

# Louisville Dulcimer Society By-Laws

The Louisville Dulcimer Society (LDS) of Louisville, Kentucky, has the following goals:

- 1) Promote traditional folk music and the cultures which produce such music.
- 2) Promote the education of LDS members and the general public related to the lap dulcimer, hammered dulcimer and other acoustical folk instruments.
- 3) Sponsor concerts/workshops for LDS members and the general public related to folk music, folklore, and crafts.
- 4) Support and sponsor musicians who practice and perform cultural and traditional folklore arts.

## Membership

Any person committed to LDS'S purpose will be eligible for membership by paying the annual dues. This membership covers all household members residing at the same address, and entitles those members to receive the monthly LDS newsletter, attend meetings, receive a copy of the LDS Music Book, a copy of the LDS CD, and any discounts or offers made available to the membership.

Upon nomination by the Board of Directors, LDS may offer the honor of a Lifetime Membership upon any person showing exceptional support of traditional folk music and folk culture. Lifetime members will have none of the obligations of membership and will enjoy all membership privileges.

A member may resign his or her membership by submitting a letter to the Board of Directors, or by not paying their annual dues.

## Board of Directors

The Board will be made up of eleven voting members. The voting members will be four Officers; which are the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer: five Members at Large, the Newsletter Editor, and the Program Coordinator. The duties of the Board Members are as follows:

PRESIDENT - Preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and the General Meetings; appoint members of any special committee, subject to the Board's approval, sign documents and contracts on behalf of LDS, and any additional duties deemed necessary by the Board.

VICE-PRESIDENT - Exercise all duties of the President in the President's absence.

SECRETARY - Take minutes of all Board Meetings and General Meetings where LDS business is conducted.

TREASURER - Conduct the financial business of LDS, including signing checks, balancing the checking account, and reporting to the Board and LDS Members, the financial status of the club. Will maintain an accurate listing of all paid LDS Members. Inform the Newsletter Editor, the names, addresses, and e-mail addresses of all new members. The President, Vice-President, and Treasurer, are authorized to sign checks drawn on the LDS checking account. The LDS fiscal year will run from July 1 (current year) to June 30 (following Year).

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MEMBERS-AT-LARGE - Will act as a liaison between the LDS members and the Board of Directors.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR - Compose, publish, mail and e-mail out the monthly newsletter for all LDS members.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR - Organize the LDS programs, including securing leaders for each performance, obtaining Board approval for each performance, and informing the Newsletter Editor of all performance dates.

All Board Members will serve for one fiscal year. All Board Members may serve any number of terms in any office, providing his/her name is submitted again for nomination and elected at the annual picnic. Each officer will serve until his/her successor takes office. In the case of an emergency, requiring Board approval, any action will be considered official if a majority of the Board Members are in agreement.

## Elections

The Board will appoint a Nominating Committee, composed of three LDS members, to seek members to serve on the Board. The past President will serve as an Advisor to this Committee. The Nominating Committee will present the complete slate for a vote by the membership at the annual LDS picnic. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the time of the election, providing the nominee will accept the position, if elected. The newly elected Board Members will take office at the first Board Meeting after their election. and will be sworn in by the out-going President.

In the case of a vacancy on the Board, the Board will determine if the vacancy is to be filled or remain vacant until the next Board election. If the Board elects to fill the vacancy, the Nominating Committee will seek a replacement.. The LDS members will then vote on accepting the new Board Member at the next General Meeting.

## Meetings

The Board will meet on one Tuesday of each Month, unless the President call's a special meeting to discuss urgent LDS business. On the first meeting of the new fiscal year, the Board will decide which Tuesday they will meet for the balance of the year. The LDS Members will be notified of this date, via the newsletter, and encouraged to attend the Board Meeting. The monthly General Meeting of the LDS Members, will be the fourth Sunday of the month, unless changed by the Board. For the purpose of conducting business at the General Meeting, a quorum will be considered the number of the members attending, as long as there are at least five Non-Board Members in attendance.

# By-Laws

The Board will review the By-Laws at the first Board Meeting of the new fiscal year, and if necessary, amend the By-Laws to correspond with current practice. Prior to this first Board Meeting, the President, or his/her appointee, will give the newly elected Board Members copies of the LDS By-Laws for their review. Proposed amendments must be submitted in advance to the LDS members, no later than thirty days prior to the next General Meeting, via the monthly newsletter. The amended By-Laws must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the LDS members at that General Meeting.

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## Signatures of Approval

Submitted for approval: November 11, 2014  
(Date)

Witnesses/Office Held: \_\_\_\_\_  
(President)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Vice-President)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Secretary)

