

**Nebraska Hearing Society By-Laws
As Amended on April 16th, 2004
Nebraska Hearing Society General Membership Meeting**

Article 1-Name

- SECTION 1:** The name of this organization shall be “The Nebraska Hearing Society.”
- SECTION 2:** The principal offices of the Society shall normally be in the office of the President.

Article II-Purpose

- SECTION 1:** To promote the welfare, insofar as hearing is concerned, of the hearing impaired.
- SECTION 2:** To promote and advance the program of this society and coordinate them with the programs of similar organizations.
- SECTION 3:** To provide a unified voice for those engaged in the practice of testing human hearing and selecting, fitting, counseling, and dispensing hearing instruments.
- SECTION 4:** To seek and maintain communication and cooperation with other professions involved in hearing health care.
- SECTION 5:** To improve the methods of marketing, selecting, fitting, counseling, dispensing and using hearing instruments.
- SECTION 6:** To establish standards of education and techniques in aural rehabilitation by means of amplification.
- SECTION 7:** To sponsor and enforce among its members a code of ethical practice.
- SECTION 8:** To promote and encourage an effective program of public education as to the benefits of the use of amplification.
- SECTION 9:** To continuously strive to improve the professional standards of Hearing Aid Dispensers and Fitters, in order that the hearing public is best served.

Article III-Membership

- SECTION 1:** **VOTING MEMBERSHIP:** Any person holding a permanent Nebraska license shall be a voting member in the Nebraska Hearing Society, upon payment of dues as specified by the Board
- SECTION 2:** **ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP:** Any person who may have an interest in the Society or in the practice of fitting hearing aids, but is not eligible for active membership and who has been accepted by a majority vote of the Nebraska Hearing Society Board of Directors, is qualified as an associate member. Such members shall have no voting privileges.
- SECTION 3:** **HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:** Members who are recognized by the Board of Directors to be granted the honor of being designated “Honorary Life Members” of the Society. Such members shall pay no dues or assessments.
- SECTION 4:** **ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP:** Candidates for membership shall submit a properly completed application form on blanks provided by the Society, and dues for one year to the Treasurer. The application form shall include a statement that the candidate agrees to abide by these By-Laws, the Code Of Ethics of the Hearing Aid Industry, and Federal Trade Commission Trade Practice rules for the Hearing Aid Industry. The Board of Directors shall carefully investigate each candidate as to the caliber of his personal knowledge and skill in fitting hearing aids or otherwise serving the hearing impaired. Upon Completion of this investigation, the Board of Directors shall carefully vote on each candidate, with two-thirds of the votes cast being required for election to membership.

ARTICLE IV-DUES

Membership dues in the Society shall be on a calendar-year basis and shall be established by the Board of Directors. The Board is empowered to change the dues at any time it becomes necessary, in order to meet the needs of the Society. All dues must be paid one week prior to the annual Seminar.

ARTICLE V-OFFICERS

- SECTION 1:** **The Officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and two Directors, one of which will be the Director-at-Large.**

- SECTION 2:** The term of office will be two years.
- SECTION 3:** Election of the above officers shall be held every two years, which will be the odd numbered year, at the annual spring meeting. The Past President shall automatically become a Director-at Large for a term of two years.
- SECTION 4:** The Board of Directors shall appoint a delegate each year to represent the Nebraska Hearing Society at the International Hearing Society Conventions.
- SECTION 5:** Officers of the Society shall be voting members as previously defined above.
- SECTION 6:** The President shall appoint a nominating committee every two years, who shall prepare a slate of officers and directors for presentation to the Society.

ARTICLE VI-DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

- SECTION 1:** The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and the Board of Directors, and perform generally all the duties usually performed by the President of like Societies.
- SECTION 2:** The Vice-President shall perform all the duties of the President in case of absence or disability of the latter.
- SECTION 3:** The Secretary's duties shall be to keep the minutes of all proceedings of the Society and its Board of Directors, and make a proper record of same, and generally perform such duties as may be required of him or her by the Board of Directors.
- SECTION 4:** The Treasurer shall receive and have charge of all funds of the society and shall deposit same to the credit of the Society in a bank approved by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall keep proper records, showing all monies received and disbursed by him or her. The Treasurer shall promptly pay all bills incurred by the Society. The Treasurer shall report a statement of the financial condition of the Society at each regular meeting and at such other times as shall be required by the Board. Checks shall be signed by both the Treasurer and the President and/or Vice President.

ARTICLE VII-AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the By-Laws may be made by two-thirds of the voting members present at any regularly called meeting, or any special meetings of the Society, providing that, notice of such proposed amendment be mailed at least thirty (30) days prior to said meeting, to each member of the Society.

ARTICLE VIII-ETHICS

An Ethics Committee shall be appointed by the President and the Board of Directors. It shall be patterned after the International Hearing Society Ethics Committee and shall operate at the State level in the same fashion as the International Ethics Committee operates at the International level. The Chairperson should be made known to the International Hearing Society and the Membership of the Nebraska Hearing Society as soon as possible. This committee will be, at times, cognizant of the “Due process of law.”

ARTICLE IX-AUTHORITY

SECTION 1: The final governing power of the Society shall be vested in the general membership of the Society.

SECTION 2: In the interim between meetings of the general membership, management of the Society shall be vested in and exercised by the Board of Directors subject to the provisions contained in these by-laws.

SECTION 3: The Board of Directors may authorize an Officer or Officers’ agent or agents to enter any contract or execute any instrument in the name and on behalf of the Society and such authority may be general or confined to the specific instance; and unless so authorized by the Board of Directors, no officer, agent, or other person shall have any authority to bind the Society by any contract or engagement or to pledge its credit or enter it liable for any purpose or to any amount.

**AMENDED IN THIS VOTE BY TWO-THIRDS OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
WAS**

ARTICLE I-NAME

CHANGING THE OFFICE OF THE MEMBERSHIP TO THE PRESIDENT

ARTICLE IV-DUES

ALL DUES MUST BE PAID ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE ANNUAL SEMINAR