

MAPLE LEAF CHAPTER -AOMCI

BY-LAWS

In addition to the By-Laws governing membership in the AOMCI (International), the following By-Laws shall apply specifically to the Maple Leaf Chapter.

1. Steering Committee: Composition, Duties & Accountability

The activities of the club shall be guided and initiated by the Steering Committee, acting reasonably on input from the membership at large including members of the Steering Committee itself.

The Steering Committee shall consist of a minimum of seven (7) members and a maximum of eleven (11) members, comprised as follows:

(a) Permanent Members

- (i) Immediate Past President
- (ii) President
- (iii) Secretary
- (iv) Treasurer
- (v) Newsletter Editor
- (vi) Newsletter Publisher
- (vii) Archivist -Service
- (viii) Archivist -Promotion

(b) Elected or Appointed Members

There may be, in addition to the permanent members, a further number of members elected by the membership at large or appointed by the committee. Any number of further Steering Committee members may be appointed or

elected provided that the total Steering Committee does not exceed eleven (11) members. In the event there is no newsletter or other permanent positions disappear for some reason, the number of elected/appointed members may increase to fill those vacancies, provided that at no time shall the committee comprise more than eleven (11) members.

- (c) A quorum of the Steering Committee shall consist of six (6) members, no more than two (2) of which may be represented by proxy.
- (d) The decisions of the Steering Committee shall be by simple majority vote.
- (e) The Steering Committee may authorize expenditures of up to \$500.00 and the expenditures for routine expenses (such as insurance coverage or newsletter costs) as required. Expenditures, other than emergency ones or routine expenses, exceeding this amount must be ratified by the membership at a regular or special meeting. For this purpose a quorum of members shall be 35 and a simple majority vote shall prevail. Steering committee members may vote and be counted toward the quorum of 35.

Dissent

- (f) Upon the written request of at least three (3) committee members, or ten (10) members in general, any matter that has been decided by the Steering Committee shall be voted on at the next annual general meeting with a simple majority vote to prevail.

Pending the ratification vote referred to above, the disputed decision of the Steering Committee shall prevail and be in force until it is confirmed or rejected at the next annual meeting.

The notice required in this Section (f) shall be delivered in writing to the President, with a copy to the Secretary.

2. Terms of Officers

No officer shall hold office longer than five (5) years, but a member may be elected to another or the same office following a minimum of one (1) year absence from office. In the case of the President, serving his term as Immediate Past President for one year shall qualify as the required one (1) year absence.

Officers, other than the President, who wish to run for President, shall not have their past service years counted against them if they become President and may, without waiting, run for President immediately following the conclusion of their five year terms. For greater certainty, this means that someone who was Treasurer for 2 years could be elected President and then serves for 5 years, making accumulative total of 7 uninterrupted years. Alternatively, a Secretary who is retiring with five (5) years experience, could immediately run for President and serve the full five (5) year term, making a total of ten (10) years in office.

Commentary

The principal purpose of this By-Law is to create a turnover of officers from our members, any of whom should be capable of serving and providing leadership and new ideas. It is also designed to allow those who truly enjoy the management tasks to still be involved, without breaking the rules or without having to ask that a special exception be made in their cases.

3. Terms of Steering Committee

Steering Committee members shall not have limited terms of office and retiring officers who have served their full five (5) year terms, shall be allowed to immediately stand for election to the Steering Committee.

4. Duties of President

The President is expected to provide leadership to his fellow members by way of organization, communication, and the fostering and encouragement of the activities of the members. The President or his designate/, shall represent the club in all external functions. The President shall call for and receive the report of the Treasurer and the Secretary annually. The President shall make a written report to the membership at least once annually and shall chair the annual general meeting and all meetings of the Steering Committee.

5. Duties of the Treasurer

The treasurer shall collect the dues and keep a careful account of all receipts and disbursements and give a report at least annually or as often as reasonably requested by the Steering Committee. The treasurer shall be allowed to use his discretion in making minor disbursements for club expenses generally and to repay members and officers for out-of-pocket expenses which have been approved by the Steering Committee.

It is the duty of the treasurer to pay the debts of the club as they fall due.

Commentary

This By-Law is rather obvious, and the out-of-pocket expenses referred to are principally the costs of the newsletter and the cost of officers for long distance telephone calls or printing and typing services required for the good business of the club. It should be noted that travel, parking and other expenses are generally viewed as voluntary expenses and members or officers would not expect to recover these from the club treasury.

The treasurer should be given a reasonable but *limited* amount of discretion to make such reimbursement. Obviously, any amount that is too large or possibly controversial would be referred to the Steering Committee for its approval.

6. Duties of the Secretary

The secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Steering Committee and the annual general meeting and any other general meetings. As well, the secretary shall correspond with the International Club and furnish an annual report for publication in "The Antique Outboarder" as provided in the International By-Laws.

It is the duty of the secretary to keep the names and information about the officers current with the International Headquarters.

It is the further duty of the secretary to keep the events roster current in terms of date, location and contact person in both the chapter and the International Newsletters.

7. Duties of the Immediate Past President

The immediate Past President shall make himself available to advise and counsel the current President and any other Officer. The immediate Past President shall make himself available for special assignments which may be directed to him by the President.

8. Duties of the Members

The members shall support the President, the Officers and the Steering Committee in its initiatives and decisions. The members shall support and attend club activities to the best of their ability. The members shall welcome and encourage new members. The members shall pay their dues and should not

attempt to participate in club activities unless and until their dues are paid for the current year. All members should conduct themselves appropriately with a view to promoting the AOMCI as an honourable and worthwhile organization.

Elections

Those standing for election for any office or position must have filed written nomination papers, signed by 2 members, with the Secretary by October 1st. The election shall then take place at that year's annual general meeting. There shall be no nominations at the annual general meeting.