

# **Missouri Pyrotechnics Association By-Laws**

## **ARTICLE I – NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Missouri Pyrotechnics Association, abbreviated “MPA”, “MO PYRO”, “MOPYRO” or “MoPyro.”

## **ARTICLE II – PURPOSE**

The purposes of the Association shall be:

1. To promote and encourage the safe, legal, and artful use of pyrotechnic material and compositions, through training, demonstrations, displays, educational material, and exchange of information.
2. To provide a regional organization to the Saint Louis Missouri area.
3. To encourage the display of public and private pyrotechnics in conjunction with local and national holidays, patriotic and historical events, and the celebration of private or public special occasions.
4. To provide the proper facilities with the required licenses, insurance and permits in order that pyrotechnic activities may be held by the members.
5. To assist the membership in obtaining the proper permits and licenses for manufacture, storage, display, or sale of pyrotechnics.
6. To promote the production and sale of high quality pyrotechnic devices and materials.
7. To promote and encourage the safe use, sales, and manufacture of fireworks before the legislative, executive, judicial, and administrative branches of state and local governments in Missouri and Illinois and the Federal Government.

## **ARTICLE III – REGISTERED OFFICES AND AGENTS**

The principal office of the Association shall be in the county of St. Louis, State of Missouri. The Association may have offices and places of business at such other places within and without the State of Missouri, which shall be determined by the Directors. The board of directors shall appoint the registered agent.

## **ARTICLE IV – MEETINGS**

### **Section 1. Board of Directors Meetings**

1. The annual Board Meeting will be held during the first quarter of the calendar year.
2. For the purpose of conducting business, meetings will be held with the time and date decided by the Board of Directors.
3. All Board members are expected to attend the annual business meeting.

## Section 2. Membership Meetings

1. Regular membership meetings shall be held at least three (3) times per year and may be held more frequently as the desire warrants.
2. Notice of meetings will be given either in person, by mail, or e-mail.
3. Special Membership meetings will be held at the request of five (5) members by written petition request. This petition shall be dated, signed and shall state the business to be conducted at this special meeting. The request shall be forwarded to the President and the date, time and location of the meeting shall be selected by the board and shall follow the meeting notice guidelines.

## Section 3. Quorum

1. At any meeting of membership, 25 percent of the members entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum.

## Section 4. Organization of Meetings

1. The President (Vice President in his or her absence) shall call the meeting to order. If neither are present, then the majority of the membership in attendance may select a board member present to conduct business of that particular meeting.
2. Temporary absences in the position of Secretary/Treasurer may be filled by temporary appointment for a particular meeting by the President.

## Section 5. Order of Meetings

Robert's Rules of Order shall conduct all meetings.

## Section 6. Order of business

1. Call to Order
2. Secretary's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Officer's Report
5. Director's Report
6. Committee Report
7. Unfinished Business
8. New Business

## 9. Adjourn

# **ARTICLE V – OFFICERS**

## Section 1. Board Members

The Board Members of the MPA shall be of an odd number of members with no voting abstentions, to break voting ties, but not more than 7 members. The Board Members of the MPA shall be comprised of; The President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Safety Officer, and Directors as needed to maintain an odd number of Board Members.

## Section 2. Terms of Office

All Officers and Directors terms shall be for a period of two years. The elections of said Officers and Directors shall be held annually at the last membership meeting of the year. In the event that elections are not held at the last yearly meeting, a special election shall be held, when determined necessary by the Board Members.

## Section 3. Interim Vacancies

In the event of a vacancy of a Board Member, the remaining Board Members shall fill said vacancy from within the membership. The two year term, as defined in Article V, Section 2, does not apply to interim vacancies and said position will be up for reelection as defined in Article V, Section 2.

## Section 4. Resignation

An officer may resign by giving written or verbal notice to the board. The vacancy shall be filled by a majority vote of the membership, and shall follow the voting guidelines in Article IV, Section 3.

## Section 5. Removal

Any officer may be removed from office by a majority vote of the membership, and their office filled following the voting guidelines in Article IV, Section 3.

## Section 6. Qualifications

Each member of the board shall be a member in good standing in the Missouri Pyrotechnics Association for a period of two years preceding their election.

## Section 7. Election

1. The election of the Board Members shall be conducted annually at the last membership meeting of the year. Their term of office shall start January 1<sup>st</sup> of the next year.
2. The election of four Board Members; President, Secretary/Treasurer, and Directors as needed, shall be held in even years.  
The election of three Board Members; Vice President, Safety Officer, and Directors as needed, shall be held in odd years.
3. Members may be nominated or nominate themselves for specific board positions in any election year. Nominations shall be submitted to any Board member at least seven days before an election. Membership shall receive notice of the elections and nominees, if applicable, within the first fall shoot mailing.
4. Voting may consist of voice and/or show of hands if there are any unopposed positions up for election. When someone is nominated, or there is several members running for the same Board position, there shall be a paper ballot for all members to submit a vote. Members must be present at the election meeting to vote.
5. Votes will be separately counted by two members who are not running for election. The results of the election will be announced after the votes are reasonably and timely submitted and counted.
6. All election business shall be conducted by the Secretary/Treasurer and one appointed Director, and overseen by the President.

## Section 8. Duties

1. President  
The President shall preside at all meetings; appoint special committees as required and generally over see all club activities.
2. Vice-President  
The Vice President shall assist the President and assume all duties in his/her absence.
3. Secretary/Treasurer  
The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings and shall give notices required by these by-laws. Keep and maintain a current member's list and perform all other duties incident to the office of Secretary.  
The Treasurer shall keep and be responsible for the financial records of the MPA. These records shall include monies received, disbursed, savings, and any other financial information deemed necessary by the board, Federal, and State laws under the articles of incorporation. The Treasurer shall bill and collect membership dues.

4. Safety Officer

The Safety Officer shall be the principal Safety Officer of the MPA. He/she shall be responsible for the publication of the Safety Guidelines, shall appoint and oversee the Safety Committee and shall be responsible for the supervision and enforcement of Safety Guidelines.

5. Directors

The Directors shall serve on the Board and provide other general or special assistance as required.

## **ARTICLE VI – COMMITTEES**

### **Section 1. Site Committee**

The Site Committee shall locate a site to safely display pyrotechnics, and shall obtain a legal permit for MPA group members to shoot; including whatever advocacy is necessary. The chairman of the committee will be appointed by the President and rotated as needed.

### **Section 2. Safety Committee**

The safety committee shall be established to oversee and insure safe shooting at the selected site in all MPA activities. It will establish written safety rules, in compliance with Federal, State, and Local laws and Pyrotechnic Guild International (PGI) guidelines. The chairman will be the Safety Director.

### **Section 3. Newsletter Committee**

The Newsletter Committee shall write, edit, publish and distribute to the Membership, and qualified interested parties, a newsletter that contains pyrotechnic related information. The chairman also referred to as the Editor, will be appointed by the President. The Editor will see that the newsletter is edited, printed, stamped, and mailed to members that have paid to receive the newsletter. The newsletter shall be published in a timely matter, as material, news, and information dictate. The Editor will consult with the other officers or knowledgeable people when publishing material that could cause harm to the Missouri Pyrotechnics Association.

## **ARTICLE VII – MEMBERSHIP**

### **Section 1. Approval**

The membership to MPA shall be open to any person over the age of 18 interested in the art of pyrotechnics. Family membership is defined as member, spouse and children

under the age of 18. The membership is by application and may be reviewed by the Board of Directors.

## Section 2. Types and Dues of Membership

### New and Renewal Membership.

#### 1. One Week Membership

Available only to other Firework Club members or with a MoPyro Sponsor.  
\$20 (No vote or newsletter.) May apply payment to full membership.

#### 2. Single Membership

Includes; one vote and newsletter.  
\$50

#### 3. Family Membership

Includes; Children under 18 years of age. Voting privileges for two adult family members, and newsletter.  
\$75

#### 4. Sponsor Membership

Includes; One vote and newsletter. Extra employees/family members \$25 each with no vote or newsletter.  
\$100

## Section 3. Membership

Members agree to abide by the safety rules adopted by the MPA and applicable Federal, State, and Local laws.

## Section 4. Compensation

No member of the MPA shall be compensated for any service rendered to the MPA, whether an officer or otherwise.

## Section 5. Reimbursement

Reimbursement of MPA club expenses shall not be considered compensation. The bill(s) shall be turned over to the Treasurer for the payment of legitimate club activity expenses or materials. Under no circumstances may any member or officer of this club be reimbursed for non-club-related materials or expenses.

## Section 6. Membership Lists

Membership lists shall not be public information. It shall be available to club members only for valid club activity use and shall under no circumstance be used to solicit for any non-MPA business or activity.

## Section 7. Membership Termination

Membership will be terminated when a member displays conduct not in the best interest of the MPA. Termination will be accomplished by a 2/3-majority vote of the Board Members.

## **ARTICLE VIII – ADMENDMENTS**

The by-laws may be altered, amended, or repealed and new by-laws may be adopted by a 2/3-majority vote of the membership. Such a vote may take place after discussion at any membership meetings.

## **ARTICLE IX - NON-DISCRIMINATION**

The Corporation shall not discriminate against any person in any manner on the basis of sex, race, age, religion, handicap, or ethnic origin.

## **ARTICLE X – DISSOLUTION**

Upon dissolution of the Missouri Pyrotechnics Association, Inc., its assets shall be transferred to such other Pyrotechnics organization that the Board determines to be progressive in the pyrotechnics field. Such organization shall be non-profit and represent the interest of the pyrotechnics cause.

**ADOPTED; APRIL 1, 1999**

**AMENDED; MARCH 8, 2003**

**AMENDED; APRIL 23, 2005**

**AMENDED; APRIL 25, 2009**

**AMENDED; MAY 1, 2010**

**AMENDED; MAY 7, 2011**

**AMENDED; MAY 26, 2012**

**AMENDED; FEBURARY 29, 2016**