

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**  
of the  
**TEXAS STATE BUTTON SOCIETY**

Revised May 2, 1998

**CONSTITUTION**

**ARTICLE I**

**Name**

**Section 1.** The name of this organization shall be the Texas State Button Society.

**ARTICLE II**

**Object**

**Section 1.** The object of the Society shall be to encourage and promote the interest in collecting buttons for educational and historical purposes, for personal enjoyment and to preserve for future generations all that is beautiful and historical in buttons.

**ARTICLE III**

**Membership**

**Section 1.** Membership in this organization shall be open to all individuals who are interested in the hobby of button collecting.

Membership shall not be denied due to race, gender or creed.

**Section 2.** The members of the Society shall be all those individuals and organizations in good standing.

**Section 3.** Except as may be otherwise provided by the Constitution or Bylaws, the number, qualifications, rights, privileges, dues, fees, responsibilities, terms of membership, and provisions governing the withdrawal, suspension, and expulsion of members shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

In addition to whatever requirements set forth above by the Board of Directors for a member to be in good standing, a minimum requirement is that the member must be current in their payment of dues.

Except as may be otherwise provided by the Constitution or Bylaws, any right of members to vote and any right, title, and interest of any member shall cease and divest on termination of the individual's or organization's membership.

**Section 4.** There shall be two classes of membership: Individual and Associate. Members granted Life membership before May 24, 1997 shall not lose that status. State of Texas local clubs, as Associate members, shall not be required to pay annual dues.

**Section 5.** State of Texas local clubs shall become Associate members upon application and acceptance by the Board of Directors. State of Texas local clubs that were Associate members before May 24, 1997 shall not lose that status unless requested to be dropped from membership due to the dissolution of the club. A State of Texas local club must have a minimum of three Individual members of the State Society to be accepted as an Associate member.

**Section 6.** The amount of the annual dues shall be set by the Board of Directors.

**Section 7.** The membership year is from January 1 to December 31, and failure to pay dues by January 1 of the dues year may result in the forfeiture of membership.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Government**

**Section 1.** The property, affairs, and business of the Society shall be managed by its governing body or Board of Directors, hereinafter referred to as the "Board", consisting of the Elected Officers, Delegates, and Appointed Officers.

All Elected Officers, Delegates, and Appointed Officers must be members in good standing of the Society.

**Section 2.** The Elected Officers of the Society shall be:

1. President,
2. Vice-President,
3. Secretary, and
4. Treasurer.

The Elected Officers shall be elected for two year terms, to serve until their successors are elected and qualified. With the exception of the Treasurer, an elective officer may serve no more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

Vacancies in an elective office shall be filled by appointment by the President for the remainder of the term.

**Section 3.** The Delegates of the Society shall be representatives from the organized local button clubs within the State of Texas which have been granted Associate membership.

Each local club is to have one Delegate, to be chosen by the individual local club.

**Section 4.** An Elected Officer or Delegate shall not be excluded from serving in an appointed position.

**Section 5.** The Appointed Officers of the Society shall be:

1. Editor of the Bulletin,
2. Membership Secretary, and
3. Parliamentarian.

The Appointed Officers are appointed by the President with the approval of the Board.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Conventions**

**Section 1.** The Society shall hold at least one and no more than two conventions per calendar year. If only one is held, that one shall be in the Spring.

The Board shall have the responsibility of determining the number of conventions to be held in any particular calendar year.

**Section 2.** Insofar as feasible, the regular conventions of the Society shall be hosted in rotation by the local clubs or associations capable of hosting a convention.

**Section 3.** The actual dates of conventions shall be established by the host club at, or prior to, the preceding meeting, when it shall be announced.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Amendments**

**Section 1.** This Constitution may be amended at a regular membership meeting of the Society at which no less than fifteen (15) Individual members in good standing are present and a notice of the proposed amendment or amendments has been given.

**Section 2.** Notice of a proposed amendment or amendments shall be sufficient if:

(a) The proposed amendment(s) have been read at the regular membership meeting immediately preceding the membership meeting when they shall be put to a vote, or

(b) The proposed amendment(s) have been published in the Texas State Button Bulletin at least thirty (30) days prior to this meeting, or

(c) Copies of the proposed amendment(s) have been mailed to each member at least thirty (30) days prior to this meeting.

## **BYLAWS**

### **ARTICLE I**

#### **Meetings**

**Section 1.** Regular membership meetings shall be held at each convention of the Society. The election of officers shall be held at a regular membership Spring meeting every other year, starting with the 1999 Spring meeting.

A quorum at a regular membership meeting shall consist of fifteen (15) Individual members in good standing.

**Section 2.** The Board of Directors shall hold regular meetings at each convention before the regular membership meetings of the Society, and special meetings at such other times as may be designated by the President or by three (3) members of the Board.

At all regular or special meetings of the Board, a quorum shall consist of not less than a majority of the Board.

**Section 3.** Notice of all meetings of the Board shall be given by the Secretary by mail at least two weeks in advance to each member of the Board or by being published in the Bulletin prior to the meeting date and place.

### **ARTICLE II**

#### **Election of Officers**

**Section 1.** Any member of this organization may be nominated to serve the organization as an officer, provided however, that such member has been an active member of the organization for a period of at least one (1) year prior to nomination.

**Section 2.** The President, with the approval of the Board, shall appoint a Nominating Committee of three members. The committee shall consist of at least two members new to the committee plus the chairman of the last previous nominating committee, with his or her concurrence. The chairman of the previous committee shall not be the chairman of the new committee.

Following the presentation of the report of the Nominating Committee, nominations from the floor will be accepted provided the person nominated is either present and accepts the nomination in person, or has given prior written assurance to the nominator or an Officer or Delegate of the Society that, if elected, the nominee is willing and able to serve in the office for which he or she has been nominated.

**Section 3.** Election of officers shall be by a plurality of the valid ballots/votes cast.

Written ballots may be required for a particular office only if more than one person has been nominated for the office.

Newly elected officers shall assume office immediately upon the adjournment of the meeting at which they are elected.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **Duties of Officers**

**Section 1.** The President shall preside at all meetings; appoint the chairmen of standing committees, and fulfill the office in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised. 1990 Edition, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition.

**Section 2.** The Vice-President shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President.

**Section 3.** The Secretary shall keep a complete record of all proceedings and correspondence and submit the minutes of regular membership and board meetings to the Editor for publication in the Bulletin. The Secretary shall send required notices of meetings to members and other interested people and perform such other duties usually associated with the office of Secretary.

**Section 4.** The Treasurer shall receive all moneys, etc., pay all ordinary and necessary expenses, pay any other bills so ordered by the President after approval by the Board, keep an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements, present a written report each meeting, and submit the financial reports to the Editor for publication in the Bulletin.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Appointments**

**Section 1.** The President shall make the following appointments:

1. Editor of the Bulletin,
2. Membership Secretary, and
3. Parliamentarian.

**Section 2.** The President may make the following additional appointments:

1. Auditor,
2. Chairman of Awards,
3. Chairman of Judges, and
4. Historian.

**Section 3.** Other additional appointive positions may, from time to time, become necessary for the proper conduct of the work of the Society. They shall be filled by appointment by the President, with the advice and consent of the Board, upon such terms, and for such length of service, as approved by the Board.

**Section 4.** The Editor of the Bulletin shall be responsible for the publication of the Texas State Button Bulletin two (2) times each year and shall be appointed for a term of not less than two (2) years.

The Editor shall have the authority to designate one or more assistants to help in carrying out the duties of the office.

The Editor shall report for the approval of the Board estimated and actual costs of the bulletin. The Editor shall be reimbursed by the Treasurer for expenses upon the submission of receipts.

**Section 5.** The Membership Secretary shall have the responsibility of collecting the annual dues of the members, issuing membership cards to the members, and maintaining an accurate list with addresses of the members in good standing.

**Section 6.** The duty of the Parliamentarian, in so far as possible, is to be on hand at each meeting to advise on parliamentary procedure.

**Section 7.** The duty of the Auditor, if appointed, shall be to audit the accounts and report to the society at the fall meeting, checking all items, bank balances, receipts and expenditures, according to recognized accounting practices.

**Section 8.** The duty of the Chairman of Awards is to receive and edit special awards for publishing in the Bulletin.

**Section 9.** The duty of the Chairman of Judges is to organize and supervise the check-in, check-out, judging and displaying of trays entered into competition at Society conventions.

The Chairman of Judges shall have the authority to designate one or more assistants to help in carrying out the duties of the office.

**Section 10.** The duty of the Historian, if appointed, is to collect and preserve all data pertaining to the formation and actions of the Texas State Button Society.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Membership**

**Section 1.** The qualifications for membership are defined in ARTICLE III of the Constitution.

**Section 2.** Any member refusing to conform to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society may, by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Board, be expelled. Such a member must have thirty (30) days written notice from

the Secretary of the charges preferred, and the date, hour, and the place of said meeting. Should the member fail to appear at the place of meeting at which he or she is to be heard, without satisfactory reason, when requested, he or she may be expelled.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Parliamentary Authority**

Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the proceedings of the Society in all cases not provided for in the Constitution and Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Amendments**

**Section 1.** These Bylaws may be amended at a regular membership meeting of the Society at which no less than fifteen (15) Individual members in good standing are present and if a notice of the proposed amendment or amendments has been given.

**Section 2.** Notice of a proposed amendment or amendments shall be sufficient if:

- (a) The proposed amendment(s) have been read at the regular membership meeting immediately preceding the membership meeting when they shall be put to a vote, or
- (b) The proposed amendment(s) have been published in the Texas State Button Bulletin at least thirty (30) days prior to this meeting, or
- (c) Copies of the proposed amendment(s) have been mailed to each member at least thirty (30) days prior to this meeting.

