

Low Vision Alliance Bylaws

Adopted July 4, 2018, Last Amended July 18, 2026

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Bylaw 1.0: Classes of Membership

1.1: Members-at-Large

Members-at-Large are those individual LVA members who are not members through an LVA Affiliate.

1.2: Affiliate Members

Affiliate Members are those LVA members who are members of chartered LVA Affiliates.

1.3: Life Members

Life Members are those who have tendered dues for an LVA Life Membership in accordance with paragraph 2.2 of these Bylaws. LVA Life Members shall enjoy all rights and privileges granted to LVA "At-Large" or LVA Affiliate members.

1.4: Supporting Organizations

Supporting organizations are entities such as low vision clinics, agencies, service providers, individual

practitioners, etc. serving persons with low vision who have paid such amount as is specified in paragraph 2.3 of these Bylaws.

Bylaw 2.0: Dues

2.1: "At-Large" and LVA Portion of Affiliate Dues

LVA "At-Large" dues and the dues amount to be remitted by any LVA Affiliate for each member shall be fifteen dollars (\$15.00), payable on an annual basis.

2.2: Life Membership

A Life Membership in LVA is available for a one-time payment of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00). Upon being granted Life Membership, the member is no longer required to pay annual dues to LVA. However, this status does not prevent any LVA affiliate from assessing its own annual dues on Life Members to support the affiliate's operations. LVA will remit any applicable affiliate-related dues to ACB in accordance with the ACB Constitution and/or Bylaws. Affiliates are not required to assess or remit LVA dues on behalf of LVA Life Members.

2.3: Supporting Organizations

Supporting Organization status is available to those meeting the qualifications of Bylaw 1.4 above upon the

payment of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) payable on an annual basis. Supporting Organizations shall have only such rights, obligations, privileges, and benefits as shall be granted by the Board as reflected in a written policy document, which shall be kept on file together with LVA's other corporate records.

Bylaw 3.0: Standing Committees' Duties and Responsibilities

3.1: Advocacy and Legislative

The Advocacy and Legislative Committee shall:

- a) Develop the annual legislative agenda and advocacy plan;
- b) Review current legislative matters affecting the rights and/or interests of LVA's members and engage in advocacy outreach on those matters;
- c) Provide information on legislation to the Board of Directors, the LVA membership and Chapter Legislative Liaisons.

3.2: Awards

The Awards Committee shall consist of the following members: Immediate Past President, Membership Committee Representative, and Public Relations Committee Representative. This Committee is responsible

for establishing guidelines, criteria, and processes, and shall select recipients of the following: Bernice Kandarian Service Award and Friend of LVA Award.

3.3: Constitution and Bylaws

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee shall review, evaluate, and propose amendments to the LVA Constitution and/or Bylaws as deemed necessary for the effective governance of this organization. Any proposed amendments shall be promulgated to the membership in an accessible format in accordance with Article 11 of the Constitution.

3.4: Convention

The Convention Committee shall arrange all aspects of LVA's Annual National Convention and Meeting.

3.5: Credentials

The Credentials Committee shall consist of the Treasurer, Secretary, and Membership Chair. The committee shall review affiliate lists for vote certification prior to the Annual Membership Meeting and then announce the total number of votes for each affiliate and the names of each affiliate's official and alternate delegates at the start of the Annual Membership Meeting.

3.6: E-Communications

The E-Communications Committee shall develop, design, implement, and continue maintenance of LVA's website and social media presence. LVA's Webmaster shall serve on the committee. The committee will also identify and create, as necessary, email distribution lists to facilitate LVA's ongoing operations.

3.7: Finance and Budget

The Finance and Budget Committee shall provide financial oversight for the organization. Typical tasks include budgeting and financial planning, financial reporting, and the creation and monitoring of internal controls and accountability policies including, but not limited to:

- a) Developing an annual operating budget;
- b) Approving the budget within the Finance Committee;
- c) Monitoring adherence to the budget;
- d) Setting long-range financial goals along with funding strategies to achieve them;
- e) Developing multi-year operating budgets that integrate strategic plan objectives and initiatives; and
- f) Presenting all financial goals and proposals to the Board of Directors for approval.

3.8: Fundraising

The Fundraising Committee shall develop and propose strategies for generating revenue for this organization.

3.9: Genensky/Foley Award

The Genensky/Foley Award Committee shall procure donations or purchase video magnification devices to assure the continued viability of the program named after our founder Dr. Samuel Genensky (considered to be the father of the CCTV) and Carl Foley (an educator about and supplier of low vision devices including CCTVs and a supporter of LVA).

3.10: Membership

The Membership Committee shall develop and recommend strategies for enhancing LVA's membership. It shall oversee the distribution of membership renewal notices to all At-Large Members, lapsed Affiliate Members (when able to be determined from comparison of yearly affiliate rosters), and Supporting Organizations no later than November 1st of each year.

3.11: Nominating

A Nominating Committee shall be formed prior to the Annual Membership Meeting, consisting of one person from each Affiliate, two At-Large LVA members selected by the LVA Board, and the Immediate Past President who shall serve as Committee Chair. No less than forty-five (45) days prior to the LVA Annual Membership Meeting, the Committee shall present a slate of candidates to the

membership for consideration. Candidates must personally consent to their nomination. Members who are candidates for an Officer or Director position shall not serve on the Nominating Committee. However, if a member of the Committee is nominated for a position during a Nominating Committee meeting, the individual shall be allowed to remain in the meeting. The member shall recuse themselves from any discussions, debates, or votes for a position in which they are a nominee, and such recusal shall be expressly stated in the Nominating Committee's report.

3.12: Publications

The Publications Committee shall be responsible for overseeing the publication of LVA's newsletter and such other publications as this organization may decide to produce.

3.13: Public Relations

The Public Relations Committee shall develop and initiate strategies for effectively marketing LVA's activities and programs.

3.14: Resolutions

The Resolutions Committee shall prepare, or assist in the preparation of, resolutions to be brought before the Annual Membership Meeting for consideration. It shall review all

proposed resolutions to assure conformity with LVA's purposes and priorities. The Committee shall also, to the extent practicable, encourage and assist LVA Affiliates in any necessary, appropriate, or desirable follow-up actions on resolutions between Annual Membership Meetings.

3.15: Scheigert Scholarship

The Scheigert scholarship committee shall assist in the administration of the Fred Scheigert scholarship program by:

- (1) developing and promulgating application forms reflecting the specific requirements, qualifications, and deadlines for each scholarship category as outlined in the Fred Scheigert scholarship program guidelines;
- (2) developing, in consultation with the LVA treasurer, and, where necessary or desirable, the scholarship trust, appropriate policies governing the disbursement of funds to winners in each scholarship category.
- (3) The committee shall seek candidates, review qualifications and select recipients to receive scholarships in three (3) categories: entering freshman, undergraduate, and graduate degrees with the goal of awarding four (4) scholarships annually. The number of scholarships to be offered and the amount of each scholarship will be determined by available funding.

Bylaw 4.0: Amendments

4.1: Amendments

Any proposed amendments to these Bylaws shall be promulgated to the membership in a format accessible to all members at least forty-five (45) days prior to the established date of the meeting at which such amendments are to be considered. Any amendments to these Bylaws shall be adopted upon a majority affirmative vote of those members present and voting at the meeting at which their consideration occurs.

4.2: Effective Date

Any amendments to these Bylaws shall become effective immediately after the conclusion of the meeting at which they are adopted unless another time is specified in the motion to adopt or where the language of the amendment itself specifies another effective date or, by its terms, specifies that it becomes effective upon the occurrence of a future event or circumstance.

Proviso

The adoption of these Bylaws supersedes and replaces all other Bylaws previously adopted by this Organization. The Secretary, or person or persons responsible for preparing this document for presentation, publication, or distribution,

are hereby authorized to make such technical, editorial, and/or conforming changes as may be necessary without in any way changing the intent of the original wording contained herein.

Effective Date

These Bylaws shall be effective as of the date they are adopted by the membership.

(Adopted July 4, 2018, Last Amended July 18, 2026)

#END#