

THE LIEDERKRANZ HOBBY CHOR BY-LAWS

Article 1

Name and Object

Section I. The name of the organization shall be the “Lancaster Liederkrantz Hobby Chor” which is a cultural group of the Lancaster Liederkrantz. It shall be referred to as the “Hobby Chor” in the remainder of this document.

Section II. The object of the organization is to meet fraternally, to sing and to preserve German and other songs and music.

Section III. The Lancaster Liederkrantz Hobby Chor was founded in November 1978.

Article 2

Membership

Section I. Members must be male members of the Liederkrantz.

Section II. Candidates for membership shall achieve membership status at the end of four consecutive months, during which time they have attended at least half, but no less than six, of all practice sessions.

Section III. A request to award Honorary Membership status to a person must be proposed in writing by a member of the Hobby Chor. This written proposal must be read at two business meetings; at the second of these meetings, a vote shall be taken. It shall be necessary for a two-thirds majority of the membership present at that second meeting to confer Honorary Member status.

Section IV. Honorary Members may be granted such privileges as are determined by a majority of the Executive Board.

Article 3

Duties and Privileges of Membership

Section I. It is expected that all members shall attend all scheduled rehearsals and performances, and adhere to the true spirit and intent of the organization.

Section II. In each operating year, members who have attended 50% of rehearsals and 50% of performances during the period from June through March of that year shall be designated as “active members”. Active status is required of those who wish to hold elective office in the Hobby Chor.

Section III. The Executive Board may review attendance records and make recommendations for active membership.

Article 4
Officers and Committees

Section I. The elected officers of the Liederkrantz Hobby Chor (collectively, the Executive Board) shall be:

- A. President
- B. Vice President
- C. Music Director
- D. Secretary
- E. Treasurer
- F. Librarian

Section II. The committees of the Hobby Chor are:

- A. Music Committee - The music committee shall be composed of two members of the bass section and two members of the tenor section elected by their respective sections, and the Music Director. The chairman of the music committee shall be appointed by the president from these elected members. The Music Committee shall be a permanent committee.
- B. Any committees deemed necessary by the President, who shall appoint the members of the respective committees.

Article 5
Duties of Officials and Committeemen

Section I. **Elected Officers' Duties**

- A. President - The President shall preside at all meetings of the Hobby Chor, preserve order and see that the By-laws are enforced. He shall appoint members of committees to carry out all functions of the organization. His primary function is to keep all committees and offices functioning in harmony. He may call special or regular meetings. He shall be responsible for the logistics of all trips, musical events, and other activities of the Hobby Chor. He shall also be responsible for directing communications to others outside of the Hobby Chor. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees, but may vote only to break a tie. In the event of a vacancy in any other office or committee, the President shall appoint a replacement from the membership for the remainder of the term. The President shall call a regular session of the Executive Board at least once per quarter, to meet and act upon Hobby Chor business. One month's notice shall be given prior to each regular session; however, the President may call a special meeting at any time.
- B. Vice President - The Vice President shall assume the role of the President when he is unavailable.

- C. Music Director - The Music Director shall train the chorus and shall lead the group at all performances. The President shall, after consultation with the Music Director, appoint an Adjunct Music Director. He may invite guest performers when the occasion arises. For each performance, the Music Committee shall compose a list of songs which may be performed, and the Music Director shall select songs from that list as he sees fit. However, if the situation during a performance lends itself to utilization of a different song not on the list, the Music Director may substitute or add another song, provided that it has been successfully practiced by the Chor within the preceding three months.
- D. Secretary - The Secretary shall record the minutes, take attendance, and be responsible for sending correspondence.
- E. Treasurer - The Treasurer shall account for all funds on a quarterly basis by a report to the membership and follow instructions of the officers on all official matters. The signatures of both the President and Treasurer are required when checks of over \$1,000. are written unless previously authorized by the President.
- F. Librarian - The Librarian is responsible for maintaining the music and binders, making copies of the music and distributing them to the members. The President shall, after consultation with the Librarian, appoint an Assistant Librarian.

Section II. **Duties of Appointees and Committees**

- A. Adjunct Music Director - The Adjunct Music Director shall be appointed by the President. The Adjunct Music Director will assist the Music Director and in the absence of the Music Director shall conduct practices and lead the chorus during performances.
- B. Assistant Librarian - The Assistant Librarian shall assume the duties of the Librarian when the Librarian is absent.
- C. Music Committee - The Music Director shall attend Music Committee meetings. The Music Committee, in consultation with the Music Director, shall select new songs to be rehearsed and shall select the lists of works that are to be available to be sung at each particular performance. Any member of this committee may present music to be considered for use by the Chor. In the event of a dispute between the Music Committee and the Music Director, the President shall act as arbiter and shall render a final decision in the matter.

Article 6

Quorum, Nomination, Elections, Installation of Officers, and Terms of Office

Section I. *Quorum* A quorum shall consist of the lesser of eleven (11) members or two thirds (2/3) of the membership. A quorum is required for all business meetings.

Section II. *Nominations* Nominations for a slate of officers shall be made by the Music Committee. However, additional nominations for any office may be made by any member. Anyone accepting nomination for an elected position shall answer in the affirmative to the question: “Have you read the by-laws and do you agree to follow them?” The recommended slate and any additional nominations by members shall be presented to the membership during the month of April.

Section III. *Elections* Elections by secret ballot will be held in May. Two members who are neither officers nor committee members shall be appointed by the President to collect and tally the ballots.

Section IV. *Installation* Installation of new officers will be held at the first meeting in June.

Section V. *Terms* The terms of all officers and committee members, elected and/or appointed, will be for one year, commencing in June and ending on the last day of the following May.

Article 7

Practices, Performances and Meetings

Section I. Practices will normally be on a weekly basis as scheduled by the President.

Section II. Performances will be scheduled by the President.

Section III. Meetings may be called by a majority of the Executive Board to cover any unscheduled or special event that requires membership involvement.

Article 8

Remedies and Discipline

Section I. In case of alleged misconduct by any member, or for any alleged by-laws violation, the Executive Board will review and decide by majority vote of the Board upon an appropriate remedy, which may range from warnings to expulsion.

Section II. Any disciplinary action may be appealed to the full membership of the Hobby Chor. Appeals will be voted upon by secret ballot and require a simple majority to pass.

Article 9

Director Emeritus

Section I. The title of *Music Director Emeritus* may be awarded to a former or retiring Music Director by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Hobby Chor Membership.

Section II. A Music Director Emeritus may be granted such privileges as are determined by a majority of the Executive Board.

Article 10
Dissolution

In the event that the Liederkranz Hobby Chor membership drops below six (6) members for a period of six months, the Liederkranz Hobby Chor shall be dissolved and all Liederkranz Hobby Chor assets shall be transferred to the Liederkranz.

Article 11
Amendments

Amendment of these by-laws shall be made in the following manner:

It shall be presented in writing by any member at any business meeting, and read to the membership present. A motion to accept the proposed amendment for discussion shall be made and seconded; for the amendment to be retained, a majority of those members present must agree. A copy of the proposed amendment shall be available to all members for at least thirty days.

A meeting shall then be called between October and June by the President for discussion of the proposed amendment. At the next following business meeting, the proposed amendment shall be voted on by secret ballot by those members in attendance. Concurrence of 60% of those voting is required for the amendment to pass.

Article 12
Repeal of Former By-laws

These By-laws shall take effect upon the installation of elected officers during the month of September 2007.

These By-laws were amended March 15, 2019. With that action, all prior By-laws are repealed and no longer in effect.

PETER KNAPP, *Geschäftsführer*

DAVID KRAFT, *Sekretär*