



INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL

An Association of Past Commodores

District 1

Bylaws

Revised: April 16, 2016

International Order of the Blue Gavel

BYLAWS OF DISTRICT #1

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ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be
DISTRICT 1, INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL
Herein after referred to as District 1, IOBG **a division of the International Organization.**

ARTICLE II – OBJECTS AND PURPOSES

Section 1 - The objects and purposes of the District 1 IOBG are:

- A. To form an organization of District 1 Past Commodores, who are of good and patriotic character, and who share a common love and appreciation of yachting within The International Order of The Blue Gavel.
- B. To provide Past Commodores with more extensive opportunities to participate in yachting activities for purpose of cultivating, strengthening, perpetuating, and sanctifying the ties o friendships, honor, benevolence, sportsmanship, social relationship among Past Commodores of other yacht clubs in District 1 and of yachting associations internationally.
- C. To subscribe to, and stimulate interest in recognized yachting traditions, ceremonies, customs, ethics, and etiquette. To provide appropriate recognition of the past and continuing services on the part of Past Commodores to their club and the community in the form of suitable insignia and flags.
- D. To Promote by precept and example, the development of able and knowledgeable yachtsmen and yachtswomen by participation in yachting activities and of marine events and ceremonies.
- E. To encourage and promote the continuing interest and service of Past Commodores within their own yacht clubs without in any way usurping the authorities and responsibilities of the incumbent officers.
- F. To provide the procedures for the admission and government of the members of District 1, IOBG for the election of its Officers and defining their duties, and for the safekeeping, management and disposition of its property and funds.
- G. To charter local yacht club chapters whose Past Commodores by proper application are thereby eligible for membership in District 1, IOBG.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

Section 1 - Yacht Club Charters

- A. Chapters shall be granted to local Yacht Clubs who fulfill the following criteria:
 1. The Club must be a recognized yacht club with District 1 as defined by the International Organization and must have been in existence for at least five (5) years prior to application for their membership charter. Be of sound financial standing, and have at least 5 members eligible for membership in Blue Gavel.
 2. The Club must have a clubhouse or a permanent meeting place and an established mailing address.
 3. The club must have at least seventy-five (75) members.
 4. An applicant club shall have an “open membership” policy and shall not have a requirement for membership or participation in unrelated yachting activity, organization or cooperative.
 5. An applicant club shall be open to all regardless of race, gender, creed, or national origin.
 6. If the applicant club does not meet the above requirement, the applicant club shall be screened by the Executive Committee of the IOBG and with the recommendation of District 1 Executive Officers, Officers, and that of the Northwestern Vice President, may be selected for membership by invitation.

Section 2 - Grandfather Yacht Club Charters

- A. Existing charters shall be maintained by those clubs who do not meet all of the above criteria provided that such charters are maintained in good standing.

Section 3 - Commodore Memberships

- A. Eligible commodores shall be selected and voted on by the District 1, IOBG members of the sponsoring yacht club. The charter yacht club in turn shall submit candidate member applications to the District 1, IOBG Executive Board for Action and approval.
- B. The club shall have applied for and received its charter prior to submittal of new membership applications. An exception shall be made for those seeking membership from a new charter club. Both the Membership and Charter applications may be submitted simultaneously.
- C. District 1 may extend “At-Large” membership to any Past Commodore of a qualified yacht club who is not affiliated with an IOBG chapter. The “At-Large” member shall pay District and International Dues, may hold district office and shall have voting privileges.

ARTICLE IV – EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1 – The affairs of District 1, IOBG shall be managed by the Executive Board, which is comprised of six officers and six trustees from member chapters within the district.

- A. The officers shall be President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Immediate Past President.
- B. Three trustees shall be elected from the west side of the Cascade Mountain range and three from the east side. Each year, one of the three trustee positions from each side shall be up for election.
- C. Officers and trustees shall be elected at the annual fall meeting. The President and Vice Presidents shall serve for one year. The secretary and treasurer shall have two-year terms and the trustees shall have three-year terms.
- D. All elected Officers and Trustees or appointed officers must be active members of District 1

Section 2 – The duties of the President shall be to administer the affairs of the District and preside over all regular meetings thereof and to appoint such committees as are necessary for the proper functioning of the organization.

Section 3 – The duties of the First Vice President shall be to assist the President and in the absence of the President to act in his place. The First Vice President shall automatically become President upon the expiration of the current President's term.

Section 4 – The Second Vice President shall act in the absence of the First Vice President and at all times assist the President and 1st Vice President in their duties.

Section 5 – The Secretary shall record the minutes of the meetings and keep the records of the District.

Section 6 – The Treasurer shall receive all monies, which may accrue to the District and shall be responsible for the disbursement thereof and shall keep complete records of the Districts business and membership.

Section 7 – The Immediate Past President shall automatically become District #1 Director and a member of the District 1 Executive Board for the ensuing year as well as **member of the International Board of Directors.**

Section 8 – The President shall appoint Committee Chair-persons from time to time as deemed appropriate. Said Appointees however, need not be members of the Executive Board, and if not shall not be entitled to vote with the Executive Board.

Section 9 – In the event that a duly elected officer of the District 1, IOBG is unable to complete their term of office, for whatever reason, the Executive Board by a majority vote, shall appoint a successor to fill out the officer's unexpired term.

ARTICLE V – MEETINGS

Section 1 – The annual meeting of the Executive Board shall be in the fall of each year or as designated by the Board. The executive Board shall conduct all business by majority, either in person or by proxy. Two-thirds (2/3) of the currently elected officers must be in attendance to constitute a quorum.

Section 2 – All business and elections shall be decided by a majority vote of the certified members present voting at the meeting.

Section 3 – Proxy votes must be in writing [letter/internet] and be posted no later than the close of the meeting.

ARTICLE VI – ELECTIONS

Section 1 – The District will elect officers and trustees at the “Fall Change of Watch”.

Section 2 – Each chapter shall elect its own President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer and/or such other officers it deems necessary, and may adopt its own bylaws, rules and regulations so long as they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws and Regulations of District 1, IOBG.

ARTICLE VII – COMMITTEES

Section 1 – The standing committees of District 1, IOBG shall be:

Audit	Entertainment
Membership	Delegate to NBC
Delegate to RBAW	

Note: Awards and Public Relations, not function, Sergeant at Arms has been appointed at each meeting and is therefore not standing; Fall Change of Watch and entertainment is handled by the hosting club. Audit is not standing, is appointed at the end of the year only.

Section 2 – The Executive Board shall be authorized by a majority vote of its members at the annual meeting to establish committees as required, and assign duties, standards, the numbers of member and terms of office.

Section 3 – The Nominating Committee shall consist of the Immediate Past President, the President, and the First Vice President.

ARTICLE VIII – DUES

The District annual dues for each member shall be determined by the Executive Board each year. Said dues shall be added the International dues and shall become due at the Fall Change of Watch and shall become past due on January 1st. A chapter may add such dues as are necessary to finance its organization.

ARTICLE IX – EMBLEM

The official emblem of the District 1, IOBG is the rectangular Red Flag upon which is superimposed a ship's wheel of White and superimposed upon the wheel is the Blue Gavel which is the official emblem of the International organization. This emblem is to be flown as appropriate to the etiquette of yachting.

Note: not all members have boats. A motto is no longer used with Blue Gavel.

ARTICLE X – PARLIMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws, the International Bylaws and the law of the land.

Note: District 1 does not have articles of incorporation

ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENT

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the District 1, IOBG called for that purpose, **and must be approved by a 2/3 majority of members present. Notice of the meeting with a copy of changes/additions is to be given in writing at least 30 days prior to the meeting.**

Amendments to these bylaws must be dated upon approval.

Note: to be consistent with Robert's Rules of Order.

Note: all occurrences of District 1 IOBG should read District 1, IOBG