

BLOOMINGTON CHAPTER  
#1  
BYLAWS AND POLICIES



## STANDARD CHAPTER BY-LAWS

(Formerly Called "Standard Chapter Constitution")  
Adopted January 29, 1960 by The International Board of  
Directors.

(Revised as of December 14, 1965)

(Revised as of July 21, 1987)

### ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be Bloomington Chapter No. 1 of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. (S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.).

### ARTICLE II - PURPOSES

The purposes of this chapter shall be to perpetuate the old American institution, the Barbershop Quartet, and to promote and encourage vocal harmony and good fellowship among its members; to encourage and promote the education of its members and the public in music appreciation, to initiate, promote and participate in charitable projects, and to promote public appreciation of Barbershop Harmony.

### ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

#### 3.01 Eligibility:

Any adult male person of good character and reputation qualifying under the membership eligibility requirements established by the International Board of Directors may be considered for membership.

#### 3.02 Classification:

There shall be but one membership classification, that of active membership. No honorary memberships shall be allowed.

#### 3.03 Manner of Admission:

Applications for membership shall be submitted in writing upon forms furnished therefor and must be supported by two members in good standing. Such applications must be accompanied by the initiation fee and initial dues, must meet at least the basic criteria as outlined below under 3.03.a, and must receive a majority favorable vote of the Chapter Board of Directors for approval.



3.03.a Basic Criteria:

- 1) Attend four (4) meetings.
- 2) Pass an audition as conducted by the Music Committee or as conducted on the behalf of the Music Committee under their direction.

3.04 Suspension or Expulsion:

- (a) A demand to suspend or expel (which shall include refusal to accept renewal dues) a member shall be in writing, shall state clearly the charge against such member and shall be signed by the complainant, except when initiated by the International Executive Committee or the Chapter Executive Committee or Board of Directors.
- (b) Except for non-payment of dues, a member may be suspended or expelled only for such acts or omissions as shall constitute conduct unbecoming a member or conduct detrimental to the best interests of the Society in the fulfillment of its objectives and purposes, or, for willful and repeated violations of the Code of Ethics of the Society. A member charged with wrongdoing, and facing suspension or expulsion therefor, shall be informed of the charges in writing; shall be accorded a hearing upon demand therefor, and shall be suspended or expelled only following notice to chapter members of the pending proceedings and upon a two-thirds (2/3) AFFIRMATIVE vote of the members present and voting at a regular meeting of the chapter at which a quorum is present.

3.05 Appeal:

Any person aggrieved by suspension or expulsion may appeal the same to the International Board of Directors whose decision in the matter shall be final.

3.06 Re-admittance of Suspended or Expelled Members:

No former Society member having been suspended or expelled for cause, or having resigned to avoid suspension or expulsion for cause, shall be re-admitted to membership except by a two-thirds (2/3) AFFIRMATIVE vote by the Chapter Board of Directors and confirmed by a majority affirmative of chapter members present and voting at a regular chapter meeting at which a quorum is present.



## ARTICLE IV - DUES, FEES, AND FISCAL YEAR

### 4.01 Initiation Fee:

The initiation fee shall be set by the chapter Board of Directors, but in no case shall it be less than that required by the International By-Laws.

### 4.02 Late Renewal and Reinstatement Fees:

Any Member who has not paid his yearly dues by his expiration date shall be considered a former member.

Former members who renew their membership within one year of their expiration date must pay, in addition to the International dues, the "Late Renewal Fee" set by the International Board of Directors. Former members who renew their membership later than one year following their expiration date must pay, in addition to the International dues, the "Reinstatement Fee" set by the International Board of Directors.

### 4.03 Annual Dues:

The annual dues of this chapter shall be established each year, during December for the following year, and shall include International dues and Harmonizer subscription, and shall be payable in advance.

### 4.04 Fiscal Year:

The Fiscal year of the chapter shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31.

## ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

### 5.01 Membership Meetings:

- (a) Regular meetings of this chapter shall be held weekly at such time and place as the chapter shall designate.
- (b) Special meetings may be called by a majority vote of the membership at any regular meeting or by the President, and notice of such special meeting shall be mailed to the members not less than ten days prior to the date of such meeting.
- (c) The annual meeting for the election of officers and Directors shall be held in October of each year and notice of the date of such meeting shall be mailed to the members at least two weeks prior to such date.



5.02 Board of Directors:

The Board of Directors shall meet at least once each month at a time and place determined by the President.

ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

6.01. Officers:

The officers of this chapter shall be: President; three or more Vice-Presidents consisting of a Membership Vice-President, a Program Vice-President, and a Music Vice-President; Secretary; Treasurer; and other such officers as may be deemed necessary to conduct the affairs of the chapter. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined.

Officers shall be elected annually, shall take office on January 1 of the following year, and serve until their successors are duly elected and installed. The officers shall perform the usual duties of their office and such other duties as the Board of Directors shall direct.

6.02 Directors:

The Board of Directors (also known as the B.O.D.) shall consist of the officers, the Immediate Past President and nine other active members of the chapter who shall be elected in the same manner and at the same time as the officers and shall serve until their successors are duly elected and qualified; provided, however, that there shall be not less than seven Directors, including officers, on the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be the governing body of the Chapter and only matters of unusual importance shall be submitted to the membership of the Chapter for review and action.

6.03 Removal of Officers or Directors:

Any officer or Director of this chapter may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting when a quorum is present; provided, however, that notice of such meeting and the purpose of same has been given to the membership by mail at least two weeks prior to the date of said meeting.

6.04 Vacancies:

Vacancies shall be filled by the Board of Directors, for the unexpired term of office of the officer or Director being filled.



6.05 Delegates:

Chapter Delegates and Alternates to the District House of Delegates shall be elected at the Annual Chapter Meeting and shall take office on January 1st of the following year and shall serve for one year or until their successors are elected and installed. (It is recommended that this Delegate be the Chapter President.)

ARTICLE VII - ELECTIONS

7.01 Nominating Committee:

At least sixty days prior to the annual election, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of at least three members of the Chapter. The President shall not serve on this Committee. This Committee shall select one nominee for each elective office and directorship and submit its report at a regular meeting or by mail at least two weeks prior to the annual meeting. This shall constitute the placing of these names in nomination.

7.02 Opposing Nominations:

Opposing nominations may be submitted by any member, provided, however, that consent of any nominee must be first obtained, and provided further, that notice of such nomination shall be given at a meeting or by mail at least one week prior to the annual meeting.

7.03 Voting:

When there is more than one nominee for an office, voting shall be done by written ballot. Each member in good standing is entitled to cast one vote. Voting by proxy is not permitted. A majority of votes cast is necessary for election.

ARTICLE VIII - COMMITTEES

8.01 Committees:

The following shall be standing committees, appointed by the President for one year terms: Membership; Program; Inter-Chapter Relations; Community Service; and Public Relations. The President may appoint such other regular or special committees as he shall deem necessary or which shall be approved by the Board of Directors. The President shall be ex-officio member of all committees, except the Nominating Committee, and shall instruct them in their duties.



## ARTICLE IX - QUORUM

### 9.01 Quorum Membership:

Thirty (30) percent of the membership of the chapter shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the chapter. Each member shall be entitled to one vote on all matters brought before the membership, and there shall be no voting by proxy.

### 9.02 Quorum Board:

At least (50) percent of the membership of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the Board. Each member shall be entitled to one vote on all matters brought before the Board, and there shall be no voting by proxy.

## ARTICLE X - AFFILIATION

### 10.01 Affiliation:

This chapter shall be affiliated with the International Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc., a non-stock, non-profit corporation, incorporated under the laws of the State of Wisconsin, and shall be a member of the Illinois District Association of Chapters of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.

### 10.02 Policy:

This chapter shall be subject to all of the rules and regulations contained in the International Society's Charter, By-Laws, and Statement of Policy adopted and promulgated from time to time, and shall adopt no rule or policy inconsistent therewith.

## ARTICLE XI - DISSOLUTION

### 11.01 Dissolution:

In the event of dissolution of this chapter, voluntary or otherwise, the person or persons having custody of the chapter funds, property, and assets, after payment of all obligations, within thirty (30) days following such dissolution, shall give, convey, assign, transfer, and set over to the district association of chapters, of which it is a member, all of said chapter funds, property, and assets. All such property accruing to said district shall be used to promote the aims and purposes of the Society.



## ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS

### 12.01 Amendments:

The International Board of Directors may amend these By-Laws under their power given in the International By-Laws, and any such amendments shall become binding upon this chapter.

### 12.02.a Amendments by Chapter:

This chapter may amend these By-Laws at any regular or special meeting of the chapter provided a quorum is present and provided that due notice has been provided to the membership. Any such amendment shall not become effective until approved by the International Board of Directors.

### 12.02.b Notice and Voting:

Proposed amendments shall be in writing and shall be mailed, together with notice of the meeting, to each chapter member at least two weeks prior to the meeting at which they are to be voted on. Amendments may be considered at any regular or special meeting of the chapter at which a quorum is present, and shall be adopted upon two-thirds vote of the members present.

Approved by the B.O.D. on  
June 9, 1987.



## CHAPTER POLICIES

### BLOOMINGTON #1, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.

#### Basic Criteria for Admission: (adopted June, 1987)

1. Attend four (4) regular meetings.
2. Pass an audition as conducted by the Music Committee or as conducted on the behalf of the Music Committee under their direction.

#### Performance Windows: (adopted June, 1987)

1. Performance window is defined as:  
"A period of time specified in days, weeks, or months for the purpose of requiring attendance at rehearsals".
2. The Music Vice President may establish 'Performance Windows' as necessary for purposes of show or contest preparation.

#### Substitute Chorus Directors: (adopted March, 1993)

1. Any chapter member who serves as a director in place of our contracted Chorus Director shall be offered the sum of money as provided for in the contractual agreement currently in place between Bloomington #1 and The Chorus Director.

Adopted by vote of the Board of Directors June 09, 1987.

Adopted by vote of the Board of Directors March 09, 1993.