

BY-LAWS

(Amended October 1, 1992)

DELAWARE VOLUNTEER FIREMEN’S & LADIES AXUIILIARY MUTUAL RELIEF ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I Offices

The **principal office** of the corporation shall be located at the Delaware State Fire School, County of Kent, State of Delaware. The corporation may have such other offices, within the State of Delaware, as the Board of Trustees may determine from time to time.

Article II. Members

Section 1. Enrollment of Member Volunteer Fire Companies and Auxiliaries

Any volunteer fire company, its ladies’ auxiliary, or ambulance rescue company which is a member of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen’s Association interested in becoming a member company of this corporation shall submit a written application signed by the President of said organization to the Secretary of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen’s and Ladies Auxiliary Mutual Relief Association. Each application shall be considered by the Board of Trustees at its next meeting or any special meeting of the Board of Trustees and approved or disapproved.

Applicants whose applications are so approved shall become members of the corporation on payment of the required initiation fees and dues.

Section 2. Automatic Membership of Member Firemen, Ladies Auxiliary, or Ambulance Company Personnel

As soon as a volunteer fire company, ladies’ auxiliary or ambulance company becomes a member of the organization, all of the members in good standing shall become members. If a person enrolls in a member company or a member auxiliary, he/she automatically becomes a member until such time as they either resign from the member company or auxiliary or until such time as they cease to be a member in good standing of that company or auxiliary.

Notwithstanding the above, this automatic coverage of individuals shall not be in effect until such as the prescribed enrollment form is signed by the individual member and countersigned by an officer designated by the member company.

Section 3. Termination of Membership

The Board of Trustees, by affirmative vote of majority of all the members of the Board, may suspend or expel a member fire company or auxiliary for cause after an appropriate hearing, and by such vote, may terminate the membership of any member fire company or auxiliary who become ineligible for membership, or suspend or expel any member fire company or auxiliary who shall be in default in the payment of dues for the period fixed hereinafter.

Section 4. Resignations

Any member fire company or auxiliary may resign by filing a written resignation with the Secretary, but such resignation shall not relieve the member fire company or auxiliary so resigning of the obligation to pay any dues, assessments, or other changes accrued and unpaid.

Section 5. Reinstatement

On Written request signed by the current President of a former member fire company or former member auxiliary and filed with the Secretary, the Board of Trustees, by the affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the Board may reinstate such former member fire company or former member auxiliary to membership on such terms as the Board of Trustees may deem appropriate.

Section 6. Transfer of Membership

Membership in the corporation is not transferable or assignable.

Article III Meeting of Members

Section 1. Annual Meeting

An annual meeting of the member firemen shall be held at the same time and place as the annual convention of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen’s Association.

Article IV Trustees

Section 1. General Powers

The affairs of the corporation shall be managed by its Board of Trustees. A Trustee must be a member of a Delaware Volunteer Fire Company, or Ladies Auxiliary which is a member in good standing of this mutual relief association.

Section 2. Regular Meetings

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees shall be held without any other notice than by this law on the first day and at the same place as the annual meeting of the member firemen. The Board of Trustees may provide, by resolution, the time and place for holding additional regular meetings without notice than such resolution. Additional regular quarterly meetings shall be held at the principal office of the corporation in the absence of any designation in the resolution.

Section 3. Vacancies:

Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Trustees and any Trustee’s positions to be filled by reason of increase in the number of Trustees shall be filled by appointment by the then present President of the organization whose president appointed his predecessor. A Trustee appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve for the unexpired term of his predecessor in office.

ARTICLE V

Contracts, Checks, Deposits and Funds

Section 1. Contracts

The Board of Trustees may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents, of the corporation, in addition to the officers created under these laws, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the corporation, and such authority may be general or may be confined to specific instances.

Section 2. Checks, Drafts, or Orders

All checks, drafts, or orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the corporation, shall be signed by such officer or officers, agent or agents of the corporation, and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Board of Trustees. On every such document there must be at least a minimum of two signatures, one of which shall be the Treasurer.

Section 3. Deposits

The corporation shall maintain a deposit of \$25,000 with the Insurance Commissioner in accordance with **Section 5504, Title 18, Delaware Code**.

Section 4. Benefit Fund

The corporation shall deposit in a bank or trust company approved by the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Delaware a sum of not less than Fifty Percent (50%) of all dues collected by the corporation or by any agent thereof on all certificates of membership. This shall constitute a benefit for the sole purposes of payment of claims arising under certificate of membership, for payments to the fund maintained with the Commissioner, and for payment of legal expenses incurred in adjusting and defending claims.

Section 5. Deposits

All other funds not allocated by Section 3 and Section 4 of this Article shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the Corporation in such banks, trust companies, and other depositories as the Board of Trustees may select.

Section 6. Gifts

The Board of Trustees may accept on behalf of the Corporation any contribution, gift, bequest, or devise for any purpose of the Corporation.

ARTICLE VI - Certificates of Membership

Section 1. Certificates of Membership

The Board of Trustees shall provide for the issuance of certificates evidencing membership in the corporation, which certificates shall be in such form as may be determined by the Board. All certificates evidencing membership of any class shall be consecutively numbered. The name and address of each member and date of issuance of the certificate shall be entered on the records of the corporation. If any certificate is lost, mutilated, or destroyed, a new certificate may be issued therefore on such terms and conditions as the Board of Trustees may determine.

Section 2. Issuance of Certificates

When a member fire company or member ladies auxiliary has been approved for membership and has paid any initiation fees and dues that may then be required, a certificate of membership shall be issued in its name and delivered to its President by the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE VII – Books, Records, and Audits

Section 1.

The corporation shall keep correct and complete books and records of account. They shall also keep minutes of the proceedings of its Annual Meeting and of its Board of Trustees Meetings. In addition, a record showing the names and addresses of member organizations shall be maintained.

All books and records of the corporation may be inspected by any member organization, or their attorney for any proper purpose at any reasonable time.

Section 2.

Trustees will at the time of installation of their successor present them with all records, books, forms, etc. of their office.

ARTICLE VIII – Fiscal Year

Section 1.

The fiscal year of the corporation shall be the calendar year.

ARTICLE IX – Dues

Section 1. Annual Dues

The Board of Trustees shall determine from time to time the amount of initiation fee, if any, and annual dues payable to the corporation by member of each class, and shall give appropriate notice to members.

Section 2. Payment of Dues

Dues shall be payable in advance on the first day of January of each year. Dues of a new member shall be prorated from the first day of the month in which such new member is elected to membership.

Section 3. Default and Termination of Membership

When a member of any class is in default in the payment of dues for a period of thirty (30) days from the beginning of the period for which such dues are payable, his membership may thereupon be terminated by the Board of Trustees as provided herein.

ARTICLE X – Corporation

Section 1.

Trustees may set such compensation for trustees and any other officers as is reasonable provided that the initial setting thereof and any subsequent changes must be presented to the membership at the annual meeting or quarterly meeting for approval.

ARTICLE XI – Amendment of the BY-LAWS

Section 1.

These BY-LAWS may be altered, amended, or repealed, and new BY-LAWS may be adopted by a majority of all the Trustees if at least ten (10) days’ notice and no more than sixty (60) days’ notice is given to each Trustee, and if at least forty-five (45) days’ notice and no more than seventy-five (75) days’ notice is given to the President of each County’s County Volunteer Firemen’s Association and

each County’s Ladies Auxiliary Association, of intention to alter, amend, or repeal or to adopt new BY-LAWS at any meeting of the Trustees be it a regular or a special meeting.