

# Kentucky Genealogical Society Bylaws

## Article I: Name and Mission

### Section 1: Name

The Society shall be known as the Kentucky Genealogical Society. In second references, it may be referred to as "the Society."

### Section 2: Mission

As the virtual statewide genealogical society for the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Society's mission is to:

1. **Facilitate Genealogy Education:** The Society facilitates genealogical education, promotes standards, and shares best practices within the Kentucky genealogy community.
2. **Make Kentucky Genealogy Records Accessible:** The Society works to make accessible the important genealogy records of Kentucky through collaboration and digitization.
3. **Forge Community:** The Society works to connect researchers of all 120 counties.

## Article II: Membership

### Section 1: Eligibility

Membership is open to all persons and organizations interested in uncovering their genealogical roots.

### Section 2: Dues

Annual membership dues shall be determined by the Board of Directors who will endeavor to ensure accessibility to all.

## Article III: Leadership and Board of Directors

### Section 1: Leadership

The Society leadership consists of the following volunteers:

- **President or Co-Presidents**
- **Vice President**
- **Secretary**
- **Treasurer**
- **At-Large Board Members**

### Section 2: Terms of Office

Officers and directors serve two-year terms and may be re-elected. No officer or director shall hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms.

### Section 3: Duties of Officers

- The President or Co-Presidents provide leadership, run board meetings, sign contracts or delegate the signing of contracts, appoint committee chair persons, and are the spokesperson for the Society.
- The Vice President steps in and assists the president as needed.
- The Secretary maintains the official records of the organization.

- The Treasurer manages the Society's finances.
- At-Large Board Members lead or contribute to committees established by the board to carry out the mission.

## **Article IV: Board of Directors**

### **Section 1: Composition**

The Board of Directors comprises the Officers and At-Large Board Members. The board composition, will to the extent possible, reflect the geographic composition of the membership.

### **Section 2: Meetings**

The Board of Directors should meet at a minimum quarterly in a manner to be organized by the president.

### **Section 3: Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy**

Officers uphold high ethical standards and maintain a Conflict of Interest Policy to safeguard integrity.

## **Article V: Removal of Board Members**

### **Section 1: Removal**

Should any leader falter in her/his duties or breach ethical standards, removal may occur after a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors.

## **Article VI: Nominating Committee**

### **Section 1: Composition & Role**

The Nominating Committee has three members appointed by the President and approved by the Board. It will to the extent possible, reflect the geographic diversity of the membership. Committee members serve for two years. The Nominating Committee finds and suggests candidates for leadership roles. They make sure candidates are eligible and willing to serve. The President appoints one Committee member as Chair to lead the Committee's work.

### **Section 2: Election**

The Committee presents a slate of candidates to members 30 days before elections. The Committee ensures nominees meet the requirements of service. Elections are held virtually in a manner determined by the Board Secretary through an electronic ballot process. The Election is conducted in the Autumn of every other year.

### **Section 3: Transparency & Accountability**

The Committee keeps clear records, reports nominees and election results at the annual meeting. The Committee works independently and serves the Society's best interests.

## **Article VII: Amendments**

### **Section 1: Amendment Process**

The bylaws may be amended through a two-thirds majority vote of members, ensuring they stay relevant and responsive.

## **Article VIII: Dissolution**

**Section 1: Dissolution**

In the event of dissolution, the Society commits to directing remaining assets to charitable organizations chosen by a majority vote of the membership, ensuring the legacy endures.

**Article IX: Adoption**

**Section 1: Adoption**

These bylaws are adopted by the majority of membership through an electronic ballot process.

**Date of Adoption:** [Insert Date]

**Signature of President:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Secretary:** \_\_\_\_\_