NEW YORK STATE BY-LAWS
OF THE
ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS
IN AMERICA

REVISED JULY 2009
ARTICLE I

The delegates and representatives of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America in convention assembled, hereby declare and affirm our obedience to the Preamble and Constitution of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America.

ARTICLE II

STATE OFFICERS

Section 1 The State Officers shall be as follows:
Elective:
- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Eight (8) District Directors
  who shall hold office for a period of two years or until their successors are elected and qualified; provided, however, that no State Officer other than the Secretary shall be eligible to succeed himself.
- Immediate Past State President
Appointive, by the President, to serve at his pleasure:
- Chaplain
- Organizer
- Historian
- Editor of the State Newsletter
- Public Relations Chairman
- Legal Counsel
- Chairman of Archives
- Chairmen of the following Committees:
  - Catholic Action
  - Freedom for All Ireland
  - Scholarship
  - Buy Irish
  - Commodore John Barry
  - Immigration
  - Sports
  - Charities and Missions
  - Pro Life
  - Political Education (P.E.C.)
  - Internet Communications
  - Finance and Audit
  - Veterans Affairs
- Members of the Audit Committee
The Executive Board shall be defined as the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.
No member shall be eligible for elective or appointive office on the State Board unless he has taken the Major Degrees of the Order at least one year prior to his election or appointment.

STATE BOARD

Section 2

The State Board shall consist of the State Officers, elective and appointive, the Immediate Past State President, National Officers who are bonafide members of the State, Past State Presidents, County Presidents, and Division Presidents where no County Board exists.

MEETINGS OF THE STATE BOARD

Section 3

The State Board shall meet twice a year.
The State President, may, at his discretion, convene additional meetings.

DUTIES OF THE STATE PRESIDENT

Section 4

The duties of the State President shall be as defined in the National Constitution.

DUTIES OF THE STATE VICE-PRESIDENT

Section 5

The duties of the State Vice-President shall be as defined in the National Constitution.

DUTIES OF THE STATE SECRETARY

Section 6

In addition to the duties defined in the National Constitution, the State Secretary shall have printed a sufficient number of copies of the State By-
Laws, as amended by the State Convention, for use by the State Officers, County and Division Presidents.

Copies of the State By-Laws, for use of the members of the State will be, upon a member’s request, given to such member by the Division President, and all expenses will be borne by said jurisdiction.

**DUTIES OF THE STATE TREASURER**

**Section 7**
The duties of the State Treasurer shall be as defined in the National Constitution.

**DUTIES OF THE STATE CHAPLAIN**

**Section 8**
The State Chaplain shall be a priest of the Roman Catholic Church, in good standing, appointed by the State President, subject to the approval of the appointee’s Ordinary. The duties of the State Chaplain shall be as defined in the National Constitution.

**STATE DIRECTORS**

**Section 9**
The various Directors elected by the State Convention must be a member of a Division in the respective district for which he was elected.

The different sections of the State to be served by the Directors are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District #1 Counties of:</th>
<th>Albany</th>
<th>Clinton</th>
<th>Columbia</th>
<th>Essex</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fulton</td>
<td>Franklin</td>
<td>Hamilton</td>
<td>Herkimer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
<td>Rensselaer</td>
<td>Saratoga</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Schenectady</td>
<td>Warren</td>
<td>Washington</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District #2 Counties of:</th>
<th>Chautauga</th>
<th>Cattaraugus</th>
<th>Allegheny</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Erie</td>
<td>Genesee</td>
<td>Livingston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td>Niagara</td>
<td>Ontario</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Orleans</td>
<td>Seneca</td>
<td>Wayne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District #3 Counties of:</th>
<th>Cayuga</th>
<th>Jefferson</th>
<th>Lewis</th>
<th>Madison</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Each Director shall visit all the County Boards in the district assigned to him at least once a year. He shall be responsible for the following:

- Coordinating the publicity and public relations efforts of the counties and divisions within his jurisdiction.
- Coordinate and initiate organizing activities with State, County, and Division Organizers.
- Coordinate and arbitrate the scheduling of fund raising and social events among the County and Division organizations within his jurisdiction.
- Coordinate, educate and enforce the protocols and rituals of the Order within his jurisdiction.
- Serve as the surrogate for the State President and members of the Executive Committee of the State Board for all such events as the President may request of him, and to follow-up on the compliance of the counties and divisions within his jurisdiction to filing the appropriate reports and payment of outstanding per capita dues and fines.

Every Director shall submit to the State President once every six months a written report of the above-specified activities of the County Boards and Divisions in the District assigned by him. Unless expressly excused by the State President, upon the failure of any director to file a written report with the State President, State President may suspend that officer, or act in any manner consistent with Article XVIII, Section 10 of A.O.H. National Constitution.
Furthermore, a State Director who attends a meeting of the State Board or a State Convention and who fails to submit a written report shall be deemed absent from that meeting and not entitled to reimbursement of costs or expenses for that meeting.

OFFICERS EXPENSES

Section 10

All State Officers shall be reimbursed for actual and proper expenditures made by them on behalf of the Order, provided a bill or statement containing the date, amount and purpose of each and every expenditure is first filed with the State Secretary. The payment of such expenditures shall be subject to review at the State Convention following payment.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Section 11

All reports of Elected and Appointed Officers of the State Board shall be submitted as written reports at all State Board Meetings and the State Convention with a sufficient number of copies as determined by the State Secretary.

STATE SCHOLARSHIP

Section 12

There shall be awarded annually four (4) scholarship awards in the amount of $500.00 each. The winners shall be determined as a result of the examination supervised by the New York State Scholarship Chairman combined with the candidates’ performance on the Scholastic Aptitude Test. Once a winner is determined, that individual shall receive a yearly reward of $500 for each of four years upon verification of enrollment at a College or University.

LAWSUITS

Section 13

No jurisdiction of the Order shall seek legal redress against any member, person or entity, whether as a plaintiff or intervenor, in any court of law or equity, or before any quasi-judicial body or administrative agency, without written notice to, and written approval by the State President, such approval not to be unreasonably withheld. If approved, the State President shall have the power to attach conditions to such approval which he believes to be in the best interests of the Order. Whenever any jurisdiction of the Order is named as a defendant in any court of law or equity, or before any quasi-judicial body or administrative agency, the named jurisdiction shall immediately notify the State President, and send a copy
of any papers served. Every jurisdiction involved in any legal proceeding shall provide all information requested by the State President.

**ARTICLE III**

**CONVENTIONS**

Section 1 The Biennial State Convention shall convene between July 7th and August 15th of every odd numbered year at a place selected by the previous State Convention. The State Secretary shall prepare the Official Call for such State Convention and forward copies thereof to all members of the State Board, County and Divisions Presidents not less than thirty (30) or more than ninety (90) days prior to the State Convention. In the event that a change in the location of the State Convention becomes necessary, the Executive Board is empowered to select the new site.

**QUORUM**

Section 2 All sessions of the Convention shall be started at the time designated by the presiding officer, provided there is a quorum present. A quorum shall consist of one-third (1/3) of the delegates duly elected and entitled to a seat at the Convention.

**SPECIAL CONVENTIONS**

Section 3 A Special State Convention may be called by the State President with the consent of a majority of the State Officers, whenever they deem the same necessary. The State Secretary shall notify the State Board, County and Division Presidents of the time and place of such Special Convention, stating the object of the Call.

**REPRESENTATION AT STATE CONVENTIONS**

Section 4 The State Convention shall be composed of the following delegates:
- State President
- State Vice-President
- State Secretary
- State Treasurer
- State Chaplain
- Immediate Past State President
- State Directors
- State Organizer
- State Historian
- State Editor
- Public Relations Chairman
- Legal Counsel
- Chairman of Archives
- State Committee Chairmen for:
  - Charities and Missions
  - Catholic Action
  - Buy Irish
  - Freedom for All Ireland
  - Scholarship
  - Commodore John Barry
  - Immigration
  - Sports
  - Pro Life
  - Political Education (P.E.C.)
  - Internet Communications
  - Finance and Audit
  - Veterans Affairs

-Members of Audit Committee
  - Elected County Officers as specified in the AOH National Constitution; and Appointed County Officers as specified in the AOH National Constitution
  - National Officers who are bonafide members of the State
  - Past State Presidents who are in good standing without expense to the State
  - Division Presidents and one delegate for each fifty (50) members or major fraction thereof in excess of the first Fifty Members, based on membership reported December 31 preceding, except that, in Counties where but one Division exists, the Division President shall act as County Delegate.
  - In Counties where but one Division exists, if said Division has 200 or more members in good standing, in addition to the normal amount of delegates allowed to the Division, such County shall also be permitted delegates equal to the amount they would be entitled to as though a County Board existed

In the event of the inability of the above-named to attend the Convention, they may be represented by alternates, elected by their respective Board or Division.
ELECTION OF STATE DELEGATES

Section 5
Division Delegates and Alternates shall be nominated at the February meeting and elected at the March meeting in the year in which a Convention is held.
No member may be eligible as a delegate until he has been twelve (12) months a member of the Division, unless approved by the County President, except in the case of a Division less then twelve (12) months in existence.

ELECTION OF STATE OFFICERS

Section 6
The election of State Officers and Directors shall be held on the closing day of each State Convention, the same to be conducted under the Australian system of balloting, the names of all opposed candidates to be printed on ballots of uniform size and color; after the names of the office for which each is a candidate, a blank square left at the right of the same, where delegates may indicate by a cross the candidates for whom they desire to vote.
Before proceeding to ballot, each candidate for State Office may name one teller.
The State President shall name one judge and one clerk.
The number so selected shall constitute the election board for canvassing the vote.
Balloting shall be as directed by the State President.
A ballot box shall be provided in which each delegate shall deposit his ballot when marked. Provision for ballots and ballot box shall be made by the State Secretary.

LOCALITIES SEEKING THE CONVENTION

Section 7
Localities seeking to host the next Convention shall submit a written application to the State President no later than March 1st prior to the Convention.
The Executive Board shall investigate such sites with such other persons as they deem appropriate and submit a report on any site submitted to the State Convention for.
The expenses incurred by the said Convention Site Committee shall be borne by the State Board.

SELECTION OF CONVENTION SITE

Section 8
Starting in 1999, the New York State Board will host the State Convention. When possible, the Executive Board should submit at least
two (2) sites to be voted on by the delegates. Any site submitted for a vote shall be in compliance with any terms mandated by the Executive Board.

The selection of the site of the next New York State Convention shall be held on the closing day of each State Convention at a time designated by the men’s State President, by a combined vote of both men’s delegates and LAOH delegates with the following provisions:

1. The same provisions for delegate representation (men and ladies) be maintained as used in the 1981 State Convention.
2. A separate ballot for selecting the Convention site shall be used by both men and ladies showing no distinction other than color.
3. The ladies vote separately during the Convention, casting their ballots in a ballot box in the meeting room of the LAOH, during its session, and the men shall cast their ballots in a separate ballot box in the meeting room of the men’s session.
4. The ballots cast by the ladies shall be combined with the ballots cast by the men.
5. The State President of the LAOH and the State President of the AOH shall each appoint two tellers to be present when the combined ballots are counted.

EXEMPLIFICATION OF MAJOR DEGREE

Section 9
The Major Degree of the Order shall be exemplified during the normal business session at each Biennial Convention. It shall be the responsibility of the Convention Committee to arrange for the services of a New York State Degree Team. The time of the Degree exemplification shall be agreed upon by the Degree Team and the State President who sets the agenda for the Convention.

ARTICLE IV

CONVENTION COMMITTEES AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1
In accordance with the National Constitution, the State President shall appoint all committees at the opening of each biennial session.

CREDENTIALS

Section 2
The Committee on Credentials, consisting of County Financial Secretaries, or their alternates, shall examine the credentials of delegates and alternates to the Convention from the several Counties and report thereon to the State Convention as to the correctness of the same.
FINANCE AND AUDIT

Section 3 There shall be a Standing Committee on Finance and Audit. The Committee shall be appointed by the State President. No member of this committee may be a State Officer. The Committee shall consist of a Chairman and a minimum of one (1) and a maximum of three (3) Deputies. All Committee members shall be considered members of the State Board. Said committee will audit the books of the State Secretary and the State Treasurer at all State Board Meetings and the State Convention and report the results to the State Board Meeting or Convention Delegates.

APPEALS AND GREIVANCES

Section 4 The Committee on Appeals and Grievances shall examine all appeals and grievances that may be referred to the committee in accordance with the Rules of Order, and shall recommend thereon such action as they might deem proper to the State Convention.

PROGRESS OF THE ORDER

Section 5 The Committee on the State of the Order shall present a report of the condition and progress of the Order in the State and recommend such measures as they may deem proper to the State Convention.

REPRESENTATION

Section 6 No division is entitled to representation in the Convention unless all dues, assessments, and fines due the National, State, and County shall have been paid fifteen (15) days before the date set for the calling of the same.

Section 7 The Secretary must present a complete list of the Counties and Divisions which have not complied with Section 6 of this Article at least ten (10) days before the Convention, to the State President, State Vice-President and State Treasurer.
If, for any good and excusable reason, the Secretary cannot make such a report, the above-named Officers, namely the State President, State Vice-President and State Treasurer shall prepare such a list at least five (5) days before the date set for the Convention.

Section 8 Any of the foregoing named committees may, after organizing, refer the matters before them to a sub-committee before coming to the Convention for final action.

ARTICLE V
RULES OF ORDER

Section 1  The business of the Biennial Convention shall be taken up in the following order:

1 – Preliminary Proceedings
2 – Calling the Convention to Order
3 – Inspecting membership cards and appointing doorkeeper for the Convention.
4 – Prayer by the Chaplain
5 – Reading of the Call for the Convention
6 – Appointment of the Committee on Credentials, to consist of the County Financial Secretaries or their Alternates.
7 – Report of the Committee on Credentials.
8 – Appointment of Committees on Finance, By-Laws, Resolutions, Appeals and Grievances and such other Committees as may be necessary.
9 – Reports of the Officers
10 - Reports of Committees
11 – Nominations of Officers
12 - New Business
13 – Election of Officers
14 – Selection of site of next State Convention
15 – Adjournment
16 - Installation of Officers

Section 2  All meetings shall be governed by Robert’s Rules of Order in all matters not satisfactorily provided herein.

PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Section 3  All petitions, resolutions and communications from the County Boards, or from delegates, shall be presented to the State Secretary, who shall, without delay, read their titles or such portions as may be necessary. They shall then be referred to the appropriate committee without debate, except as provided elsewhere.

Section 4  Should the Convention at any time adjourn before conducting the foregoing order of business, it shall be commenced at the adjourned session, except that the reading and approval of the Minutes shall be the first order of business.

Section 5  During the nomination of officers, no motion shall be entertained except to take a recess.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
Section 6  All State Board Meetings and the Business Sessions of the State
Convention shall be electronically recorded. All accepted reports shall be
included in the minutes.

ARTICLE VI

EXPENSES OF OFFICERS TO THE CONVENTION

Section 1  The actual traveling and hotel expenses of the State Officers in going to,
attending, and returning home from the National and State Conventions
and State Board Meetings shall be paid out of the State Treasury, provided
an itemized statement is filed with the State Treasurer on the first day of
the Convention, and thereafter submitted to the Convention in session on
it’s second day, and duly audited.
Expenses to meetings of the State Board may be allowed after proper
filing of statements on the day of such meeting and paid out of the State
Treasury. However, the same shall remain subject to re-audit at the next
State Convention.

ARTICLE VII

COUNTY OFFICERS

Section 1  The County Officers shall be:
Elective:
- President
- Vice-President
- Recording Secretary
- Financial Secretary
- Treasurer
- Chairman of the Standing Committee
- Marshal
- Sentinel
Appointive:
- Chaplain, subject to the approval of
  his Ordinary.
- Organizer
- Historian
- Chairman of:
  - Charities and Missions
  - Catholic Action
  - Freedom for all Ireland
  - Pro Life
  - Political Education (P.E.C.)
  - Commodore John Berry
and any other officers deemed necessary appointed by the President with the consent of the County Board. All of the foregoing appointed members serve at the pleasure of the President.

The Immediate Past County President is also a County Officer. No member shall be eligible for election to County Office unless he has received all the Degrees of the Order.

**COUNTY BOARD**

**Section 2** The County Board shall be composed of the following delegates:
- County Officers, elective and appointive.
- National and State Officers who are bonafide members of the County.
- Past County Presidents.
- President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Chairman of the Standing Committee, Marshal and Sentinel of each Division in the County.
- Each division shall be entitled to at least one delegate. One additional delegate shall be obtained for each twenty-five members or major fraction thereof in excess of fifty members.
- Membership is to be counted on a paid-up per capita basis, based on the annual report of December 31st preceding.

**DUTIES OF THE COUNTY PRESIDENT**

**Section 3** In addition to the duties defined in the National Constitution, the County President shall examine the books of each Division in his jurisdiction at the time of his annual visit, and at other times he deems it advisable, reporting to the County Board.
All County Presidents are required at least once a year to file a report with the State Board stating the dates, attendance and progress of all regular County Board Meetings, which meetings must be held every three (3) months.
It shall be the duty of the State President to suspend any County President who neglects to hold quarterly meetings within six (6) consecutive months after it has been proven such President is negligent in his duties for the betterment of the Order.
Section 4  That he may comply with the preceding section, the County President is hereby authorized to demand that the books, vouchers, receipts and bank books of the Division Officers be produced for inspection at County Board Meetings and is empowered to request of the depository of the Division a transcript of its’ account, when in his judgment the same may be necessary.

Section 5  The County President shall forward to the State Secretary fifteen (15) days before the State Convention, all credentials of delegates from his County.

COUNTY VICE-PRESIDENT

Section 6  The duties of the County Vice-President shall be as defined in the National Constitution.

COUNTY RECORDING SECRETARY

Section 7  The duties of the County Recording Secretary shall be as defined in the National Constitution.

COUNTY FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Section 8  The duties of the County Financial Secretary shall be as defined in the National Constitution.

COUNTY TREASURER

Section 9  The duties of the County Treasurer shall be as defined in the National Constitution.

ARTICLE VIII

COUNTY CONVENTIONS

Section 1  County Convention shall be composed of the following delegates:
- County Officers, elective and appointive
- National and State Officers who are bonafide members of the County
- the eight Officers of each Division in the County, viz. President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary and Treasurer, Chairman of the Standing Committee, Marshall, Sentinel.
- Each Division shall be entitled to at least one delegate. One additional delegate shall be obtained for each twenty-five (25) members or major fraction thereof in excess of fifty members.
- Membership is to be counted on a paid-up per capita basis, based on the annual report of December 31st preceding.

The County Officers shall be elected at the County Convention to be held not less than thirty (30) nor more than sixty (60) days prior to the convening of the State Convention.

**ELECTION OF DELEGATES**

**Section 2**
Delegates to the County Convention (other than the Officers of Division) shall be nominated at a regular meeting of each Division. Notice of meeting shall be sent to all members of the Division, and shall specify that such nominations are to be made. Said delegates shall be elected at the following regular meeting of each Division. Notice of meeting shall be sent to all members of the Division, shall specify that such election will be held and contain a list of nominees for delegates.

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD**

**Section 3**
The County President may call a special meeting of the County Board. Upon a written request of a majority of the County Officers, he shall summon a special meeting to be held within ten (10) days after the request has been made. At least five (5) days notice shall be given to the members of the time and place of a special meeting.

**COUNTY ASSESSMENTS**

**Section 4**
The County Convention, and the County Board while the County Convention is not in session, shall have the power to levy and collect from each Division within the County on a uniform per capita basis, excepting duly ordained priests, members of religious congregations, and those cited under the National Constitution, such sums as may be necessary to enable the County Board to carry on its’ work for the good of the Order within the County and meet its’ lawful obligations.

**PAYMENT OF COUNTY BOARD ASSESSMENTS**

**Section 5**
Upon receipt of the notice of such an assessment by a Division, an order shall be immediately drawn upon the treasury of the same, and it shall be forwarded at once to the County Financial Secretary.

**POWERS OF THE COUNTY BOARD**
Section 6  All County Boards shall have the power to make rules and regulations for their own local government, not conflicting with the National Constitution or State By-laws, the same to be reviewed by the State President and forwarded to the National President for final approval.

COUNTY OFFICERS REPORTS

Section 7  Reports of County Officers must be presented, read and accepted by the County Convention.

ARTICLE IX

DIVISION OFFICERS

Section 1  The Officers of the Division shall be:
Elective:
- President
- Vice-President
- Recording Secretary
- Financial Secretary
- Treasurer
- Chairman of the Grievance Committee
- Marshall
- Sentinel

Tenure of office shall be one year or until a successor has been duly elected and qualified.

Appointive by the President:
- Chaplain, with the approval of his Ordinary
- Historian
- Organizer
- Chairman of:
  - Charities and Missions
  - Catholic Action
  - Freedom for All Ireland
  - Pro Life
  - Political Education (P.E.C.)
  - Scholarship
  - Buy Irish
  - Commodore John Berry
  - Immigration
  - Sports
  - Veterans Affairs
  - Internet Communications

The Immediate Past Division President is also a Division Officer.
Officers are to be nominated in October, elected in November, and installed in December or January. Each member is to be notified of such nomination and election, at least five (5) days before such nomination and election.

All Divisions shall and must meet within the County in which they are organized and constituted.

No member shall be eligible for election to the Office of Division President or Vice President unless he has received the Major Degrees of the Order. This shall not apply during the first year of a new Division.

**PRESIDENT**

**Section 2**
The duties of the President shall be defined in the National Constitution.

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

**Section 3**
The duties of the Vice-President shall be as defined in the National Constitution.

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

**Section 4**
The duties of the Recording Secretary shall be as defined in the National Constitution.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

**Section 5**
The duties of the Financial Secretary shall be as defined in the National Constitution.

**TREASURER**

**Section 6**
The duties of the Treasurer shall be as defined in the National Constitution.

**APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES**

**Section 7**
The Division committees shall be appointed by the President.

**STATE ASSESSMENTS**

**Section 8**
Each Division of the State shall pay a per capita tax of four dollars ($4.00) per annum to the State Secretary as provided in the National Constitution except that this shall not apply to duly ordained priests, members of
religious congregations and members cited under the National Constitution.

Section 9  Where an increase in dues or initiation fees is contemplated, each member of the Division shall be notified in writing then (10) days in advance of such contemplated action.

ARTICLE X

BENEFITS

Section 1  Any Subordinate jurisdiction may establish or maintain a program of sick and/or death benefits. Eligibility or loss of benefits shall be governed by the By-Laws of such subordinate jurisdiction, without incurring any liability on the part of any superior jurisdiction.

ARTICLE XI

HOLIDAYS OF THE ORDER

Section 1  St. Patrick’s Day (March 17th), Independence Day (July 4th), Our Lady of Knock (August), and Commodore John Barry Day (September 13th), shall be celebrated as required by the National Constitution.

All jurisdictions within the State are to hold appropriate ceremonies on these days each year.

REJECTIONS

Section 2  An application rejected in any division for any reasons prescribed by the National Constitution shall not be proposed for a term of six (6) months.

BY-LAWS

Section 3  Each Division shall have the power to make such By-Laws for the government thereof as do not conflict with the National Constitution, State or County By-Laws, the same to be subject to the approval of the County President, State President and National President.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Section 4  Divisions must procure copies of the National Constitution from the National Secretary, and copies of the State By-Laws from the State Secretary, through their respective Presidents. It shall be compulsory for every member to supply himself with a copy of the National Constitution and State By-Laws now in force.
TRANSFERs

Section 5  Transfer cards shall be granted as provided for by the National Constitution.

QUORUM

Section 6  All State and County Conventions, a quorum shall consist of one-third (1/3) of the delegates; at State Board Meetings, a majority; Divisions shall designate the number constituting a quorum for the transaction of business.

VACANCIES

Section 7  The State Board is hereby authorized to fill any vacancy that occurs in the State until the next State Convention.

STATE DUES

Section 8  The State convention and the State Board, while the State Convention is not in session, is empowered to levy and collect from each member of the Order such annual dues as may be necessary to carry on the work of the Order and meet lawful obligations of the State Board not to exceed Four Dollars ($4.00) each year. The same is to be forwarded, along with a Financial and Membership Report to the State Secretary, who will forward the assessment to the State Treasurer to be used to defray the necessary expenses of the State. All membership reports and payments for the previous calendar year will be filed with the State Secretary, postmarked no later than March 31st of the next calendar year. Divisions not submitting their per capita taxes by March 31st will be assessed a late fee of 50 cents per member. Jurisdictions paying in full before January 31st of that year will receive a 50 cent per member rebate. Both the penalty and the rebate will be available on dues paying members only; the rebate may be deducted from a per-capita check, as long as the form and check are postmarked by January 31st.

Since all general funds of the State Board are derived from per capita taxes, none of these monies shall be expended for journal advertisements, souvenir journals, advertisements, dance or raffle tickets, and such like, in support of the Divisions within the State. Such recognition may be made to National Board functions of the Order and the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians.

DEFUNCT DIVISIONS
Section 9  Whenever any Division ceases to affiliate with the County Board, or is suspended, its property, books, records and funds shall vest in the County President, who shall take possession thereof and turn the same over to the County Board.

In the event that there is only one Division in the County, the property of the defunct Division shall vest in the State President, who shall take possession thereof and turn the same over to the State Board.

ARTICLE XII

Section 1  The President of each Division may, at the time of the appointing the Sick, Employment, Judiciary and Finance Committees, appoint a Committee of three (3) members, who shall be known as the Committee on Junior Divisions, whose duty it shall be to formulate plans and encourage the organization of Junior Divisions within the jurisdiction of the respective Divisions.

ARTICLE XIII

Section 1  Divisions of the LAOH may be organized throughout the various counties of this State under the provisions defined in the National Constitution for their government.

ARTICLE XIV

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Section 1  All committees, through their Chairmen, shall submit in writing a report of all transactions. All reports from said committees are to be considered as properly before the meeting when read, and open to debate without a motion to accept.

No committee shall be discharged unless all debts contracted for by said Committee have been paid in full.

ARTICLE XV

Section 1  No part of these By-laws shall be suspended, altered or amended except at the State Convention, and then only by a Two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members present.
Any proposed amendments to these By-Laws shall be submitted to the Office of the State Secretary no later than thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the State Convention.
Section 2  The expenses incurred by the State Board in the trial of all appeals from the decisions of subordinate jurisdictions shall be borne by the jurisdiction or person against whom the decision is rendered.

Section 3  These By-Laws amended at the 94th Biennial New York State Convention which met at Albany, New York, on July 11, 12, 13 and 14, 2007, shall take effect immediately upon approval of the National President.

ARTICLE XVI

Section 1  To memorialize the contributions to Hibernianism in New York State by Past Presidents John M. Burns and James F. Hayes, The New York State Board, Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, shall award biannually, an appropriate award to a resident of the State of New York, living at the time of the voting. There will be no limits as to religion or membership in the Ancient Order of Hibernians. Nominee must be someone that espouses the causes and ideals of the Order. This award is to be named the Burns-Hayes Award.

Section 2  The award is to be presented in the year between the State Conventions.

Section 3  The State Vice President shall serve as the Chairman of the nominating and award committees. Other members of the nominating committee shall be all members of the AOH State Board, both elected and appointed, not to include Deputies, and all AOH County presidents. The same officers shall constitute the election board for the award, along with all Division Presidents and Deputy State Board members. In cases were the County President is also a Division President, the Division Vice President shall be the member from that Division.

Section 4  The chairman of the Burns-Hayes award shall, in the first week of February, of the year of the award, send to all members of the New York State Board, both elected and appointed, not to include Deputies, and all County Presidents, in the State, a nomination form that may be used, if they have a nominee. This form is to be returned to him postmarked no later than March 31st of that year. The chairman shall outline the requirements, indicated in section one of this article, and request that the nominators send a biographical sketch of their nominee, not to exceed 250 words. He will also ascertain that the nominee, if elected, would be willing to accept the award at the time and place designated by the New York State Board.

Section 5  A ballot will be mailed to all eligible for voting, listing all nominees by alphabetical order, and asking each to vote for three nominees, in order of preference. The first choice shall be worth six (6) points, second choice
three (3) points, and third choice two (2) points. The nominee with the highest number of points will be declared the recipient of the award. If the recipient declines the award at the time and place designated by the New York State Board, they may be declared ineligible, and the award will be given to the nominee with the next highest point total. No ballot will be mailed to any Division whose Per Capita Taxes are not paid up to date. Any ballot containing less than three (3) votes will be declared null and void. In the event that there are less than three (3) nominees, you must vote for two (2), or the ballot will be declared null and void.

Section 6

The Chairman shall complete the election on or before July 10th, and he and the State President shall announce the name of the recipient of the Burns-Hayes Award at a time that they consider most appropriate for the good of the Order.

Section 7

The Chairman shall publicize the selection and granting of this award in all forms of the media, including the Empire State Hibernian and the National Hibernian Digest

Section 8

The New York State Board shall pay all travel and lodging expenses of the awardees.

Charles "Chip" McLean
New York State President

Seamus Boyle
National President