

Z Krewe

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

Name and Insignia

Section 1. The name of this Krewe shall be Z Krewe. The official colors shall be green, black and gold.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

Section 1. The purpose of this Krewe shall be to promote the mystic celebration of Carnival and to perpetuate the spirit of Mardi Gras. It shall further seek to initiate programs of social, civic, educational and moral benefit.

Section 2. This Krewe shall be established as non-profit.

Section 3. The fiscal year shall be May 1 through April 30.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. Definitions of Membership:

- A. A Regular Member of the Krewe is an applicant who has paid the initiation fee and who has been approved by vote of the Executive Committee. Regular Members are eligible to vote, hold elected office, chair committees, and become members of the Krewe's Royal Court. These members' primary residence is normally within a one hundred-mile radius of Galveston Island. A member in good standing must be current on dues.
- B. A Lifetime Member of the Krewe shall be Regular Members who, from time to time are recognized as such by and with the approval of the Executive Committee. Lifetime Members are eligible to vote, hold elected office, chair committees, and become members of the Krewe's Royal Court. These members' primary residence is normally within a one hundred-mile radius of Galveston Island.
- C. An Ambassador Member of the Krewe is an applicant who has paid the initiation fee and who has been approved by vote of the Executive Committee. An Ambassador Membership in the Krewe shall be made available as an option, provided the applicant's primary residence is greater than one hundred miles from Galveston Island. An Ambassador Member is not eligible to vote, hold office or serve as a member of the Krewe's Royal Court. An Ambassador Member shall pay one hundred seventy-five dollars (\$175.00) annual membership dues.

Section 2. The membership of this Krewe shall be limited to one hundred and fifty (150) Regular Members, plus twenty- five (25) Ambassador Members, and Lifetime Members.

Section 3. Any adult (over the age of 21), regardless of race, age, gender, or religious beliefs shall be eligible for membership. Provided he/she is proposed by one member and seconded by another member of the Krewe. An application for membership, signed by the two sponsors, and accompanied by the initiation fee, shall be submitted by the Membership Committee to the President of the Krewe. The President of the Krewe shall present the application for membership along with the names of the sponsors, at the next regular

meeting of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall take a vote on the application for membership. A simple majority vote by all voting members of the Executive Committee present is required for the applicant to be named a member of Z Krewe. A person so elected shall be declared a Regular or Ambassador member of the Krewe upon receipt of the annual dues for the first year. If an applicant does not receive a majority vote for election to membership, the initiation fee shall be returned.

- Section 4. The initiation fee shall be one hundred and twenty-five dollars (\$125.00) per person. The initiation fee includes an official Krewe jacket and shirt. Initial membership dues of applicants for Regular Membership are two hundred and twenty-five dollars (\$225.00). The annual dues shall be two hundred and twenty-five dollars (\$225.00) per year per Regular member. All members are billed by the Treasurer effective March 1 of each fiscal year. All dues are to be paid in full, no later than the first general meeting in June. On or soon after the first meeting in June, the Treasurer shall notify members, in writing, who are in arrears. Those whose dues are not paid by June 30 shall be automatically dropped from membership in the Krewe, unless a written special agreement is submitted by a member to the current Treasurer. Both must be signers on the arrangement. In the event a former member chooses to rejoin within one year, the initiation fee will be waived. Annual dues will be payable in full on the date of rejoining the Krewe. The Executive Committee has the right to review and/or waive the initiation fee under extenuating circumstances for former members.
- Section 5. Each member will be allowed to sponsor four membership applicants per fiscal year.
- Section 6. No Krewe member shall conduct business on behalf of the Krewe or obligate the Krewe without the approval of the Executive Committee. No written contract in excess of \$1,500.00 shall be signed without the contract being reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee. Once approval is obtained, a copy of the signed contract shall be provided to the Executive Committee in a timely manner.
- Section 7. Every paid member shall receive one (1) annual official patch and one (1) ticket to the annual Krewe Ball, whether attending or not.

ARTICLE IV Officers

- Section 1. The officers of the Krewe shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer. These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Krewe.
- Section 2. Duties
- A. The President of the Krewe will preside at each of the regular meetings. During the annual election of officers and Executive Committee members, all ties will be decided by a secret ballot, run-off election. The President will appoint a Krewe Sergeant at Arms. This person will report directly to the President, and together, they will work to resolve any instance where control of a member or his /her guest is needed to preserve order during Krewe functions and meetings. This includes expelling said person(s), where reasonable control cannot be achieved.
 - B. The Vice-President will assume the duties of the President in his/her absence. The Vice-President will assume the duties of the Chair for the Steering Committee.
 - C. The Recording Secretary will prepare and maintain the minutes of the Krewe's general meetings. At all general meetings, the Recording Secretary will be called

upon by the President, or other presiding officer to read the minutes of the previous meeting for acceptance, or correction, by a vote of the members present.

- D. The Treasurer will prepare and maintain the financial records, submit a financial report at each of the Executive Committee meetings and oversee budget requirements. The Treasurer may appoint an ad-hoc committee to serve as assistant Treasurer(s) as needed. The books will be audited at the end of each fiscal year by an independent auditor, or an audit committee comprised of Z Krewe members approved by the Executive Committee. The previous year's Treasurer shall prepare an annual financial statement to be approved by the independent auditor or audit committee. This report shall then be published and distributed to the membership at large within sixty (60) days of the close of the fiscal year. The Treasurer shall have the authority to write payable Krewe checks up to twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) on his/her own signature. Any payable Krewe checks over the dollar amount of twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) shall require a second signature of either the Krewe's President or the Krewe's Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Voter Eligibility:

- A. All members in good standing (paid up to date) are eligible to vote.
- B. Prior to the annual election in April, the Steering Committee will verify with the Krewe's Treasurer, the eligibility of each member to vote. A roll call and sign in of members present during the election will be performed before ballots are distributed.
- C. Any Krewe member, who has been a Krewe member for one year at the time of the annual election, seeking to be on the ballot for the Krewe's annual election will file with the Steering Committee chairperson the notice to seek office. Adequate notice shall be given to all members, and if needed, their status of eligibility to serve another term. All notices to seek office must be filed and received at a date to be determined by the Steering Committee, but no later than the conclusion of the regular meeting in March. All candidates will be announced at said meeting. The Steering Committee shall mail each active member the official ballot of the candidates prior to the election in April.

Section 4. Each officer, with the exception of the Treasurer, shall be elected by secret ballot to serve for one year or until his/her successor is elected. The term of office shall begin following installation at the Annual meeting held each May. The Treasurer shall be appointed by a vote of the Executive Committee at the last Executive Committee meeting of the previous year (March) to serve for a term of one year, and take office immediately.

Section 5. No member shall hold more than one office at a time and no member shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office with the exception of the Treasurer position where the same member may be appointed to multiple terms as approved by the Executive Committee.

Section 6. In the event a member cannot attend the Annual Meeting, the member will have the right to vote by absentee ballot in advance by completing a numbered ballot and returning it to the Steering Committee Chair prior to the Annual Meeting.

Section 7. In the event an elected officer should resign from his/her position, the Executive Committee shall appoint an interim officer until the next regularly scheduled general election.

Section 8. Any officer absent from three consecutive General or Executive Committee meetings,

without notifying the President, may be removed from office.

ARTICLE V General Meetings

- Section 1. The General meetings of the Krewe shall be held on the first Tuesday of each month from May to April, unless otherwise ordered by the Krewe.
- Section 2. Election and Annual meetings
- A. The General meeting held on the first Tuesday in April shall be known as the Election Meeting and shall be for the purpose of electing officers, receiving reports of officers and committees and for any other business that may arise.
- B. The General Meeting held the first Tuesday in May shall be known as the Annual Meeting and shall be for the purpose of the installation of elected officers, receiving reports of officers and committees and for any other business that may arise.
- Section 3. Special meetings may be called by the President or by the Executive Committee, and shall be called upon written request of (10) ten members of the Krewe. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the call. Except in cases of emergency, at least three days notice shall be given.
- Section 4. Robert's Rules of Order, with the exception of the Annual meeting, shall govern the Krewe's meetings.
- Section 5. 20% of the membership of the Krewe shall constitute a quorum.
- Section 6. All meetings shall be designated as non-smoking.

ARTICLE VI Executive Committee

- Section 1. Description:
- A. The Executive Committee will consist of eleven (11) members, including the Krewe's President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and seven elected members. At Executive Committee meetings, the President will have voting rights only in the event of a tie vote of the Committee. Six or more voting Executive Committee members must be present at said meeting for any matter to be voted on. The term of office shall begin at the close of the meeting at which they are elected.
- B. The Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee shall be elected by and from the existing seven Executive Committee members. The elected Chair will preside over the Executive Committee meetings, and the Vice-Chair, in the absence of the Chair.
- C. The Chair and the Vice-Chair shall be limited to a one-year term. The Chair may be re-elected to the Executive Committee, but shall not serve as Chair. The Vice-Chair will serve as the recording secretary and will be called upon to present and/or read the minutes of the previous Executive Committee meeting, for acceptance or correction by vote of the members present.
- D. All Krewe members elected to the Executive Committee will serve for two years.

- Section 2. The Executive Committee will be charged with the responsibility of directing and maintaining the continuity of the activities of the Krewe between its business meetings, fix the hour and place of meetings, make recommendations to the Krewe, and shall perform any other duties specified in these bylaws. The Executive Committee shall enforce the bylaws and make other decisions on behalf of the Krewe.
- Section 3. The Executive Committee shall report their activities to the Krewe at the regular meeting each month.
- Section 4. Unless otherwise ordered by the Executive Committee, regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held each month, from May to April, day, time and location to be determined by the Executive Committee. A special meeting of the Executive Committee may be called upon the written request of three members of the Executive Committee.
- Section 5. If any Executive Committee member is absent from three consecutive meetings without proper notification to the Executive Committee Chair, that member will forfeit his/her position on the Executive Committee. In the event an Executive Committee member should resign his/her position, the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement to serve the remainder of the term.
- Section 6. Any Krewe member appointed to fill an unexpired term of an Executive Committee member may run again in the next general election upon the expiration of said term.
- Section 7. Any member of the Executive Committee may appoint another member of the Executive Committee to exercise his/her vote by proxy, for that meeting, provided that member has notified the Chairperson of the Executive Committee in writing or e-mail. No Executive Committee member shall hold more than one proxy per meeting. A member of the Executive Committee appointing a proxy is not considered "present" at that meeting of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII Committees

- Section 1. A Membership/Social Committee Chair shall be appointed by the Executive Committee promptly after each Annual Meeting. It shall be the duty of this committee to schedule membership drives, review applications, conduct research and submit applications and research to the President prior to the regular meetings of the Executive Committee. This committee shall conduct an orientation meeting for new members as needed and suggest social outings from time to time for the members-at-large.
- Section 2. The Steering Committee shall be chaired by the Vice-President, who will assume these duties promptly after each Annual Meeting. It shall be the duty of this committee to appoint the Parliamentarian and a Krewe Historian. The Steering Committee shall accept and may recommend requests for revisions to the by-laws. The Steering Committee will review and may edit requests to the by-laws. The Steering Committee will then submit approved requests to the Executive Committee for consideration and then present the request to the Krewe at the next general meeting and then for voting at the following general meeting. It shall be the responsibility of the Steering Committee to oversee the annual election process as set out in Article IV.
- Section 3. A Ball Committee Chair shall be appointed by the Executive Committee promptly after each Annual Meeting. It shall be the duty of this committee to determine the ball location and to assume all responsibilities for the planning and execution of the ball.

- Section 4. A Public Affairs Committee Chair shall be appointed by the Executive Committee promptly after each Annual Meeting. It shall be the duty of this committee to generate public awareness of the activities of the Krewe and to submit opportunities to the Krewe for civic and educational participation in the community. This committee is charged with the responsibility of overseeing communication to the membership-at-large.
- Section 5. A Pancake Day Committee Chair shall be appointed by the Executive Committee promptly after each Annual Meeting. It shall be the duty of this committee to oversee and manage the production of this special event to be held during Carnival season.
- Section 6. A Zestival Committee Chair shall be appointed by the Executive Committee promptly after each Annual Meeting. It shall be the duty of this committee to oversee and manage the production of Zestival parties, held annually by the Krewe during the first and second weekends of Mardi Gras.
- Section 7. A Z Processional Committee Chair shall be appointed by the Executive Committee promptly after each Annual Meeting. It shall be the duty of this committee to oversee and manage the production of Z Procession, held annually by the Krewe during Mardi Gras. In addition, it shall be the duty of this committee to oversee the design, procurement, sale and distribution of the official Z Krewe beads, doubloons and patches.
- Section 8. A Royalty Committee Chair shall be appointed by the Executive Committee promptly after each Annual Meeting. It shall be the responsibility of the Royalty Committee to oversee the responsibilities of Royalty as set out in Article VIII - Royalty.
- Section 9. A Ways and Means Committee Chair shall be appointed by the Executive Committee promptly after each Annual Meeting. It shall be the duty of this committee to raise revenues as needed.
- Section 10. All committees shall consist of volunteers from the Krewe. Each committee shall have the duty of preparing an annual budget and presenting it to the Treasurer and the Executive Committee for approval by the end of August of each fiscal year. Each committee shall provide updates as required by Treasurer and/or the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VIII

Royalty

- Section 1: Royalty in the Krewe is open to any member except Ambassador Members, provided that the member registers with the Royalty Committee, and is certified by the treasurer as eligible. There shall be one King and Queen and four Royal Zoots and Zaftigs chosen by the traditional method of random placement of colored babies in a Royalty cake. Presentation and Coronation of the Krewe Royalty will occur during the annual Krewe Ball. The Royal Court shall reign until the next King and Queen are crowned at the Annual ball. The King and Queen shall represent the Krewe at public events.
- Section 2. The Executive Committee shall appoint a Chairman of the Royalty Committee who will assemble a committee of volunteers. The reigning King and Queen shall serve on the committee. At least one member of the Royalty Committee shall be a representative of the Ball Committee and serve as a liaison between the Royalty and Ball Committees. The Royalty Committee shall make such rules and decisions pertaining to Royalty as will best promote the traditions and goals of the Krewe, provided such rules and decisions do not conflict with section 1 hereof. The Royalty Committee shall produce the annual Cake Cutting ceremony. The Royalty Committee shall produce the presentation and coronation of the Krewe Royalty at the Annual Ball.

ARTICLE IX
Head Zanies/Big Daddy and Big Momma

Section 1. The Krewe's Head Zanies/Big Daddy and Big Momma are not a part of Krewe Royalty. Selection of the Krewe's Big Daddy is the duty of the prior Big Daddies. The selected Big Daddy will personally select his Big Momma from the female members of the Krewe. Big Daddy will be announced by the previous Big Daddies at the regular meeting held in April. Funding for the Big Momma party will be approved by the Executive Committee and come from the Krewe's general fund. The Big Momma selection is held secret until her presentation party, to be held annually by September.

ARTICLE X
Amendments of Bylaws

Section 1. These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Krewe by two-thirds vote, provided that the amendment has been submitted and discussed at the previous regular meeting.

Section 2. All appointments, except Treasurer made by the Executive Committee, Officers of the Krewe or Committee Chairmen shall expire each year upon the first Executive Committee meeting following the Annual Election (April meeting)

Amendments and Revision dates:

5/94 Acceptance of original bylaws

6/94 Membership, Section 9-Ambassador

8/94 Royalty

*7/95 Officers, Section 2, paragraph E
Executive Committee, Section 1
Committees, Sections 1-8*

4/96 Membership section 4

*6/96 Officers, Section 2-paragraph C, 3
Committees Section 1
Membership/Social, Section 2
Ways and Means, Section 3
Pancake Day, Section 6*

1/97 Executive Committee, Section 5

*5/97 Officers, Article III
Section 2, A-President
Section 2, C-Recording Secretary
Section 3- Filing for Office
Executive Board, Article VI, Section 1
Committees, Article VII, Section 7-Zestival Committee
Royalty, Article VIII, Section 4*

*8/98 Article I, Name, Section 1
Article III, Membership, Section 4*

Article X-Amendments of Bylaws
Article IV, Officers, Section 2A, Section 8
Article V, Meetings, Sections 1, 2, & 5
Article VI, Executive Committee, Section 1 & 4
Article VII, Committees, Sections 1-9
Article VIII, Section 1, Section 2, Section 4, Section 5
Article IX, Head Zanies, Section 1

11/99 Article III, Membership, Section 1
Article VI, Executive Committee, Section 1, Paragraphs C & D
Article VII, Committees, Section 1, Section 9

4/00 Article III, Membership, Sections 1-8
Article IV, Officers, Section 2-D, Section 3 & 4
Article V, Meetings, Section 2
Article VI, Executive Committee, Section 1-A
Article VII, Committees, Section 3, Section 9, Section 10
Article VIII, Royalty, Section 1, Section 2, Section 4

3/01 Article III, Membership, Section 1, Section 4(deleted)
Article IV, Officers, Section 2-A, Section 3, Section 5
Article VII, Committees, Section 1(sponsorship review committee deleted)

7/01 Article III, Membership, Section 3
Article VI, Executive Committee, Section 7
Article VIII, Royalty, Section 2

11/01 Article VIII, Royalty, Sections 1 & 2(deleted and/or combined sections 3-5)
Article X, Amendments and Orders, Section 2

4/02 Article IV, Elections, Section 3,C; Article VI, Executive Committee, Section, 1; Article VII, Committees, section 2.

1/05 Article III, Membership, Section 2; Article III, Membership, Section 4; Article VII, Zestival Committee, Section 6; Article IX, Head Zanies, Section 1.

11/06 Article IV, Section 2D; Officers
Article IV, Section 4; Officers
Article IV, Section 5; Officers
Article VII, Section 4; Committees
Article VII, Section 6; Committees
Article VII, Section 9; Committees
Article VIII, Section 2; Committees
Article IX, Section 1; Head Zanies/Big Daddy and Big Momma
Article X, Section 2; Amendments of Bylaws

02/07 Article III, Section 1C; Membership
Article III, Section 4; Membership

11/07 Article IV, Section 7; Officers
Article VI, Section 5; Executive Committee

11/09 Article III, Section 6; Business of the Krewe

This document supersedes all previous By-laws as of 11/09