

## **NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NISEI BOWLING FEDERATION BY-LAWS**

### **ARTICLE I – NAME**

#### Section 1

The organization shall be known as the NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NISEI BOWLING FEDERATION.

### **ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES**

#### Section 1

To unite the Nisei Bowling Leagues and/or Nisei Associations of Northern California for the purpose of developing a spirit of good fellowship, mutual assistance, centralized communications, recognition of outstanding achievements of its members and to preserve and retain the spirit and heritage of Japanese ancestry.

#### Section 2

Oversee tournament rules, regulations and qualifications of playing the game of American Tenpins.

#### Section 3

To abide by the playing rules of the United States Bowling Congress along with rules adopted by the Northern California Nisei Bowling Federation, herein after referred to as the Federation.

### **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION**

#### Section 1

Its membership shall be composed of all local Nisei Leagues and/or Associations which are represented in the Federation by duly elected delegates or alternates.

#### Section 2

All members of a recognized Nisei League and/or Nisei Association must be a member of the Federation. For recognized Associations, every member of every league must be a member of the Federation.

#### Section 3

Application for membership may be filed by a Nisei League and/or Nisei Association within the geographic confines of its operation, accompanied by a list of its officers, their addresses, and the total amount of its membership and its by-laws/constitution/rules.

### **ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY**

#### Section 1

Membership of individuals in the Federation is open to bona fide members of a Nisei League and/or Nisei Association affiliated with the Federation and to the NISEI who qualifies through his/her membership in the United States Bowling Congress and by meeting such other requirements set forth by these by-laws. The term NISEI as applied herein shall include all persons of Japanese ancestry.

#### Section 2

Non-Nisei bowler accepted as a member of any recognized Nisei League and/or Nisei Association shall be considered a member of the Federation. He/she must have bowled 2/3 of the scheduled league games to maintain his/her consecutive years of membership eligibility. All Non-Nisei bowlers must submit a hardship letter to the Federation each year he/she does not bowl 2/3 of the year.

#### Section 3

Unattached individual Federation membership can be obtained by any Nisei or any Non-Nisei married to a Nisei if:

1. The individual is not a member of any local Nisei League and is not under suspension by a Nisei League, the United States Bowling Congress, or
2. The individual resides in an area not served by a Nisei League and meets all other requirements.

## **ARTICLE V – ANNUAL DUES**

### Section 1

Individual members of affiliated leagues/associations shall be assessed an annual due of \$1.50, payable to the Federation.

### Section 2

Unattached individual membership shall be \$10.00, payable to the Federation. Said assessment must be collected prior to participation in any activities approved or sponsored by the Federation.

### Section 3

Past Presidents of the Federation shall be non-paying lifetime members.

## **ARTICLE VI – APPEALS AND REINSTATEMENTS**

### Section 1

Hardship Clause: A Non-Nisei member may appeal to the Federation to retain membership eligibility prescribed by ARTICLE IV, Section 2 due to illness, unanticipated change in work situation, involuntary transfer, or other reasons deemed proper by the Federation.

### Section 2

Seven Year Clause: A Non-Nisei member with seven or more years of continuous participation in a recognized Nisei League, and a member in good standing of the Federation shall not be required to bowl the required 2/3 of the season's scheduled games to maintain membership status. Following a leave of absence, the bowler shall submit a letter to notify the Federation and shall not be required to re-establish his/her eligibility.

### Section 3

Other appeals and requests for reinstatements may be presented by any member, and must be submitted through their league/association in writing.

## **ARTICLE VII – SUSPENSIONS**

### Section 1

Any member who does not abide by the by-laws, rules, and regulations set forth by the Federation may be subject to suspension.

### Section 2

Any member who is suspended shall forfeit his membership without refund.

## **ARTICLE VIII – MANAGEMENT – VOTING RIGHTS**

### Section 1

The management of the Federation shall be vested in the Board of Directors which shall consist of the officers (as defined in Article IX, Section 1) and no more than three representatives from each organization.

### Section 2

When an area consists of a single league, said league shall be represented by its President and one other person. When an area is served by an association, said association shall be represented by its President and two other persons. The term of office for the representatives shall be ascertained by each group.

### Section 3

Failure of a representative to attend at least one (1) regularly scheduled Federation meeting per year shall be just cause for removal. The involved league/association will be notified with a request for action.

### Section 4

Representatives from each league/association shall have voting rights.

### Section 5

Past Presidents and Line Officers (President, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Treasurer, Statistician), shall have voting rights.

## ARTICLE IX – OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

### Section 1

The officers of the Federation shall consist of a President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, and Treasurer. Officers shall be elected from within the Board of Directors for a term of two years as of August 1<sup>st</sup>. Voting shall be a secret ballot.

### Section 2

The two immediate past Presidents shall be part of the Board of Directors as Advisors. Also, special positions may be created when warranted and the officers for such positions shall be appointed by the Board of Directors. A Statistician shall be one of them.

### Section 3

The Secretary, Treasurer and Statistician shall be compensated. The compensation shall be reviewed annually by the Board of Directors.

### Section 4

The President shall preside at all Federation meetings and sign or countersign checks drawn upon any Federation fund. He/she shall perform such duties as it pertains to his/her office.

### Section 5

The Vice Presidents, in order of their elections, and in the absence of the President, shall perform the duties of that office, and shall discharge such other further duties as may from time to time be required of them.

### Section 6

The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings, and such other records as may be determined by the Board of Directors. The Secretary shall have charge of, and conduct the correspondence of this organization and shall notify the Board of Directors in writing of any and all meetings of the Federation and Board of Directors as the case may be. He/she shall also perform such other duties as may from time to time be required of him/her by the President or by the Board of Directors.

### Section 7

The Treasurer shall receive and receipt for all dues, fees, or any and all monies or other property paid or donated to the Federation. He/she shall keep a true and correct account of all receipts and disbursements and make such report and statements to the President and Board of Directors as may, from time to time, be required by them. He/she shall deposit all monies received by the Federation in a reliable bank or banks to the credit and in the name of the Federation.

### Section 8

A Statistician shall keep a record of membership, including a record of the previous two years' book averages of each member of the Federation. He/she shall also obtain and file the records of all tournaments recognized by the Federation for recommendations and possible average adjustment of any member.

### Section 9

Line Officers may approve expenditures of up to \$50.00 without the Board of Director's approval.

## ARTICLE X – MEETINGS

### Section 1

The Board of Directors of the Federation shall meet at least *three* (3) times per year at a site to be agreed upon by its members. The attending Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum to transact the business of the Federation.

### Section 2

Any special meeting may be called by the President when deemed necessary.

### Section 3

Special cabinet or committee meetings may be called at the request of any member of the Federation, league or association to resolve immediate problems.

### Section 4

Individual members may attend any of the board meetings to present any subject matter pertaining to the best interest of the Federation for a discussion or ruling. They shall have no voting privileges.

## ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENTS

### Section 1

The by-laws of the Federation may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the attending quorum of membership of the Board of Directors.

### Section 2

Amendments must be channeled through the respective leagues/associations for consideration by the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE XII – FEDERATION APPROVED TOURNAMENTS

### Section 1

The Federation may approve one tournament per recognized Nisei league/association per year. Each year, the Board of Directors of the Federation shall determine which tournaments may qualify for Federation approval. To qualify for Federation recognition, tournaments must meet the following minimum criteria:

1. All tournament participants must be members in good standing of
  - a. The Federation, or
  - b. Another Federation recognized Nisei League and/or Nisei Association.  
A list of Federation recognized Nisei League and/or Nisei Association will be published prior to the first Federation tournament of each year.
2. A Federation tournament which offers a “team event” must require that at least *one* (1) of the bowlers on each participating “team” be of Japanese ancestry. For the purpose of this requirement, a “team” consists of 3 or more bowlers (i.e., this requirement does not apply to singles events or doubles events).
3. The tournament shall be United States Bowling Congress morally sanctioned.

### Section 2

To promote a spirit of good fellowship, the tournament scheduling committee shall make every effort to avoid pairing teams from the same city of the same leagues.

### Section 3

Tournament entry forms shall be sent in sufficient quantity to the area representatives.

