

WE ARE THE MEN, MVC, Inc.
By-Laws

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be *We Are The Men, MVC, Inc.*

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

We Are The Men, MVC is a male voice choir based in Harwich Port. The purpose of *We Are The Men, MVC* is to sing in the fine tradition of male voice choirs and choirs worldwide. *We Are The Men, MVC* will perform for our mutual enjoyment, for local communities, charitable and educational organizations, and with local, national and international Chorales or Choirs.

We Are The Men, MVC will maintain a large repertoire drawn from a varied selection including classical, religious, secular, international and popular traditional music. Concerts may be drawn from this repertoire, on limited notice.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

- 1) Membership is open to all men who are interested in making the commitment to sing with the group. Auditions may be required at the discretion of the Choir Director.
- 2) New members may join at any time, but can only participate in a concert if they have attended sufficient rehearsals to become proficient with the program to be performed.
- 3) Exceptions to items 1) and 2) may be made at the discretion of the Choir Director.
- 4) It is expected that members will attend the majority of the rehearsals in order to remain proficient with the repertoire.
- 5) Persons not attending concerts or rehearsals for a substantial period as determined by the Board of Directors will be considered to have voluntarily terminated and will be requested to return their music or to pay the cost thereof.
- 6) All music is the property of the Choir Director and/or *We Are The Men, MVC*. Each member is expected to be responsible for the proper care of the music loaned to him and will return all music when requested or when resigning from the Choir.
- 7) Music will be distributed by the Choir Director or by the Music Librarian should that position be established by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV: FINANCE

- 1) Dues are payable at the time and in the amount set by the Board of Directors.
- 2) Fundraising by means of Concert Admission fees, donations or other mechanisms shall be initiated by the Board of Directors from time to time as appropriate.

ARTICLE V: Choir Director

1) Selection

- a) The Founding Choir Director shall be the Choir Director until he desires to retire from that position.
- b) The Board of Directors shall, in the absence of a Choir Director due to a) above, select a new Choir Director from submitted applications.
- c) The Board of Directors shall determine the type and amount of remuneration to the Choir Director.

2) Responsibilities:

- a) Selection of music.
- b) Selection of concerts – subject to approval by the Board of Directors.
- c) Determination of the number, dates and locations of rehearsals.

ARTICLE VI: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1) Officers

- a) The Board of Directors shall consist of the Choir Director, a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary and Pilgrim Congregational Church Liaison.
- b) The Board of Directors may, from time to time, add additional standing committees whose chairpersons become members of the Board of Directors, either temporarily or permanently, as the need arises.
- c) The Board of Directors shall serve a two-year term with reelection allowed. A majority of the Board of Directors, in concurrence with the members, may request the resignation of a member of the Board of Directors.

2) Responsibilities

- a) Establish and implement Choir Policy.
- b) Maintain records - financial and non-financial.
- c) Maintain communications with the membership at large and with the Choir Director.

ARTICLE VII: ACCOMPANIST

1. The Board of Directors shall choose an accompanist in consultation with the Choir Director.
2. The Board of Directors shall determine the type and amount of remuneration to the Accompanist.

ARTICLE VIII: Duration of Agreements and Changes thereto:

- 1) There will be an annual agreement between the Board of Directors and the Choir Director and between the Board of Directors and the Accompanist. These agreements will expire two weeks before the Annual Meeting, if one is held, or two weeks before the anniversary of the date of the agreement in the absence of an Annual Meeting.
- 2) If, by the date specified in the above paragraph in this Section, no written notice of resignation or termination is received by either of the parties to an Annual Agreement as specified in the above paragraph in this Section, then these agreements shall be considered to be automatically extended by one more year with no changes thereto.

ARTICLE IX: MEETINGS

1) Annual General Membership Meeting

- a) The Annual General Membership Meeting shall be held with the time and place specified by the Board of Directors.
- b) The Secretary shall notify the Membership of the General Membership Meeting in a timely manner.
- c) The Board of Directors shall prepare the Annual Meeting Agenda.
- d) Election of the Board members shall be accomplished by the General Membership from a slate of officers presented by the Board of Directors.
- e) The Annual Meeting Quorum shall be a majority of the current members.

2) General Membership Meeting

At the request of three or more members, a general membership meeting may be called at any time for the purpose of dissemination of information and the approval of a recommended course of action with a minimum of one weeks notice.

3) Board of Directors Meetings

At the request of any Board member or the Choir Director, a Board of Directors meeting may be called at any time for the purpose of planning and business, dissemination of information and the approval of recommended courses of action.

ARTICLE X: BY LAWS

1) Distribution

- a) All members shall receive a copy of the By-Laws.
- b) The Secretary is responsible for compliance with the above to current and new members as they join.

2) Amendments:

- a) The By-Laws may be amended by a majority of the membership.
- b) The Membership shall be notified of a proposed change in the By-Laws at least two weeks prior to the vote.

ARTICLE XI: ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Board of Directors may at its sole discretion, appoint an advisory committee. This committee would be comprised of various members of the community who wish to serve in an advisory capacity by using their expertise to advance the goals of the Choir.

ARTICLE XII: DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of *We Are The Men, MVC*, after payments of all debts together with the expenses of dissolution, assets remaining shall be distributed, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, as follows:

- 1) All tangible property shall be either liquidated at the best price possible or donated to local churches or other community singing groups provided that the Internal Revenue Service recognizes them as not-for-profit.
- 2) Remaining cash assets, after all of the above sales have been completed, shall be donated to local scholastic music scholarships as decided by the Board of Directors.

Date Adopted at General Membership Meeting: January 10th, 2009