

BYLAWS FOR THE IMPERIAL BONE VALLEY GEM, MINERAL AND FOSSIL SOCIETY, INC.

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the corporation is IMPERIAL BONE VALLEY GEM, MINERAL AND FOSSIL SOCIETY, INC.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES

THE PURPOSE OF THIS SOCIETY SHALL BE:

The purposes of this Corporation are to promote popular interest and education in the various Earth Sciences, in particular the subjects of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary, and related subjects.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THIS SOCIETY SHALL BE:

To provide a means by which individuals interested in paleontology, geology, mineralogy, earth sciences and/or the lapidary arts studies in the State of Florida and related areas may come together for mutual benefits.

To promote the continuing study of paleontology, geology, mineralogy, earth sciences and/or the lapidary arts in the Bone Valley and other areas of Florida.

To disseminate information on paleontology, geology, mineralogy, earth sciences and/or the lapidary arts and in particular on the work of Society members through a program of publications by the Society, and through special events and other activities as the Society may consider proper to further its objectives.

To encourage the scientific collection, preservation, classification, study and publication of paleontology, geology, mineralogy, earth sciences and/or the lapidary art information.

To initiate and maintain appropriate By-Laws, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines in the best interest of all its members.

To cooperate with all other groups such as historical societies, museums, universities, mining companies, and local school systems to help them with their paleontology, geology, mineralogy, earth sciences and/or the lapidary art projects; by supplying them with displays, research and instructions.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

The membership of this corporation shall constitute all persons hereinafter named as members and such other person, as from time to time hereafter, may become members, in the manner provided below:

HOW ATTAINED:

Membership in the Society shall be open to any person meeting the following criteria:

1. Persons interested in the field or fields of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Earth Sciences and/or the Lapidary Arts.

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2. Persons recognizing the effort required when working in the fields of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Earth Sciences and/or the Lapidary Arts.
3. Persons who are interested in furthering the objectives of the Society.
4. Persons who agree to abide by the Bylaws and Regulations of the Society.
5. Persons who regularly pay to the Society requisite dues for each class of membership as specified

Application for membership may be made to any member of the Society, by submitting the prescribed Application for membership, together with the dues. This application shall bear the signature of the member accepting it.

DUES:

Dues shall be payable upon acceptance of membership, and renewal of same becomes the responsibility of each member. Dues shall be in arrears January 30. Members whose dues are in arrears shall be considered not in good standing and will not be eligible to vote at any meeting of the society and shall no longer be entitled to the rights and privileges of membership. A member in arrears may be reinstated by the payment of dues.

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP:

There are established four (4) classes of membership:

General Membership:

A General Membership, which may be attained by an individual, a married couple, or a family membership (parent(s) and all children).

Junior Membership:

Any person less than eighteen (18) years of age may become a Junior Member providing that an adult member of his/her family, that is father, mother, sister, brother, grandparents, or a legal guardian is a member in good standing in the Society. Juniors seeking membership into the Society without their parents must pay regular dues, and be sponsored by an adult member of the Society. Such sponsor shall be legally responsible for the conduct of the Junior Member at all meetings and Society activities, and shall see that the Junior Member has transportation. Such sponsor shall require the parents or legal guardian of the Junior Member to execute an Authorization Form, authorizing the Sponsor to transport the Junior Member, and granting such Sponsor the power to obtain emergency medical care for such Junior Member, if required. Junior Members may bring guests to the meetings at any time, but permission must be obtained from parents or sponsor, who is then responsible for the conduct of said guest. Junior Members shall not hold office or vote at any election.

Honorary Membership:

Honorary membership may be awarded by the Executive Board to a person who has rendered eminent service to the Society or to the study of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary, Earth Sciences and/or the Lapidary Arts. Honorary membership bears the privileges of a General Membership without the payment of dues or having voting privileges.

Guest Membership:

A Guest Membership is issued for one who attends monthly meetings with the intent to join the Society, or one who is visiting the area for a short time, and is a member in good standing in another club. Guest members may participate in up to three (3) meetings annually without paying dues.

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TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

General or Junior Membership may be terminated for delinquent dues or by personal actions deemed not in the spirit of the Society as set forth in the By-laws. No officer or member shall have any vested right to any assets or functions of the Society should his or her membership cease.

ARTICLE IV: BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

There shall be at least three (3) members on the board of directors as provided by the bylaws of this corporation. The board of directors will be elected by the membership at the end of every year. During the September meeting of each year the Executive Board will determine the number of board members required for the next year. Although five (5) board members is the preferred minimum the required minimum number of board members will be three (3) consisting of President, Secretary and Treasurer.

NOMINATIONS:

A nominating committee will be appointed by the President at the September meeting. Their slate of officers will be submitted at the November meeting at which time the chair will accept from the floor any further candidates as suggested by the membership.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Election shall be by ballot if there is more than one nominee for an office. If there is but one nominee for the office, and no objections to the nomination, the President may instruct the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for the nominee. Elections of officers shall be held at the regular December meeting with the new officers taking office at the end of the meeting. These officers shall serve for the term of one year.

VACANCIES

A vacancy in office shall be filled by a Board of Directors appointment until the next regular election of officers.

RE-ELECTION

All officers may be elected to the same office. ~~to serve no more than three (3) consecutive terms, except the Treasurer, who will have no time limits.~~ *Modified by vote on 4/8/2010*

No officer may be elected to higher office unless he has attended at least seven (7) meetings in the period since his installation.

REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Any officer who misses three (3) consecutive meetings without notice of their pending absence may be dropped from that position by a majority vote of the Executive Board and subsequent approval of the membership.

DUTIES

President

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The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and the Executive Board, appoint all committees, be an ex-office member of all committees except the nominating committee, countersign checks, perform all duties usually pertaining to the office and be general chairman of all show committees. The President shall appoint a qualified member to serve as Parliamentarian.

First Vice President

The First Vice President shall serve as an aide to the President and perform the duties of the President in his absence. The First Vice President shall also be program chairman.

Second Vice President

The Second Vice President shall be an aide to the President and serve in the absence of the First Vice President. The Second Vice President shall also be Chairman of the Membership Committee.

Recording Secretary

The Recording Secretary shall keep an accurate record of all regular, called, or Executive Board meetings. The Recording Secretary shall also keep an up-to-date record of the Standing Rules and perform such duties as delegated to him or her by the Executive Board.

Corresponding Secretary

The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct correspondence as directed by the club, keep an up-to-date roster of members as provided by the Treasurer, and be a liaison for the members with other clubs, SEFMLS and AFMS. He or she shall also serve as an assistant to the Treasurer.

Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be the custodian of the Society funds, shall collect all dues and financial contributions to the Society, shall disburse the moneys of the Society with direction of the Executive Board, shall keep full and accurate financial accounts, shall submit a complete monthly financial report to the membership at each monthly meeting and shall upon receipt of a gift, donation, or contribution, make out a certificate in triplicate showing date of gift or donation, donors name and address, type of contribution and an assessed value with the original copy going to the donor and one copy each to the Secretary and Treasurer. All checks of the Society will have multiple signatures as designated in the records with the local bank. The Treasurer shall maintain the official Membership Ledger and shall report promptly any new members, as well as any members suspended for non-payment of dues to the Corresponding Secretary, Bulletin Editor, and Second Vice President.

Executive Board

The Executive Board shall consist of all elected officers, the immediate past president, or most immediate past president, and three (3) elected members at large. Members at large shall serve a term of three (3) years; except initially when one member will be voted for a term of one (1) year, one member for the term of two (2) years, and the third to serve a full term. The Board shall have power to make decisions on any matter so long as those decisions remain within the documented recommendations of budgets, committees, or any authorized group who have accepted the responsibility for researching any matter pertaining to and remaining within the guidelines established in the club objectives. The Shop Manager (s) and the Bulletin Editor or Bulletin Chairman may participate in the Executive Board meetings and do have a vote.

POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board shall have the power to conduct the business of the Society. They may take such action and adopt such Rules, Regulations and Guidelines as are consistent with the By-laws

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and the Articles of Incorporation of the Society. Changes to the bylaws by the Executive Board requires Quorum voting by both the general membership and the Executive Board.

All action taken by the Executive Board will be reported to the membership.

The Executive Board shall determine the time and place for the Society's monthly meeting and shall hold one meeting per month at their discretion.

Three (3) members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum at any regular or special meeting of the Board.

The Society may by mutual contract affiliate with other organizations upon approval by the Executive Board and the general membership.

ARTICLE V: MEETINGS

Regular membership meetings shall be held on the second Thursday of each month unless otherwise designated by the Executive Board and approved by the regular meeting membership.

ARTICLE VI: VOTING QUORUMS AND MAJORITIES

From time to time the Executive Board may find it helpful to place certain decisions to the general membership for approval. This approval shall be in the form of a vote with a majority approval. In these cases the decision to offer a vote to the general membership lies in the hands of the Executive Board.

A decision affecting the Society's Financial, Social Status or Purpose requires voting by the general membership and requires a quorum to pass.

In all cases prior to a vote, the general membership will be informed of the upcoming vote and the information required to make a decision during that meeting. The vote will take place the following meeting.

For voting purposes, the majority shall be defined as one-half of the general membership present and voting, plus one.

A quorum shall be defined as one-half of the general membership present and voting, plus one and one-half of the Executive Board present and voting, plus one.

A quorum for a meeting of the Executive Board shall consist of one-half of the Executive Board present and voting, plus one.

ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES AND THEIR DUTIES:

There will be Committees within the Society. The number of these committees and their level of effort may vary year to year. During the last meeting of each year the Executive Board will determine the Committees required for the next year. The duties of the various standing

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committees shall be those assigned by the Executive Board, sitting as the Rules Committee. Examples of Committees are as follows:

STANDING COMMITTEES

The standing committees of the Society should be: Program, Membership, Show, Hospitality, Field Trips, Historian, Social, Shop Management, Junior Activities, Bulletin, Library, and Education.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Special Committees of the Society shall include, but not be limited to the Rules Committee, the Budget Committee, the Auditing Committee, and the Annual Show Chairman.

Rules Committee:

The Rules Committee shall consist of the Executive Board, and shall formulate the Standing Rules for conduct of the affairs of the Society, and establish the duties of the various committees.

Budget Committee:

The Budget Committee shall consist of the Executive Board and shall present to the general membership by the March meeting a budget for the year.

Audit Committee:

The Audit Committee shall be appointed by the President and perform such audits of the accounts of the Society as may be directed.

Annual Show Chairman:

The Annual Show Chairman shall be appointed by the Executive Board, and shall be responsible for all phases of the Annual Show.

ARTICLE VIII: AUTHORITY ON PROCEDURE

Roberts Rules of Order, Revised shall apply on all questions of procedure and parliamentary law not specified in these Bylaws.