

ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS IN AMERICA, INC.



New Jersey State Board
Sean Pender, President
13 Scullin Dr
Yardville, NJ 08620
609-462-7056
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Ná habair é, dean é . . . "don't say it, do it".

February 28, 2013

To: Patrick Sturdy, AOH National Legal Counsel
Fr: NJ AOH State Board
Re: Constitutional Review

Patrick,

To follow are the NJ AOH State board recommended updates to our National Constitution. Our recommendations will be in the following format:
Article and Section number; current language; suggested update and reasoning.

Article XII Section 1.

Current language: Localities seeking to host the next convention shall submit a written application to the National President not later than January 15 prior to selecting the National Convention. The National Convention Site Selection Committee shall consist of the National President, National Vice President, National Secretary, National Treasurer and the President of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc., who shall investigate, negotiate and select potential convention site(s), and recommend to the convened Delegates, who will vote to select the next two convention sites

Suggested: The development of a host convention application and guidelines for sites bidding on future conventions and adherence to that process.

Reasoning: As the state that recently won the nomination for the 2016 Convention we feel that clarification of the requirements and application process are needed and

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the process needs to be better defined. There was no application in our process and the National Convention Site Selection Committee was not engaged until after Atlantic City was voted on at the Turning Stone convention. As stated in the above article and section the National Convention Site Selection Committee should have completed the negotiation prior to a site being voted on that was not the case. Our position is not to criticize the current process that is ongoing as the Boards finalize 2016 negotiations but rather to lend more direction to those sites interested in bidding on future conventions, eliminate uncertainty regarding the local organizing committees responsibilities and authority, and promote adherence to our National Constitution.

Article XIII Section 2

Current language: Tenure of office shall be two (2) years or until their successors have been elected and qualified. No elected National Officer, except the National Secretary, shall be eligible to succeed himself more than once.

Suggested: Tenure of office shall be two (2) years or until their successors have been elected and qualified. No elected National Officer, except the National Secretary, shall be eligible to succeed himself more than once. The National secretary will be allowed to succeed himself three times. (Incumbent secretaries in office prior to update of this article are not affected by the change)

Reasoning: We have been blessed to have Tom McNabb hold the National Secretary office for 30 years and when he decides that he no longer wants to run and hold that office, we will need guidance on the length of term for that office. Understanding that consistency in that office is a benefit to our organization we feel that eight years is appropriate term of office for the position of National Secretary.

Article VIII Section 1

Current language: Elective: The following officers shall be elected: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and six (6) Directors.

Suggested: Elective: The following officers shall be elected: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and six (6) Directors. To promote regional representation no state can run more than one candidate for National Director in the same year.

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Reasoning: see attached the report and supporting documentation of the 2010 committee which was NEVER reviewed at the 2012 National Convention

Article VIII Section 2

Current language: Appointive by the President: Chaplain and two (2) Deputy Chaplains (subject to the approval of the appointee's Ordinary), Historian/Archivist, Organizer, Editor of National Hibernian Digest, Chairman of Freedom For All Ireland Committee, Chairman of Charities and Missions Fund, Chairman of Catholic Action, Chairman of Pro-Life, National Legal Counsel, Chairman of Political Education Committee, Chairman of Veteran's Affairs, Chairman of Constitution Committee, Chairman of Immigration Committee. In addition, an "Oversight Committee" consisting of three past presidents will be assigned, consisting of three (3) past National Presidents, as appointed by the President. The President shall designate the respective Directors as Chairmen of the appointive committees for which (in his opinion) they are specifically qualified. All Chairmen serve at the pleasure of the National President. Past National Presidents are deemed to be National Board Members.

Suggested: Add: The Southern and Western states shall be provided the opportunity for representation and assistance in membership recruitment through the appointment of two (2) deputy or regional organizers; one (1) for each region. The national directors assigned to the region, along with the state presidents from the region will meet to choose the best qualified individual to hold the positions. Any and all expenses including travel associated with these positions shall be pre-approved by the National Board.

Reasoning: see attached the report and supporting documentation of the 2010 committee which was NEVER reviewed at the 2012 National Convention.

Article XXVIII Section 3

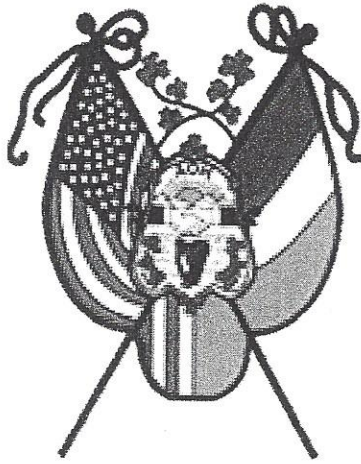
Current language: Amendments to this Constitution shall be submitted to the National Legal Counsel at least sixty (60) days prior to the National Convention for consideration and study. If deemed practical, these amendments will be included in his report to the National Convention. If an amendment has been rejected by the committee, it does not prohibit any delegate from making a direct appeal to the Convention.

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Suggested: Amendments to this Constitution shall be submitted to the National Legal Counsel at least sixty (60) days prior to the National Convention for consideration and study. The National Legal Counsel will ensure that the amendments are constitutionally sound or will advise the group submitting on any adjustments that need to be made to ensure constitutional soundness. When that process is complete, these amendments will be included in his report to the National Convention and presented to the entire body of the convention for review.

Reasoning: In 2012 at Turning Stone the Constitution committee blocked from coming to the floor many amendments that various groups spent significant time on. This led to a significant amount of discussion on the floor as to why they were not presented to the body. All amendments that are constitutionally sound should be presented to the body and not decided on by a small number of members.

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Frank Kearney, Jr.
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Meriden, CT 06451
(203) 235-2746
fkearneyjr@cox.net

National Regionalization Comm.

April 10, 2012

Mr. George J. Clough Jr.
AOH National Legal Counsel
1368 Green Tree Lane
Saint Louis, MO 63122-4745

Dear Brother Clough,

In accordance with Article XXVIII, Amendments, Section 3 of the AOH National Constitution I submit the attached proposed amendments signed and dated by me on April 10, 2012 on behalf of the National Regionalization Committee.

The committee consists of 20 AOH state presidents and vice presidents appointed by National President Seamus Boyle on September 3, 2010 to address a resolution presented at the 2010 National Convention by Patrick E. Maguire of Division #1 in Adrian, Michigan and is the result of 5 conferences held by the committee between October 19, 2010 and November 15, 2011. The articles referenced in the proposed amendments are based on a review of the constitution and our belief of where they are most appropriately placed, however we ask that you and the Constitution Revision Committee determine their correct position in the constitution.

Please contact me with any questions.

In out motto,

Frank Kearney, Jr.
Committee Chairman

cc: National Regionalization Committee

**REPORT OF AOH NATIONAL BOARD
NATIONAL REGIONALIZATION COMMITTEE**

**PROPOSED AMMENDMENTS
TO THE
AOH NATIONAL CONSTITUTION**

As voted by the delegates to the 2010 National Convention in Cincinnati, National President Seamus Boyle appointed a committee of 20 state presidents and vice presidents to examine the problem of lack of representation in the South, Mid-West and Western regions of the Order and present a resolution to the delegates of the 2012 National Convention. The committee presents the following proposed National Constitution Amendments to the 2012 convention for consideration:

Article VII National Section 1 ADD: No state can run more than one candidate for National Director in the same year.

Article IX National Section 1 ADD: The Southern and Western states shall be provided the opportunity for representation and assistance in membership recruitment through the appointment of two (2) deputy or regional organizers; one (1) for each region. The national directors assigned to the region, along with the state presidents from the region will meet to choose the best qualified individual to hold the positions. Any and all expenses including travel associated with these positions shall be pre-approved by the National Board.

Submitted on behalf of the committee,

Frank Kearney Jr.
Committee Chairman
April 10, 2012

RESOLUTION

**Ancient Order of Hibernians
95 th. Biennial State Convention
Cincinnati Ohio
July 7 - 10, 2010**

Whereas: The National Constitution of the Ancient Order of Hibernians provides for the election of directors at-large; and

Whereas: The largest concentration of Hibernian members is located in the Eastern region consisting of NY, MA, PA, RI, CT, and NJ; and

Whereas: Such concentration on occasion allows for the election of Directors mostly from the Eastern region; and

Whereas: The South, Midwest, and West Regions are desirous of more equal representation;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved:

That the National Board be directed to examine the problem and present a solution for adoption at the 2012 National Convention.

Adopted this day of July 2010 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Signature National President

Signature National Secretary

Submitted by: Patrick E. Maguire, St. Patrick's Division # 1 Adrian, Michigan.

To: Frank Kearney

AOH Regionalization Committee, Chairman

Fr: Sean Pender

February 14, 2011

Our committee has been charged to review a resolution brought forward at the 2010 Cincinnati convention. The resolution regards the desire for equal representation from the South, Midwest and West states in regards to representation on the national director level.

The resolution states that six states in the East region: New York, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New Jersey make up the largest concentration of the order and occasionally this concentration allows for directors mostly from these states. The six states listed above have 26,153 AOH members which represents 74.29% of all Hibernians (35,204)

Since 1990 there have been 11 national elections at conventions for 69 director positions. At the three conventions from 1990 to 1994 there were seven director positions voted on. With the removal of Canada in 1996 a director position was eliminated and since then there has been six directors positions voted on at each of the eight conventions.

Historical data and results show that of those 69 possible positions 36 were filled by members of the six states listed above or 52%; and since going to six directors in 1996 there have been 24 directors from the six eastern states elected for 48 positions or 50%. Election results below:

ELECTED POSITIONS BY STATE

	Director	Director	Director	Director	Director	Director
2010-12	DC	OH	PA	SC	MT	NJ
2008-10	CT	NY	RI	DC	OH	PA
2006-08	CT	NY	RI	MI	NC	PA
2004-06	CT	SC	NY	MI	CA	MA
2002-04	CT	SC	NY	OH	FL	MT
2000-02	PA	OH	DC	CA	MA	NY
1998-2000	PA	OH	DC	MT	MA	NY
1996-98	MA	CT	PA	LA	KY	CA
1994-96	MA	CT	PA	LA	NY	CA
1992-04	CT	OH	MA	PA	NY	CA
1990-02	CT	OH	MA	PA	DC	NY

2010-12	Director Carney	Director O'Connell	Director Norris	Director Mott	Director O'Connor	Director Cole
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2008-10	Kearney	Kelly	Brady	Carney	O'Connell	Norris	
2006-08	Kearney	Kelly	Brady	Byrne	Dougherty	Kane	
2004-06	Egan	Mott	Moore	Byrne	Cahill	Burke	
2002-04	Egan	Mott	Moore	Curren	Cullinan	O'Connor	
						R	
2000-02	Boyle	Curren	Clark	O'Keefe	Burke	Meehan	
1998-						R	
2000	Boyle	Curren	Clark	O'Connor	Burke	Meehan	
		J					
1996-98	Meehan	Gallagher	McGinley	McKay	O'Hearn	Bergin	
		J					
1994-96	Meehan	Gallagher	McGinley	McKay	O'Hagan	Bergin	
	P						P
1992-04	Gallagher	Taulty	Sullivan	Scully	O'Hagan	Bergin	
	P						
1990-02	Gallagher	Taulty	Sullivan	Scully	Carmody	Irwin	F

These results counter the contention that there has been poor representation on the director level outside of the six listed states. On the contrary they show that since 1996, 50% of elected directors have been from outside of the six states listed in the resolution. Additionally one can not overlook the fact that currently two thirds of the directors are from outside of the six eastern states.

I do not offer this review of elections or analysis for any other reason other than to support the opinion that the current system, while not perfect has proven to be representative and does not need a major overhaul. I believe that the addition of an extra director is not needed at this time and would not improve regional representation. The concept of regional directors has also been mentioned as a possible solution but I believe that this presents our organization with other challenges and would be very difficult to manage. Areas that would have to be determined: What states would make up what regions? Who decides that and how often would regions be adjusted? Would members outside of a region vote for another regions director? If not why do it at a national convention? Are regional conventions needed? How would voting be controlled, another layer of control or verification would have to be added to ensure that delegates could vote for national officers, at large and regional directors. The process would be a nightmare; ask those on our committee who have worked credentials or elections. We need to keep the process simple.

I do agree that it is important to prevent unfair advantages in elections and would suggest that we add the following requirement to rules for national director elections. A state may only forward one candidate for National director. In states where there are two or more candidates there would need to be a primary to determine who would win the right to run for director. The addition of this rule would prevent large states or home states at conventions from having an unfair advantage by running additional candidates. This would not apply to executive board offices.

Regarding the executive board I think that this committee should take the opportunity to address the term limit of the national secretary's office. We have been blessed to have one dedicated individual hold this position for many years but sooner or later Tom will retire; no one can go on forever. At the end of his term it would be advantageous if there was language in the constitution regarding the term of that office. The term limits I have heard mostly discussed would be four or five two year terms. Again this would not affect Tom's current term but start with his eventual successor. This recommendation could also promote the ideal of more regional representation as the secretary position in the future would be more changeable.

I have read all the submissions and listened to others ideas and appreciate all other points of views. I believe that these exchanges of ideas are healthy for our organization. But for all that I have read or heard the comments of John McNery and the recent results in Cincinnati are the most insightful. John rightly mentioned that in the past the Midwest had great success by working together regionally to promote candidates and positions, that hard work yielded many successes including a national president. In Cincinnati the South and west did the same and came away with two director positions. Hard work, planning, regional consensus and getting members to conventions have proved to yield candidates worthy of election let's not replace that with a system based solely on geographical entitlement.

SUBMISSION TO THE CONSTITUTION REVIEW COMMITTEE

Proposed Additions, Changes, Deletions, etc.:

- Because we are increasingly discussing AOH governance within the context of geographical areas, **it is now imperative that we identify those states that comprise regions** (the South, the Northeast, etc.).
- Within the context of the above, would it not now be fair and feasible to **designate an individual state a "region" if that state contains 15% of the Order's total membership** at the time of a National Convention?
- In terms of National Directors, I propose that we **continue to elect six**. However, an article should be added to the Constitution that would **permit the National President to designate a maximum of two additional National Directors to provide for the concerns and needs of under-represented regions/states** (based on the geographical locations of the original six elected by the Convention). Such "designated" National Directors would possess the same status/rights/authority as "elected" National Directors and would have to be appointed by the National President and approved by a majority of the full National Board within 30 days following the last business day of a National Convention.
- An article needs to be added to the Constitution that clearly defines **the Hibernian Charity as an arm of the AOH**, with Hibernian Charity officers referred to as "Board Chairman" and "Trustees" (so as to avoid confusing them with Officers of the National Board).
- Qualifications for National Life Membership need to be more rigorous. For example: Only those who have served up to the State Board level would be eligible candidates for National Life Membership.
- Addendum to Article 4, Section 8: Associate Members will at no time exceed ten percent of a division's Regular Membership. Divisions in excess of that number must gradually reduce their Associate Memberships through attrition.
- Delete Article 5, Section 7.
- Revise/update Article 5, Section 8 (delete "employment, entertainment").
- Delete Article 5, Section 11.
- Addendum to Article 13, Section 2: The National Secretary will not serve more than eight consecutive years in that position.
- Designate Article 13, Section 5a, as the "new" Article 8, Section 10 **so as to clarify procedures for filling officer vacancies that are "temporary" as opposed to "permanent."**
- Re-word Article 17, Section 6. Insert as second sentence: "Nor shall any member make statements clearly supporting or opposing any political party, either while present at AOH meetings/gatherings, or elsewhere in the name of the Order."

- Addendum to Article 21, Section 1: Members will have the option to receive The Hibernian Digest online instead or in print. Those members opting for The Hibernian Digest online must (a) notify the National Secretary in writing between January 1st and March 31st of any given calendar year and (b) provide their current email address at that time. Thereafter, it is the responsibility of such a member to maintain his correct, current email address using the online Member Management System designated by the National Board for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brendan Moore". The signature is written in dark ink and has a fluid, connected style.

02-11-13

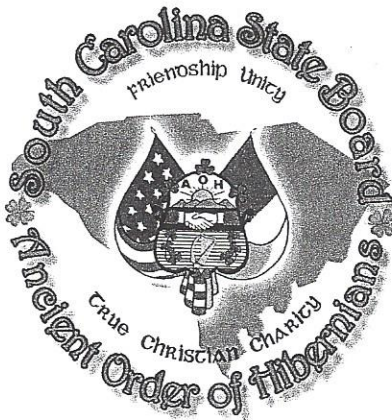
Chaplain
Rev. Timothy Gahan.

President
James P Nettles, Jr

Vice President
Jim Kelly

Secretary
Mason Luther

Treasurer
Dave Carlson



Ancient Order of Hibernians

**South Carolina
State President**

James P. Nettles Jr
204 Loch Lomond Street
Summerville, SC 29483

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(843) 830-9996

AOH National Constitutional Committee
Chairman Patrick R Sturdy
39797 Village Woode Lane
Novi, Michigan 48375

RE: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL AOH CONSTITUTION

Dear Chairman Sturdy:

The South Carolina State Board and its members have met on several occasions and discussed proposals for potential changes to the AOH National Constitution. We hosted a Southern Regional Meeting to discuss our concerns and propose changes to the AOH National Constitution. That Southern Regional meeting included representatives from Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina and South Carolina, with telephone communications with Georgia and Florida.

The Virginia-Maryland-DC delegation has written a completely new Constitution for consideration, based on their views and the subjects that were discussed in the South Carolina meeting. We agreed with most of the views, but do not see the need for a completely new constitution

For years, we have had a Southern Alliance of South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia and Florida State Divisions that meet and host a Hospitality Room at National Conventions. The items that follow have been voted on and approved as suggestions from the state of South Carolina and discussed with members of other states.

It is assumed that the committee will receive from other sources the same items and issues that we propose to change or add to the AOH Constitution and the Committee will re-write them in an acceptable form for voting. Therefore, we are not making them in a detailed resolution format, but as a short proposed item. The South Carolina State Board recommends and proposes the following changes to the National Constitution.

- A. **EVERY STATE MUST HAVE AN ASSIGNED NATIONAL DIRECTOR.** It is important that each state have a contact that has a vote on the National Board. Each state needs a liaison to be in regular contact.
- B. **NO STATE CAN HAVE MORE THAN ONE NATIONAL DIRECTOR.** When one state has more than one Director they have an unfair advantage over the other states.
- C. **INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF NATIONAL DIRECTORS** A new Redistricting system may require 7, 8 or 9 National Directors. Possible Regions could include: 1) New York, 2) Area north of New York state, 3) Pennsylvania & New Jersey, 4) VA- DC-MD, 5) Southern states including NC, SC, Georgia, Florida 6) South – Southwest of Alabama, Louisiana, Texas, Missouri, 7) Mid-West of Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana & Illinois 8) Far West all other states west of Mississippi 9) Territories without a State Board. There can be an even or odd number of Directors
- D. **“AT LARGE” DIRECTOR.** There should not be more than one and he should not be from a state that has an elected Director. This could be elected or appointed. He can be assigned Areas without a State President or those that need additional assistance
- E. **THE NATION MUST BE DIVIDED INTO DISTRICTS AND DIRECTOR MUST LIVE IN THE DISTRICT.** This is a National organization and should have national representation.
- F. **PAID ADMINISTRATOR** This individual should be hired to manage the day to day records and work of the AOH. He would report to the National Secretary or to the National Board. This person could work on National advertising, increasing our supply of saleable items, computers, and help bring us into the 21st century.
- G. **SECRETARY.** While our current National Secretary does a good job, this position should be changed on a regular basis like all other positions. After the end of current National Secretary’s term, it become a two year term with only one additional term.
- H. **NATIONAL OFFICE** A National Office of the Secretary or the Administrator (if position formed) be required to maintain membership & computer information, patches, certificates, sashes, plaques, pins and other items for sale. Option would be to find someone like Lynch & Kelly (for the K of C) is selected and make them the approved supplier.
- I. **REPORTS** Members of the National Board provide yearly membership and Division numbers by state and detailed financial information.
- J. **FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY** We must set limits for Contracts and Donations that must have Board approval before being signed or renewed. Suggested would be a \$5,000 limit.
- K. **NOTICES** The Board provide on the AOH Web Page dates and agendas for regular and special meetings, followed by the minutes after the meeting, copies of membership reports and financial reports.

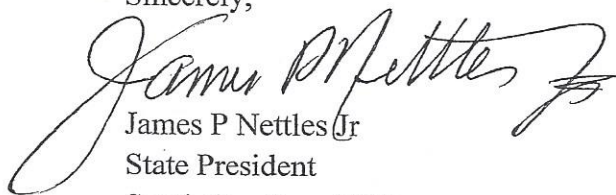
- L. **REGIONAL BOARDS Chaired** by a National Director and containing a representative from each state in the region. Necessary for communications, organization and growth. Visit other states to caucus and exchange ideas.
- M. **POLICY & PROCEDURES MANUAL** - Expanded or an addition to the Blue Book. Include protocol, description of national programs, forming new Divisions, dates, etc. A Who, What, When, Where & How information book.
- N. **BUDGETS** – National shall prepare a two year budget and post it on the web page or mail it to State Presidents within 60 days of National elections.

I would encourage all states to form some kind of regional caucus group to meet at least yearly to discuss issues that affect their area of the country. Small states have different problems from large ones, old Divisions from new ones, large from small memberships, old members vs. new members, etc. Items affecting all states could be discussed. Something needs to be done to make this a united National organization before there is a split or the AOH dies of old age or becomes only a small Northern group.

You and your committee have a large and important task in front of you. There are many important items to discuss and resolve in the next few months. Possibly the future of a growing and strong National Ancient Order of Hibernians is in your hands. Please us wise and thoughtful consideration along with prayer while following the principals of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity.

While we are working to Unite Ireland into one undivided Nation, some members forget that we need to unite the United States. There are members who think that the AOH is a New York-New Jersey-Pennsylvania organization with affiliates in New England states. There is little regard for the South, Southeast, Southwest, Midwest and Western states. There are Union states and non-union ones but the National organization acts like there are only union states, while this should not have anything to do with the AOH. The Civil War was over 150 years ago and Irish fought on both sides as brother against brother, but to listen to National, the Irish only fought for the North. Hopefully, for the future of a national organization, your work will help to make us a National Organization, with ONE organization for all

Sincerely,

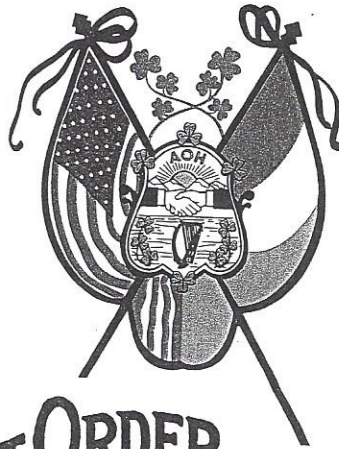


James P Nettles Jr

State President

South Carolina AOH

NATIONAL BOARD



ANCIENT ORDER
OF HIBERNIANS IN AMERICA
INCORPORATED

Organized in New York City, May 4, 1836

OFFICE OF THE
Dej. NATIONAL
CHAPLAIN

REV. THOMAS M. O'DONNELL
202 Stanwix Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Office: (412) 456-3000 ext. 3720
Rectory: (412) 261-0110

January 30, 2012

Dear Par,

Many of the Brothers in the states who are not represented with a National Director feel that they have no voice or representation. I have been thinking of some ways to solve this dilemma. I have listed one possible solution below. There would be eight districts in the United States represented by eight Directors instead of the present six Directors. The Brothers in the states where their district is located would vote for their own Director.

One of the formats for the eight districts could be the following:

New England: Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island

Coastal Atlantic: New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia

South: North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida

Ohio Valley: Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana

North Central: Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri

South Central: Tennessee, Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas

Rocky Mountain: North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico

Far West: Washington, Oregon, Nevada, California, Alaska, Hawaii

The district names could be changed and some of the states could be switched around if necessary.

With every blessing and best wish,

Father Tom O'Donnell

"Ireland Unfree Shall Never Be At Peace."

Comments for the AOH Constitution Review Committee

I was pleased to read your report in the latest AOH Digest regarding the establishment of a committee to review and propose much needed changes to our current constitution. I would like to make several comments about the proposed review. I believe there will be additional written comments/documents following planned meetings and submitted to the Committee for consideration by the deadline of 31 December 2012.

First, I was disappointed that the immediate past National Director, Keith Carney, was not appointed to your committee. The State Boards of Maryland, Virginia and District of Columbia would support his added appointment to provide firsthand experience, knowledge of certain deficiencies in our current constitution, and provide background on efforts to amend the constitution at the 2012 convention.

Second, I am concerned that one of the stated purposes of the Committee is to propose changes to bring the constitution in line with certain "custom and practices of the Order". For example, certain custom and practices of the Order such as the interpretation of the meaning of what constitutes a 'quorum' is contradictory to that stated in "Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised" (11th ed.), 7. 10-30 but according to the published rules in the convention 'call' it was stated Roberts Rules will govern all aspects of parliamentary procedures for our convention.

Third, I support the additional committee purpose to "address" all the important *issues* raised by the membership captured in the amendments proposed at the 2021 Convention by the Tri-State officers.

Fourth, "Regional" representation (Regionalization) is a critical issue particularly amongst those regions of the Order (U.S.) which have been historically under represented and remedies must be part of any revised constitution.

Fifth, I was delighted to read President Moore's report that your project to conduct a "Constitutional Review" is in preparation for a Constitutional Convention in 2014.

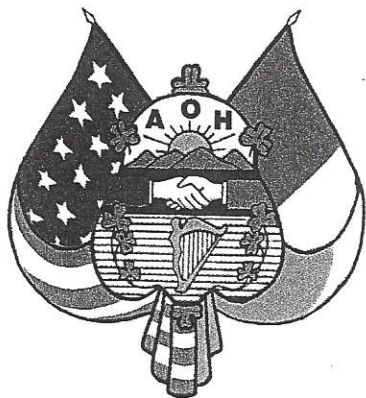
Respectfully,

Kevin I. Dillon

Commodore John Barry Division

District of Columbia State Board

thedillret@verizon.net



ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS IN AMERICA

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIAN

MIKE McCORMACK

37 Harrison Avenue, Centereach, NY, 11720

tel/fax: (631) 732-1390 E-Mail: AOHBard@Optonline.Net

Brother Pat

After 20 years on the National Board, I've sat in on quite a number of approval sessions for members up for Life Membership. I don't think any two sessions used the same rules and format. I can't count the times we adjourned after naming the recipients and saying *We must get this process standardized*. There have even been promises of committees to look into the procedure, but it is still a hap-hazard, seat of the pants event at each National Board meeting.

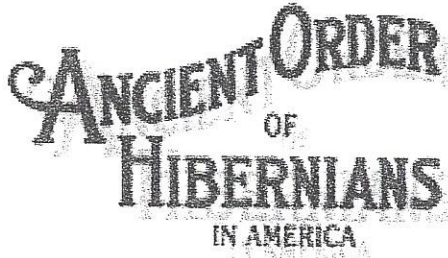
Therefore, recalling all the ideas and suggestions that have been put forward over the years, I respectfully submit an amendment to the constitution to establish qualifications and a procedure for granting this most prestigious award – at least, I believe it should be.

These are only submitted for consideration and may be altered to change details, however a procedure must be established. I am available for any comments, criticisms or questions at (631) 732-1390 or AOHBard@Optonline.Net

Yours in the bonds,

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

- A. Life Membership can exist at Division and National levels of the Order. It should be awarded at a Division level first for those who have served the Division and the Division will pay the granted member's dues forward to the higher levels. After Division Life Membership, National Life Membership may be sought. However, County and State endorsement must be received and should only be granted to those who have served the National Board in some capacity, ie: an elected or appointed Officer or a member of a committee sanctioned by the National Board (Convention Committee Chairmen, Degree Team members, etc).
- B. A minimum of 20 years of active service should also be a prerequisite for consideration for Life Membership at any level of the Order.
- C. Applicants must have received all Major Degrees of the Order.
- D. Applicants for National Life Membership must have received Life membership approval at the Division level which should require a 2/3 majority of the members of that Division.
- E. No more than one application for National Life Membership shall be submitted from each Division at any one time.
- F. Requests for National Life Membership should be received by post to the National Secretary 60 days prior to National Board Meeting where such Life Memberships are to be awarded. Postal submissions are advised to request a receipt of delivery.
- G. Printed copies of the submitted applications should be mailed by the National Secretary to all Elected and Appointed Officers of the National Board 30 days prior to voting. Voting will be done by elected and appointed officers of the National Board in a private session and not on the floor of the assembled National Meeting.
- H. In the event of more than ten (10) applicants for National Life Membership in a given year, a point system should be implemented as follows:
- 5 points for service as a National elected Officer
 - 3 Points for National appointed Officer or Committee Chairman activity
 - 1 point for every year above 15 years as an active member
- I. Results will be given to the President of the Jurisdiction submitting the application with the intention that the National Life Membership be presented in a local ceremony if practical.



CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT


Whereas the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) in America is an organization made up of several state boards, county boards, divisions and members located throughout the United States of America,


And whereas communication between the National Board and the state boards, county boards, divisions and members is of paramount importance to promote unity and foster the good works of the order as described in the Preamble of our Constitution,

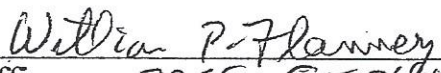
And whereas on this date the use of email communications is the fastest, most efficient and least costly means of communications used daily and preferred by many of its members

Therefore, be it hereby resolved that the AOH will amend its' Constitution, specifically Article VIII, Section 12, Qualifications of Officers, requiring all elected officers on the National Board, and the Presidents of all State Boards, County Boards and Divisions to have a receptive email address available to the membership, and regularly respond to received emails.

Submitted on this the 10th day of January 2012


Title & Office: PRES. STAM. DIV. 1/10/12


Title & Office: President, Fairfield City 1/14/12


Title & Office: PRES, CT State Board 1/28/12



89 Pepper Ridge Road
Stamford, CT 06905
November 17, 2012

Mr. Patrick R. Sturdy, Chairman
A.O.H. National Constitution Committee
39797 Village Woods Lane
Novi, MI 48375

Dear Brother Sturdy,

This letter is being sent in response to your article in the recent September-October issue of our Hibernian Digest. In your article you ask for members to submit comments or proposals for consideration by your committee.

You mention that your committee will "identify provisions of the Constitution which need to be modified, amended and/or updated to bring the Constitution current with existing changes in the law." As part of this process will you incorporate the constitutional changes that were adopted during our 2012 National Convention in Turning Stone, New York?

If this is the case, I would like to remind you of the Constitutional Amendment that requires all elected officials of the National Board, and the Presidents of all State Boards, County Boards and Divisions to have a receptive email address available to the membership, and regularly respond to received emails. This amendment was passed by the constitution committee, voted on at a general meeting and passed. These proceedings should be reflected in the minutes. A copy of the originally submitted amendment is attached for your further information.

If you would be so kind, please confirm that this is now made part of our Constitution, Article VIII, Section 12, Qualifications of Officers. My address is shown in the letterhead. If you have any questions, you can contact me at my email address or phone number below.

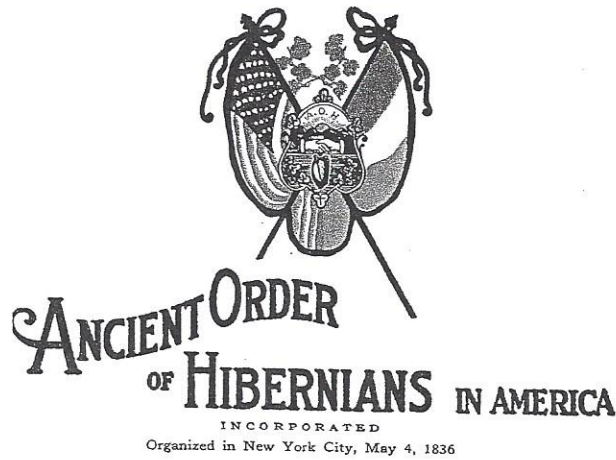
Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

William P. Flannery
William P. Flannery

Connecticut State President

flannery@optonline.net

203-912-1516



16 December, 2012

Mr. Patrick R. Sturdy
Legal Counsel, AOH
39797 Village Woods Lane
Novi, Michigan 48375

Dear Brother Sturdy,

I offer the following suggestions for consideration to amending or clarifying the AOH Constitution, as called for by you in the September - October, 2012 edition of the Hibernian Digest. Most are attempts to codify or explicitly state "practices and procedures ... adopted through custom..." and to counter verbal arguments or objections by some that "it isn't prohibited" (in writing in the body of the Constitution) and therefore must be permitted.

1. There are two requirements for notification of a grievance by the complainant (Article V, section 12, (to the Recording Secretary) and Article XVIII, section 1, (to the "defendant"). I suggest that the notifications be placed in the same Article, as members some times seem to focus on one or the other. If the committee does not wish to change V, 12, then perhaps (admitted redundancy) a last, short sentence to XVIII, 1, "The charges must also be filed in writing with the Recording Secretary of the Division". Instructions to the Recording Secretary may also be in order, so as to deflect subsequent procedural appeals. "The Recording Secretary shall promptly forward the grievance to the Chairman of the Standing Committee and at the same time shall notify the Division Board of its reception."
2. More to the "it isn't written down .." objections, I offer the following "Adherence to the principles, goals and aspirations as stated in the Preamble to the AOH Constitution is mandatory to a member's remaining in Good Standing in the Order; Adherence to the vows that a member made when he was elevated to the Shamrock Degree shall be mandatory to a member's remaining in Good Standing in the Order." Maybe as a second , short paragraph to Article II.
3. Change of status. In order to prevent "emergency actions", I offer the following " No Change of Status, such as, but not confined to, Division to Division transfers, and
"Ireland Unfree Shall Never Be At Peace."

resignations, shall be carried out as long as any grievance or complaint which has been duly brought before the member's Standing Committee has not been completely resolved, whether brought by or against the member requesting the change, including hearings and adjudication by the Member's Standing Committee and until all appeals have been exhausted.

4. No application for admission to any "new" Division shall be permitted for any former member, whose Membership was rescinded for any reason such as, but not restricted to: a Standing Committee decision, resignation or other, unless the application clearly identifies the former Member's former Division and is accompanied by a Transfer Card from that Division. Any applicant who does not reveal his former membership in another Division shall be terminated for life.
5. Any Division that knowingly accepts an application for membership or reinstatement from a member who is not in good standing and without obtaining the consent of the National Secretary and the former member's previous Division shall be censured by the National Order. Probably Article VI, new section 4.

In closing, I will point out the these suggestions are the result of my experience as President of the Michael Collins Division during the past twelve months.

Very Truly Yours



Peter H. Kirwin
President, Michael Collins Division, AOH
8041 West Euclid Place
Littleton, CO 80123

2 Maple Grove Ct.
Baldwin, NY 11510
December 29, 2012

Patrick R. Sturdy
Constitution Committee Chrm.

Dear Pat,

Please consider the following observations and suggestions for the Constitutional Committee.

In the Preamble, no. 5th states to promote Irish cultureth. I note that there is no committee to promote Irish culture. Granted many divisions and county boards do much for our culture but there is no National leadership. I suggest that a committee be formed so the National Board can take a lead in this area. Our National Board is recognized for work on immigration and a United Ireland but we are nowhere near the forefront on cultural issues. Could we have a liaison to the North American GAA Board and the North American Feis Committee? How about the CCE which promote traditional music? Many of our brothers participate in these organizations and it would help foster our culture if we knew more about these Irish groups. An Irish Cultural Committee could also oversee the Buy Irish committee and possibly the Irish Way program. I believe we support the Irish Way Program with two \$500.00 scholarships. Certainly the National Board could do more to promote Irish Culture if we had a committee.

I also note we do not do much for Catholic Education except for the Notre Dame Fund. In our Major Degree we learn about the need for education. There are some forms of education within the AOH with our Historians, and Political Education committee but not much focus on Catholic education. Catholic schools are closing in many traditional areas of the AOH and new schools are opening in other areas like the South. Many brothers I have spoken to over the years are involved in their local schools and I think would like to see the AOH take more of an active role. May I also suggest a Catholic Education Committee which could have the Notre Dame fund as a sub-committee.

I would also suggest that maybe some committees be revised to better serve the purpose of our organization. Could Catholic Action and Pro-life be merged? With all due respect to our Veterans, do we need a Veterans Committee? We are an Irish Catholic organization. There are many Veterans Organizations that serve the needs of those who have served us. The American Legion, VFW and the Catholic War Veterans are only a few. Certainly Charities and Missions committees could still support causes like the Wounded Warrior Project.

I also note some other observations about the constitution. Please note that my observations are from the constitution dated R 7/02 and there may have already been changes made.

Article IV states in the second paragraph "a Roman Catholic priest...on a form approved by the National Board". Does that form exist?

Article IV. Sec. 9. Honorary Membership. Is there a Honorary Membership card?

Article IV Sec.12 Junior Membership. Could the age be raised to 18 to have more available candidates for Junior divisions. Could it be flexible?

Article V Sec. 7 Entertainment. "...without County Board approval" What if there is no County board?

Article X Sec. 2, D "...Committee for Ethnic Understanding" Maybe I missed something but I have never heard of this.

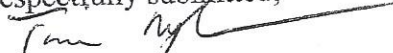
Article X Sec. 4 & 5. It appears redundant that the b.& c in section 4 and Section 5 c & e are the same for both officers.

Article XII Sec. 1 Second paragraph.... :...not later than Jan. 15 prior to selecting the National Convention. Don't we do it now 4 years in advance?

Article XIV Sec. 6 Isn't it time to redesign the membership card? The back lists monthly dues. I don't believe any division collects dues on a monthly basis. A permanent card with stickers for each year dues is paid would save the AOH much money that could be used elsewhere.

My contact information is below as I would be willing to discuss my thoughts with the committee

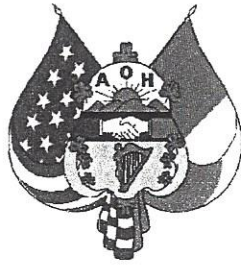
Respectfully submitted,


Tim Myles
Past President
McGuinness-Fitzsimons Div. 14
Rockville Centre, NY

516-660-7456

Timtam614@aol.com

c.c. Brendan Moore



Mr. Patrick Sturdy, Esq.
General Counsel
Ancient Order of Hibernians
39797 Village Woode Lane
Novi, MI 48375

February, 26, 2013

Sent Express Mail Overnight – signature required.

Brother Sturdy,

On my own behalf I am respectfully submitting the enclosed individual suggested changes to the AOH Constitution for consideration by the Constitution Committee. Each suggested change is listed below in alphabetical order and has been printed on its own individual sheet of paper placed together in a convenient binder. My submissions, while being sent together, are not to be considered en bloc.

Submissions:

- CHAPLAINS: CHAPLAINS
- COMPOSITION OF BOARDS: BOARD MEETINGS
- COMPOSITION OF BOARDS: DISTRICT
- COMPOSITION OF BOARDS: NATIONAL
- CONVENTIONS: COMMITTEE REPORTS
- CONVENTIONS: CONVENTION QUORUM
- CONVENTIONS: DELEGATES
- DIVISIONS: ENTERTAINMENT
- EDITOR: NATIONAL HIBERNIAN DIGEST
- EXPENSES: BUDGET
- EXPENSES: TRAVEL EXPENSES
- HISTORIAN: NATIONAL HISTORIAN/ARCHIVIST
- MEMBERSHIP: MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS
- NATIONAL WEBMASTER
- NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS AND INSTALLATION: ELECTION RULES – NATIONAL
- NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS AND INSTALLATION: TERM OF OFFICE
- OFFICERS: IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
- OFFICERS: NATIONAL BOARD
- ORGANIZATION: GOVERNANCE
- ORGANIZERS: NATIONAL ORGANIZER
- OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
- POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS: EXECUTIVE BOARD
- POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS: NATIONAL DIRECTORS
- POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS: PRESIDENTS
- POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS: SECRETARIES
- POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS: TREASURERS
- POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS: VICE-PRESIDENTS

Sincerely,

Keith Carney
Past National Director

CHAPLAINS

CHAPLAINS

A. State, County, District, and Division Chaplains shall be a Priest or Deacon or a Professed Religious Brother and shall:

1. Provide spiritual guidance for their respective jurisdictions.
2. Advise on all matters pertaining to the welfare of the Order.
3. Attend meetings and participate in discussions within their jurisdiction.
4. Be a member of the Catholic Action Committee of their respective jurisdictions.
5. Preparing annual expenditure and expense budgets to the Committee on Budget and Finance and strictly adhere to their approved budget.

COMPOSITION OF BOARDS BOARD MEETINGS

B. The National Secretary shall call a Board meeting when he receives a written notice signed by a majority of elected members of the Board. One week prior, notices of all quarterly and/or special National Board meetings, including agendas and National Committee Reports, shall be simultaneously posted to the AOH national website. The minutes of all meetings shall be posted to the AOH website as soon as possible following the meetings but at least five (5) days prior to the next scheduled or emergency Board meeting. Meetings of the National Board may be held either in person or by telephone or other electronic medium where the equipment used will enable each member to hear the entire proceeding simultaneously and allows each member the ability to speak to each of the other members and be heard. Five (5) days written notice to all officers and directors prior to the meeting shall be required.

COMPOSITION OF BOARDS

DISTRICT

The District Board of the District of Columbia shall be comprised of the District of Columbia and Maryland Counties which comprise the Archdiocese of Washington. It is composed of District and Division Officers, elective and appointive, and National Officers, as per Article VIII, Section 1 and Immediate Past District President, as per Article VIII, Section 5. The District Board shall have the same status as a State Board.

COMPOSITION OF BOARDS

NATIONAL

The National Board shall be composed of the National Officers as named in Article VIII Sections 1 - 5, and the Immediate Past President in good standing and is subject only to the power of the National Convention while in session. It is the supreme executive body of the Order.

CONVENTIONS

CONVENTION QUORUM

For the purpose of transacting the business at National, State, District or County Conventions, one-third of the registered delegates credentialed and present in the room at the time the business is brought to the Floor shall constitute a quorum.

CONVENTIONS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Each standing Committee, and all Special Committees as may be established, shall report to each regularly scheduled National Convention, or as directed otherwise by the President. Reports of Committees to the National Convention shall be typed in triplicate, on 8 ½ by 11 inch plain paper, two copies to be filed with the National Secretary, one copy to be retained by the Chairman of the Committee.

CONVENTIONS

DELEGATES

A. The National Convention shall be composed of the following delegates:

1. National Officers
2. Immediate Past National President in good standing;
3. State and District Officers (except directors); Division Presidents; County Presidents.

DIVISIONS

ENTERTAINMENT

No Division shall give a public entertainment, or participate in any public function, or hold a meeting for any purpose outside of the regular business of the Order without the permission of the County or State Board.

EDITOR – NATIONAL HIBERNIAN DIGEST

A. The Editor of the National Hibernian Digest shall:

1. Edit and publish the official publication as prescribed in Article XXI.
2. Be Chairman of National Publicity.
3. Perform his duties under direct supervision and control of the National President.
4. Submit reports at all National Board Meetings.
5. Appoint Associate Editors.
6. Report to the National Convention and National Board Meetings.
7. Preparing annual expenditure and expense budgets to the Committee on Budget and Finance and strictly adhere to their approved budget

EXPENSES

BUDGET

The National President shall, within seven (7) days of the beginning of his term of office, establish a subcommittee of the National Board on Budget and Finance. This committee shall include the National Treasurer and three (3) of the elected National Directors. As part of the annual budget review, all National officers shall submit their travel and expense budget for the upcoming year no later than November 1 of the current year. It shall be the duty of the committee to prepare an annual budget based on the anticipated annual income of the Order to forecast expenses. The budget shall not exceed anticipated income and shall be approved by the Executive Board. The committee shall also be responsible for any other duties assigned to it by the National President.

EXPENSES

TRAVEL EXPENSES

Each current elected Member and appointed Chair of the National Board shall be allowed the cost incurred by him for transportation to the National Convention, any National Board Meeting, or such other business travel deemed as important and/or essential to the Order and approved by the Executive Committee. In addition, each Board member shall be allowed the cost for rooms, meals and incidental transportation. All such expenses, including transportation costs, shall be paid at a rate consistent with the guidelines established by the U.S. Government for travel cost reimbursement to its civilian employees.

HISTORIAN

NATIONAL HISTORIAN/ARCHIVIST

A. The National Historian/Archivist shall:

1. Promote, supervise and direct proper recognition of the study of Irish History in Catholic Schools and colleges and other educational Institutions.
2. Prepare and distribute a bi-monthly bulletin to each State, District, County and Division Historian; said bulletin shall also be published in each issue of the National Hibernian Digest.
3. Administer, and/or appoint a committee to administer, the Order's participation in the annual National History Day competition, and to encourage State Historians to support National History Day.
4. Provide for the storage and organization of documents, records, and objects deemed to be, in the opinion of the Archivist, of historical value to the membership of the Order.
5. Report to the National Convention and National Board Meetings.
6. Preparing annual expenditure and expense budgets to the Committee on Budget and Finance and strictly adhere to their approved budget

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1 – MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

A. Membership is confined exclusively to practicing Catholics of Irish birth or descent who resides in the United States.

B. Applicants must:

1. Be a male residing in the United States
2. Prove his Irish ancestry
3. Be a practicing Catholic
4. Be of good character
5. Be not less than sixteen (16) years of age
6. If adopted, be adopted legally by those of Irish ancestry

C. The term Catholic for purposes of AOH membership should be taken in an inclusive rather than exclusive sense. It should be given a broad interpretation, meaning any Catholic who belongs to one of the Churches of Rites in communion with the Church of Rome with our Holy Father as the Supreme Roman Pontiff. There are about twenty-four different Rites in the Catholic Church. They are divided into Western and Eastern Rites. In the United States the most common Western Rite would be the Roman Rite or Latin Rite. The most common Eastern Rites in the United States would be the Byzantine Rite, The Ukrainian Rite, the Marionite Rite and Melkite Rite.

NATIONAL WEBMASTER

A. The National Webmaster shall:

1. Be responsible for overseeing and implementing all National online communications including but not limited to:
 - a. Websites
 - b. Social Media
 - c. Member Databases
 - d. E-Mail Applications
2. Develop and maintain Policies and Procedures for all items listed above.
3. Develop, recommend and adhere to strict security and privacy guidelines for all Member data.
4. Perform his duties under direct supervision and control of the National President.
5. Submit reports at all National Board Meetings.
6. Appoint Associate Webmasters.
7. Report to the National Convention and National Board Meetings.
8. Preparing annual expenditure and expense budgets to the Committee on Budget and Finance and strictly adhere to their approved budget.

NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS AND INSTALLATION

ELECTION RULES – NATIONAL

Before balloting, each candidate shall name one Observer to ensure the integrity of the voting process. The President shall name one Judge of Elections who will oversee the entire voting process. The Judge and Observers so named, together with additional election officials as the Convention may determine, shall constitute an election Board. Balloting is to be by roll-call. Provisions for voting booths, ballots and ballot box shall be made by the National Secretary. A plurality of votes cast under the Australian system of balloting shall decide an election. Printed ballots, uniform in size and color, shall be used bearing candidate's name, city and state, office to which he has been nominated and a blank square at right of name for placing an "X" to indicate an affirmative vote for the respective candidate. Ballots shall also be printed with the names of the cities nominated for the next National Convention. In the event any candidates or convention cities receive an equal number of votes, the winner shall be decided by a drawing out of one name from those tied, (under the direction of the Judge of Elections and the respective tellers). The results of the election at the time the candidate's Observers are dismissed shall be considered final and not subject to further change.

NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS AND INSTALLATION

TERM OF OFFICE

The term of office for the National Officers and directors, as outlined in Section 2 of this Article, shall be two (2) years or until their successors have been elected and qualified. No elected National Officer or Director shall be eligible to succeed himself more than once, with the exception of the National Secretary who shall be eligible to serve three (3) consecutive terms.

OFFICERS

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

The Immediate Past President, by virtue of his office, is a member of the Board of Officers of his respective jurisdictions.

OFFICERS

NATIONAL BOARD

A. The following National Officers shall be elected: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and nine (9) Directors. These elected officers shall comprise the Executive Board.

B. The following National positions shall be appointed by the President: Chaplain and two (2) Deputy Chaplains, subject to the approval of the appointee's Ordinary, Historian/Archivist, Organizer, Editor of National Hibernian Digest, Chairman of Freedom For All Ireland Committee, Chairman of Charities and Missions Fund, Chairman of Catholic Action, Chairman of Pro-Life, National Legal Counsel, Chairman of Political Education Committee, Chairman of Veteran's Affairs, Chairman of Constitution Committee, Chairman of Degrees and Ceremonials, and an Oversight Committee.

ORGANIZATION

GOVERNANCE

Subject to the control of each Division over its local affairs, the government of the Order shall vest in Division, County, State, District, and National Officers each exercising his prescribed function within the limits of this Constitution and each subject to the superior tribunal of Officers, in the Order of subordination as follows: National Convention; National Officers; State or District Convention; State and District Officers; County Convention; County Officers; Division Officers; members. In those states where only one Division or one County Board validly exists, the President of such single Division or single County Board shall be included in all types and means of communication from and with the Officers of the National Board.

ORGANIZERS

NATIONAL ORGANIZER

A. The National Organizer shall:

1. Direct the Organization Department.
2. Recommend to the National President, for appointment, such assistants as may be necessary to carry on the organizational work of the Order.
3. Encourage the organization of new Divisions, especially in Counties, States and Districts where no Division exists.
4. Report to the National Convention and National Board Meetings.
5. Assign duties to assistant organizers and, in his discretion, remove any assistant organizer for inactivity.
6. Preparing annual expenditure and expense budgets to the Committee on Budget and Finance and strictly adhere to their approved budget.

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

The National President shall, within one (1) month following the National Convention, appoint an "Oversight Committee" whose duty shall be to review and report on the Order's National Charities, National Credit Card Program, the National Digest, and the Investment of the Funds of the Order. The Committee shall be composed of five (5) members and; where possible, these officers shall include two (2) emeritus National Past Presidents and three (3) non-elected AOH members in good standing with appropriate experience and backgrounds (accounting and/or financial). The members shall be approved by a majority of the Executive Committee. The Committee shall render a report at the National Board meeting held in conjunction with the National Presidents Dinner and the National Convention. The committee may render additional reports at other times as appropriate. The committee is not intended to perform the functions of the Audit Committee appointed at the National Convention. The Committee, once established, shall serve a term of two years.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board is comprised of National Officers as defined in Article IX and National Directors in as defined in Article XIV.

A. Executive Board Members shall:

1. Consider and vote on financial and contractual documents, including on-going contracts, involving amounts greater than \$5,000.
2. Consider and vote on recommendations for the Annual Budget as presented by the Committee on Budget and Finance
3. Consider and vote on approval of all awards and honors bestowed on Members and others.
4. Be covered by a Directors and Officers Insurance policy.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

NATIONAL DIRECTORS

There shall be nine (9) Directors to represent the Order. Six (6) Directors shall be elected from individual regions based upon geographical boundaries agreed to by the Order on (MM/DD/YY). Three (3) Directors shall be elected at-large. If a region is unable or unwilling to provide a candidate for a specific region an at-large candidate may be elected in their stead by the Order. There shall be no more than two (2) Directors elected from any one (1) state.

A. Directors shall:

1. Be elected at the National Biennial Convention.
2. Serve for two (2) year terms, provided that there shall be no limit on the number of terms that a Director may serve, except that no Director may serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.

B. Directors responsibilities include:

1. Form a National Program Committee.
2. Be charged with the duty of arranging suitable programs of a nature that will attract, and be of interest especially to, young Americans of Irish ancestry.
3. Advise and assist State, District, County and Division Officers in promoting programs in their jurisdictions.
4. Attend and Report to the National Convention and National Board Meetings.
5. Represent membership on a regional basis (as defined in section XXX) to include attendance at State Conventions, Board Meetings and other events.
6. Attend events on behalf of the President upon his request.
7. Report issues of National concern to their membership and report their membership concerns to the National Board.
8. Preparing annual expenditure and expense budgets to the Committee on Budget and Finance and strictly adhere to their approved budget

POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENTS

A. The President shall:

1. Preside at all meetings of the Order in their respective jurisdictions.
2. Be the Executive Officers of the Order.
3. Appoint members to constitute Boards.
4. Rule on questions of law under this Constitution.
5. Appoint Committees for the good and welfare of the Order.
6. Enforce the laws of the Order in their respective jurisdictions.
7. Plan meetings and activities of the Order.
8. Hold the several officers of their jurisdictions responsible for the activities entrusted to them.
9. Sign all official documents and papers of the Order and financial and contractual documents not to exceed \$5,000 in the case of the National President, not to exceed \$1,000 in the case of a State President , and not to exceed \$250 in the case of a District, County or Division President.
10. Perform such other duties as are usually attached to the office of President.
11. Make a report to the membership at Conventions and meetings.
12. Preparing annual expenditure and expense budgets to the Committee on Budget and Finance and strictly adhere to their approved budget.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECRETARIES

A. National, State and District Secretaries shall:

1. Attend all meetings of their respective Boards.
2. Keep a record of the proceedings of the Order and Board meetings, and read those minutes at the following meeting.
3. Conduct the correspondence of the Order.
4. Notify the members of forthcoming Conventions and Board meetings.
5. Receive and file reports of States, Districts, Counties and Divisions.
6. Maintain an accurate membership roster.
7. Receipt and record all funds received by them and remit to treasurers within ten (10) days.
8. Render annual itemized accounts showing receipts and monies forwarded to treasurers, on approved forms.
9. The National Secretary's office shall be both equipped and staffed to handle the electronic transfer of membership information between his office, Hibernian Charities, Inc., and officers at the National, State, County, and Division levels of the Order.
10. Post all National correspondence to the National Website.
11. Preparing annual expenditure and expense budgets to the Committee on Budget and Finance and strictly adhere to their approved budget.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

TREASURERS

A. The Treasurers shall:

1. Be the custodian of all funds, bonds, securities and instruments held in the name of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, and deposit same for safekeeping in a bank or savings institution within ten (10) days after receipt in the appropriate name of the Order and unit thereof.
2. Keep a record of all monies received and disbursed on approved forms and books furnished by the National Secretary.
3. Pay no money except on voucher signed by the President and countersigned by the Secretary on approved forms furnished by the National Secretary.
4. Keep vouchers for all disbursements.
5. Present a financial report of their respective jurisdictions at all meetings and when ordered to do so by a higher authority.
6. Preparing annual expenditure and expense budgets to the Committee on Budget and Finance and strictly adhere to their approved budget

B. The National Treasurer shall have in place an accounting system for all jurisdictions of the AOH in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Procedures (GAAP). The National Treasurer shall provide annual reports to the National Board and top the biennial National Convention the following detailed reports: Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet. The National Treasurer shall close his books as of the last day of the month preceding the Biennial Convention. He shall submit a detailed written report of all monies received and disbursed during his term of office to the Convention. He shall submit a supplementary report immediately before adjournment of the Convention.

SECTION 4 – TREASURERS

A. The Treasurers shall:

7. Be the custodian of all funds, bonds, securities and instruments held in the name of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, and deposit same for safekeeping in a bank or savings institution within ten (10) days after receipt in the appropriate name of the Order and unit thereof.
8. Keep a record of all monies received and disbursed on approved forms and books furnished by the National Secretary.
9. Pay no money except on voucher signed by the President and countersigned by the Secretary on approved forms furnished by the National Secretary.
10. Keep vouchers for all disbursements.
11. Present a financial report of their respective jurisdictions at all meetings and when ordered to do so by a higher authority.
12. Preparing annual expenditure and expense budgets to the Committee on Budget and Finance and strictly adhere to their approved budget

B. The National Treasurer shall have in place an accounting system for all jurisdictions of the AOH in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Procedures (GAAP). The National Treasurer shall provide annual reports to the National Board and top the biennial National Convention the following detailed reports: Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet. The National Treasurer shall close his books as of the last day of the month preceding the Biennial Convention. He shall submit a detailed written report of all monies received and disbursed during his term of office to the Convention. He shall submit a supplementary report immediately before adjournment of the Convention.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

VICE-PRESIDENTS

A. The Vice-Presidents shall:

1. Perform all the duties of the President in the absence or disability of the latter.
2. Be responsible for advancing and promoting the Degree work of the Order.
3. Be the Director of Junior Divisions.
4. Establish and chair a Committee for Ethnic Understanding, to work with community and ethnic groups in addressing problems of racial, ethnic and religious discrimination and prejudice.
5. Report their activities at Conventions and meetings.
6. National Vice-President shall serve as Chairman of the John F. Kennedy Memorial Medal Committee and Sean MacBride Humanitarian Award Committee.
7. National Vice-President shall review, recommend and report on the Ritual Degree work of the Order to the National Convention and at the National Board Meetings
8. Preparing annual expenditure and expense budgets to the Committee on Budget and Finance and strictly adhere to their approved budget.