Board of Trustees and shall be entitled to vote. The Board of Trustees directly following the installation of officers shall elect the Chairman. The Trustees shall pass upon all bills or accounts to be paid from the funds of the Association before warrants for the payment thereof shall be issued.

**Section 8.** The Administrative Assistant shall attend all regular and special meetings of the Association. It shall be his/her duty to assist the President in carrying out the duties of that office and such other duties as the President shall from time to time designate. The Administrative Assistant's transportation to and from annual or special meetings of the Association and other incidental expenses shall be paid by the Association on proper approval by the Trustees. The Administrative Assistant shall hold the office at the pleasure of the President.

**Section 9.** The Sergeant-at-Arms shall execute the orders of the President, assist in preserving order, act as Marshall on public occasions, and in case of a secret session, shall assist the Tiler in examining the qualifications of all persons presenting themselves for admission. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall select such deputies as may be needed to assist in the discharge of the duties of the office.

- Section 10.** The Tiler shall have charge of the doors of the hall in which meetings are held and shall perform the duties usually incident to the office of Tiler in like organizations.
- Section 11.** The Association shall from time to time make such provision for compensation and expense of its officers and committeemen as it may determine.
- Section 12.** All Elks in good standing in the lodges comprising this Association and residing within its jurisdiction shall be eligible to any office, either elective or appointive, in this Association, provided that such elective or appointive action is consistent with all other Articles of this constitution and by-laws.
- Section 13.** The annual salary of the Secretary and Treasurer and the Administrative Assistant shall be fixed at each annual meeting of the Association.

## **ARTICLE VI Committees**

- Section 1.** The President of this Association shall annually, as soon as convenient after installation, appoint the following standing statutory committees to hold office until the next annual meeting or until their successors are appointed: Accident Prevention, Americanism, Business Practice, Drug Awareness, Government Relations, Hoop Shoot, Insurance Risk Manager, Lodge Activities, Major Projects, Membership, National Foundation, National Veterans Service, New Lodge Development, Public Relations, Ritualistic, ENF-MVS Scholarship and Youth Activities.
- The President shall also appoint the following committees to hold office until the next annual meeting or until their successors are appointed: Committee on Laws, three members; Auditing Committee, three members; Credentials Committee, three members; Grand Lodge Committee, five members; Nominating Committee consisting of one delegate or one alternate from each lodge, and Committee on Relations with other State Associations, three members; Memorial Services, State Convention Coordinator, Soccer, Endowment Funds, Legal Justice and Educational Seminar.
- Section 2.** The Committee on Laws shall have referred to it and report to this Association all proposed legislation and amendments to the Constitution or Statutes of this Association. It shall also recommend to each annual session of the Association such legislation and amendments as it deems for the good of the Association.
- Section 3.** The Auditing Committee shall examine and audit the books of the Secretary and Treasurer and all expenditures of money by this Association and shall submit annually to the Association its findings and any recommendations it deems for the good of the Association.
- Section 4.** The Credentials Committee shall examine the credentials of all delegates and alternates, and of all Elks who by this Constitution are authorized to participate in the deliberations of the Association at any of its sessions, and it shall consider and pass upon the same and make a report thereon, together with such recommendations as it may deem proper.
- Section 5.** It shall be the duty of the Grand Lodge Committee to correlate and promote the relations between this Association and the Grand Lodge, to report upon all resolutions and reports concerning amendments to the constitution and statutes of the Grand Lodge and to present to and advocate in the Grand Lodge



any and all amendments to the Grand Lodge statutes as may be proposed, endorsed, and approved by this Association.

**Section 6.** The Committee on Relations with other State Associations shall promote friendly intercourse and relations with other state associations and shall have charge of all matters concerning the same.

**Section 7.** The Ritualistic Committee, in addition to the foregoing duties, shall plan for all annual state ritualistic contests. The participants shall be the duly elected and appointed officers of the respective lodges.

The State Association shall award a cup or trophy; the cup to remain the property of the State Association until won three times by the officers of a lodge, when it shall become the property of that lodge and the Association shall take steps to secure a new cup. The lodge winning possession of the cup need not win it three times in succession during any three years but shall be the first lodge to win the cup three times in any number of years.

**Section 8.** The Nominating Committee shall consist of one delegate or one alternate from each lodge, delegated to serve on that committee, each lodge to notify the State Secretary of the members' names fourteen days before the State Convention each year.

**Section 9.** The Maine Elks Association shall have a Past State Presidents Association which shall consist of all Past State Presidents and Honorary State Presidents of the Maine Elks Association. A Past State President shall be a duly elected President of the Association who has served the Association for the full term for which he or she has been elected as well as a member in good standing in his or her respective lodge. An Honorary State President shall be a duly elected Honorary State President of the Association as well as a member in good standing in his or her respective lodge. A State President who expires during his term of office or who enters the Armed Forces during a period designated as a National Emergency or Armed Conflict and is in good standing in his or her lodge shall be considered a Past State President. The incompleteness of a term of office, for any other reason shall cause the forfeiture of the title Past State President. Duly elected Honorary Past State Presidents in good standing in his or her lodge shall be considered to have the same standing as a Past State President who qualifies for membership in the Past State Presidents Association.

The Past State Presidents Association shall advise with and extend its counsel to all Association Officers and Committees, and shall have the following duties, subject to the limitations imposed by the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association and the Constitution and Statutes of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America.

- To elect a President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer.
- To adopt rules for the conduct of its business.
- To establish dates and hold regular meetings. A minimum of four (4) per year
- To assist and make recommendations to the President and his or her officers in an Advisory Capacity
- To assist and make recommendations in all activities which will promote the good of the Association and of the Order.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **The Maine Elks' Association Major Projects**

**Section 1.** Diabetes-Hypertension Testing Van

The Association's Diabetes-Hypertension Testing Van program was introduced in 1977 and chaired by G. Anthony Jones, P.S.D.G.E.R., P.D.D.G.E.R., P.S.P., P.E.R. of the Waterville Lodge #905. It was then ratified by the Maine Elks Association members. The testing provides an important beneficial free service to people in communities throughout the State of Maine. Early detection can prevent very serious future medical problems and in some cases life threatening problems.

The Maine Elks Association has currently disbanded the Diabetes-Hypertension Testing Van program as one of our Major Projects due to medical liability issues.

**Section 2.** The Maine Children's Cancer Program.

The Maine Children's Cancer Program was introduced in 1985 and chaired by Roger Sicard, P.D.D.G.E.R., P.S.P., P.E.R. of the Biddeford Saco Lodge #1597. Seymour Nathanson, Past Chief Justice of the Grand Forum, P.D.D.G.E.R., H.P.S.P., P.E.R. of the Portland Lodge #188, Amos A. McCallum, Past Vice Chairman of the Grand Lodge Trustees, S.D.G.E.R., P.D.D.G.E.R., P.S.P., P.E.R. of the Biddeford-Saco Lodge #1597 and Roger J. Raymond, P.E.R. Biddeford-Saco Lodge # 1597 were significantly instrumental in the development of this project. It was then ratified by the Maine Elks Association members. The program provides important and beneficial services to children and their families throughout the State of Maine regardless of their financial ability. The Maine Children's Cancer Program strives not only to cure cancer in as many children as possible, but also to support families through their experiences of living with childhood cancer.

**Section 3.** The Maine Elks Association Major Project Endowment Fund

**(a)** The Maine Elks Association Hundred Thousand Club concept was introduced and chaired by Anthony G. Vafiades, P.D.D.G.E.R., P.S.P., P.E.R. Bangor Lodge #244 and ratified by the Maine Elks Association members.

(1) Establishment of the Fund.

(a) That an Endowment Fund be and is hereby established in accordance with the following terms and provisions:

(b) The Maine Elks Association (MEA), a nonprofit corporation, hereby establishes an endowment fund to be held and administered in accordance with the terms thereof and to be known as the "Maine Elks Association Major Project Endowment Fund" (the Fund) (Hundred Thousand Club).

(2) Use of Income and Principal

(a) The MEA shall receive, hold, manage, invest, and reinvest the Fund together with any additions thereto, collect income therefrom, after deducting expenses properly chargeable to the maintenance of the Fund, and at the discretion of its officers and trustees, and with consent of the membership of the MEA, expend the accrued interest and gain therefrom for the benefit of the Maine Children's Cancer Program, a Maine non-profit corporation subject to the following provisions:

- (i) No portion of the Fund shall be expended until the principal thereof reaches the sum of One Hundred Thousand (\$100,000) Dollars
    - (ii) No portion of the principal shall be expended for any purpose whatsoever once there is sufficient accumulated interest to cover any expenses properly chargeable to the maintenance of the Fund.
    - (iii) Once the principal reaches the sum of One Hundred Thousand (\$100,000) Dollars, then, as provided herein, the officers and trustees of the MEA may, at their discretion, and with the consent of the membership of the MEA, expend so much of the accumulated income in the Fund for the use and benefit of the Maine Children's Cancer Program.
  - (b) Notwithstanding any of the foregoing The Maine Elks Association, through its officers, trustees, and members shall retain full control over the usage of the Fund, and may, at their discretion, utilize the income from the Fund for its charitable endeavors and/or any other major project of its choosing
- (3) Officers
- (a) The President of the Maine Elks Association shall be the chairman and preside over all meetings of the Fund. The Secretary and Treasurer of the MEA shall be the Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, of the Fund.
- (4) Manner of Acting
- (a) A two-thirds majority of those present at a special meeting of the Maine Elks Association called for the purpose of entertaining matters concerning the Fund or at the annual meeting of the Association may make such rules, consistent with the provisions hereof, for the conduct of its duties as may deem proper.
- (5) Powers
- (a) In connection with the administration of the Fund, the Maine Elks Association, in addition to and not in limitation of all common law and statutory authority provided charitable Trustees, and the powers it has under the other provisions of this resolution, except as specifically modified or limited herein, or except as may be otherwise specified by the Maine Elks Association, shall have the power as to any real or personal property in the Fund, or any part thereof, to mortgage;
    - (i) To lease with or without option to purchase, and to sell in whole or in part at public or at private sale without approval of any court

and without liability upon any person dealing with the Maine Elks Association.

- (ii) To see to the application of any money or other property delivered to it, to exchange property for other property.
- (iii) To invest in any mutual fund, so-called, to retain any property or security originally transferred to it and to retain and invest in securities including common stocks or properties although of a kind or in an amount which ordinarily would not be considered suitable for a trust investment, intending hereby to authorize the MEA to act in such manner as it shall believe to be for the best interests of the Fund, regarding it as a whole, even though particular investments might not otherwise be proper, to manage and invest separate shares of trusts as a joint trust fund consisting of undivided interests.
- (iv) To determine what shall be charged or credited to income, and what to principal, and to decide whether or not to make deductions from income for depreciation, obsolescence, amortization or waste and in what manner.
- (v) To participate in such manner as it may deem property in any foreclosure, or in any reorganization, merger or consolidation affecting any of the Fund, to make distributions or divisions of principal hereunder in cash, or in any kind at values determined by it.
- (vi) To take and hold securities or other Fund property in bearer form, or in the name of a nominee or nominees without designation of trust.
- (vii) To pay, compromise or contest any claim or other matter directly affecting the Fund.
- (viii) To employ any of the above or other purposes; to receive cash, securities or other property from any person by gift or by will or otherwise to be added to the Fund and to be held, administered and accounted for as an integral part thereof.

(6) Annual Accounting

- (a) The Treasurer of the Fund shall, at the Annual Meeting of the Maine Elks Association, report the income and expenditures of the Fund to the membership of the Association. The financial accounting of the Fund shall also be included in the printed financial report of the Association. Reports of the status of the Fund shall also be given at the Seasonal meetings of the Association

(7) Bonding

- (a) No bond shall be required of any member of the Maine Elks Association, in addition to any bond that may be required by the

Constitution or By-Laws of the Association, relating to the establishment and operation of the Fund. No member shall be liable for the acts of any other member nor for any omission or error of judgment if done or made in good faith.

(8) Amendments

- (a) This resolution may be amended at any time by the Officers and Trustees of the Maine Elks Association, with the consent of the membership thereof, in the same form as required for amendments to the By-Laws of the Association.

**NOTE!!!** *The Fund is under the full supervision of the MEA and treated as all moneys that come into the Association for the benefit of our Fund. No individuals are established to handle the funds other than the Officers and Trustees with the consent of the membership at a Special Meeting or the Annual Meeting of the Association. This will require a vote whenever we decide to expend any of the funds.*

(9) Soliciting

- (a) If a person or firm contributes to State association or to members of a local lodge with the understanding that the same is for Maine Children's Cancer Program, or if anyone uses the MCCP logo for soliciting, all revenues must be surrendered to the Maine Children's Cancer Program. If a person or firm contributes to the Endowment Fund, all revenues collected must be surrendered to the Endowment Fund.

**ARTICLE VIII**  
**Order of Business**

**Section 1.** The Order of Business at all meetings of this Association, unless otherwise changed by a majority vote of the delegates present, shall be as follows:

1. Call to order.
2. Invocation.
3. Pledge to the Flag.
4. Roll Call of Officers.
5. Report of Committee on Credentials.
6. Reading Minutes of Last Meeting.
7. Reports of Officers by Seniority.
8. Reports of Standing Committees.
9. Unfinished Business.
10. New Business.
11. Good of the Order.
12. Election of Officers.
13. Selection of Place of Next Annual Meeting.
14. Installation of Officers.

15. Closing and Adjournment.

**ARTICLE IX  
Limitations**

**Section 1.** No questions of a political or sectarian character shall be introduced at a meeting of the Association and no person shall be directly or indirectly endorsed or recommended for any political or grand lodge office, nor shall any public question be introduced or discussed unless the same directly relates to or affects the Order and its membership, or unless previous action on such subject shall have been taken by the Grand Lodge.

**ARTICLE X**

**Section 1.** On all cases where subjects are not covered by this Constitution, the Grand Lodge laws will govern. Robert's Rules of Order shall be the authority on all matters of parliamentary procedure.

**ARTICLE XI**

**Section 1.** Amendments to this Constitution shall, at least forty-five (45) days before any annual meeting, be presented in writing to the Secretary for immediate transmission by the Secretary to the Committee on Laws and said Committee on Laws shall make a report thereon to the Association at said annual meeting. The Secretary shall further, at least thirty (30) days before said annual meeting, send a copy of such amendment or amendments to the Exalted Ruler and Secretary of every member lodge of this Association. All amendments shall be considered under the head of New Business and require a two-thirds vote of all members present for their adoption.

**ARTICLE XII  
Grand Lodge Programs**

**Section 1.** Participation.

**(a)** Participation in the programs of the Grand Lodge and or Grand Lodge Committees, referred to the State Association and awards, trophies, and finances resulting there from, shall be limited to member Lodges of the Association. Lodges should deal directly with the Grand Lodge, since the State Association is not required to furnish manpower, finances and awards to non-members.

**(b)** Participation in State Association programs and awards, trophies and finances resulting there from shall be limited to member Lodges and Association.

Committee on Laws:

John Desjardins, MEA 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Chairman  
David Anderson, MEA President  
Bruce Brunelle, PDDGER, PSP