

ACADIANA DISTRICT DENTAL ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS REVISED

DECEMBER 7, 1983

ORGANIZATION HISTORY

The Third District Dental Society of Louisiana was organized in Morgan City, Louisiana, in 1907.

The first meeting was a tribute to the work and ability of the dentist and the self-sacrifice of the merchants of that city. Between sixty (60) and seventy-five (75) men attended the first meeting.

The organization, business session, and election of officers lasted practically all day. The following were the first officers elected:

S.J. Bourgeois, D.D.S.	President
A. Bernard, D.D.S.	Secretary-Treasurer

That night a banquet featuring wild duck and champagne, ably seconded by white wine of rare vintage, lasted virtually all night.

The Society was inactive for a number of years when in 1910, the second meeting was held in Morgan City. Some of the members present were:

Dr. Paul Cyr
Dr. J.B. Oliver
Dr. H.C. Salles
Dr. L.J. Bourgeois
Dr. A. Bernard
Dr. H.P. Beeler

In 1925 steps for the re-organization of the Third District Dental Society were started in St. Martinville under the instigation of Dr. S.S. Grosjean of New Orleans, then President of the Louisiana State Dental Society.

This Constitution and these By-Laws and Code of Ethics were again revived and amended to conform with the new Constitution, By-Laws, and Code of Ethics of the Louisiana State Dental Society, adopted at the

meeting held in Alexandria, Louisiana, on the 15th day of March, 1929, and those of the American Dental Association. They were presented and adopted at a regular meeting of the Third District Dental Society of Louisiana under the leadership of Dr. A.K. White, on October 24, 1930, in Lafayette, after they were read and discussed by the members.

On April 21, 1943, the Louisiana State Dental Society ammended its Charter and By-Laws. It then became necessary that all component organizations adopt By-Laws to conform to the regulations specified in Article XV of the By-Laws of the Louisiana State Dental Society. These changes were made and presented to the Third District Dental Association in January, 1945. The changes were adopted in 1945 by the Third District Dental Association.

On November 11, 1956, the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Dental Association approved a division within the Third District Dental Society of two (2) functional sections to be known as "Third District Dental Society-East" and "Third District Dental Society-West", dividing line of the two divisions, the Atchafalaya River. The foregoing divisional structure provided only for the internal division of the district and retained the Third District Dental Society as a component of the Louisiana Dental Association. Approval was granted for a period of three (3) years.

On April 27, 1960, the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Dental Association, on the recommendation of the District Director of the Third District Dental Society, authorized the establishment of the sectional division of the Third District, East and West, on a permanent basis.

In 1972, the Louisiana Legislature reapportioned the Third Congressional District and so the establishment of a new seperate society was formed to do away with the old east and west divisions. A new set of By-Laws was written and the renaming of our society, Acadiana District Dental Association, comprising areas: Lafayette Parish, St. Martin Parish, Iberia Parish, Vermillion Parish, and St. Mary Parish, west of the Calumet Canal.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I.

NAME

The name of this District Society shall be known as the Acadiana District Dental Association, a component of the Louisiana Dental Association. The geographical boundaries are: Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, (that portion west of the Calumet Canal) and Vermillion parishes.

ARTICLE II.

OBJECTS AND PURPOSES

The object of this Association shall be to cultivate and promote the art and science of Dentistry; to promote public welfare by elevating the standards of dental science, art, and literature; to promote among dentists, mutual improvements, social intercourse, and fraternalism; to secure the enactment and enforcement of proper laws for protection and regulation of the practices of Dentistry; to provide opportunities to learn the most modern procedures and techniques, and generally, to do any and all things advisable, desirable or necessary in the interest of the dental profession.

ARTICLE III.

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership

Membership in this Association shall

consists of four (4) classes designated as active, honorary, life, and retired members.

Section 2. Active Members

Active members shall consist of dentists who are legally and ethically practicing their profession in the Acadiana District Dental Association. This Association being a component of the Louisiana Dental Association; and the State Society being a constituent of the American Dental Association, active membership makes one a member of the Louisiana Dental Association and the American Dental Association. Recent dental graduates serving in the armed forces shall be considered engaged in active practice.

Section 3. Application for Active Membership

Application for active membership shall be made to the Association at any of its meetings on application blanks, provided and furnished by the State Association, signed by the applicant and recommended by two (2) members of the Association, and, accompanied by one (1) years dues, except in the case of those exempt from dues. The application shall thereafter be referred to the Executive Board, then to the General Membership and a subsequent meeting shall be set for the ballot voting. The name of the applicant shall be included on the regular notice of the meeting before being balloted on by membership. Any applicant for active membership who is rejected cannot again make application until two (2) years have elapsed from the date of such action. The vote shall be open ballot unless otherwise ordered.

Section 4. Honorary Membership

Honorary membership may be conferred on persons, who, in the opinion of the Executive Board, have made valuable contributions to the Dental profession.

Section 5. Proposals for Honorary Membership

Proposals for honorary membership shall be presented to the Executive Board by five (5) members. The Board, after studying qualifications to meet above Section 4, shall refer candidate to the General Membership for confirmation. An affirmative three-fourths vote of all ballots shall be necessary to elect.

Section 6. Life Membership

A member of this Association who has been an active member of the American Dental Association for a total of thirty-five (35) years, having attained the age of sixty-five (65), may apply to the Executive Board for life membership in the Association.

Section 7. Retired Membership

Retired membership may be conferred on those members in good standing who retire from the practice of Dentistry.

Section 8.

Proposals for retired membership shall be treated as proposals for honorary membership in Article III, Section 5.

Section 9.

All voting power, privilege of holding office, and property rights of the membership of this Association, shall be vested in active and life members only.

Section 10.

No suspended member shall be allowed to vote or hold office in this Association.

Section 11.

Any member may resign from the Association, provided he notify the Secretary, in writing

Section 4. Duties of the Secretary

The Secretary shall assume all secretarial duties of this Association. He shall make a short report at the regular meeting of the Association of the previous deliberation of the Executive Board. He shall send to the Secretary of the State Society a list of all officers and members of the Executive Board, within a month after the election of officers. He shall also include the designation of the member who is Director or Alternate Director of the Louisiana Dental Association. He shall notify the Secretary of the State Association and/or American Dental Association of:

A. The names of all who are conferred life memberships.

B. Of any individuals standing in the Association that might affect his membership in either organization.

He shall include on the regular notice of the meeting:

A. The names of the prospective members, approved by the Executive Board, and to be voted on at the meeting.

B. Names of those proposed for honorary membership or retired membership.

C. The names of the members of the nominating committee at least twenty (20) days prior to the meeting at which nominations are made.

He shall, in writing, within ten (10) days, notify applicants elected to active memberships and members elected to life, honorary, or retired membership and shall enclose a copy of the By-Laws to active and honorary members; also, he shall routinely send a notice of new active members elected and report any change of a member's status to the Association Treasurer. He shall notify applicants failing of election to membership. He shall notify the Chairman and all committees of their appointment within a reasonable time. He will assume the duties of the President in absence of the President and the President-Elect. The Secretary, upon date of termination of his office, presents a written and signed report of all records

and other property of the Association in his possession. At the termination of his office, he shall have all records orderly arranged and turn them over to the Executive Board or his successor.

Section 5. Duties of the Treasurer

The Treasurer shall perform all duties usually devolving on such an officer. He shall sign all checks for money drawn from the Associations treasury. He shall keep a copy of all financial correspondence. At a meeting to be designated by the Executive Board he shall make an annual financial report. At the termination of his office, he shall have all records orderly arranged and turn them over to the Executive Board or his successor. The Treasurer's term of office will be for two (2) years.

ARTICLE V.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. The Executive Board

The Executive Board shall consist of the elected officers of the Association. The two (2) most recent past Presidents of the Association, the Director, and the Alternate Director to the Louisiana Dental Association.

Section 2. Duties of the Executive Board

The Board shall transact all business of the Association not specifically reserved to the general membership or which the general membership approves that it transact. The Board shall approve all money expenditures of the Association. It may authorize members to expend money for routine or specific business of the Association. The Board shall have full control of all trust funds. Investments of all trust funds shall be made in such securities that are acceptable to trust estates and savings banks under the laws of the

State of Louisiana.

The Executive Board shall act as tribunal in all matters pertaining to alleged charges of malpractice, unprofessional conduct, violators of the Code of Ethics, or violators of any By-Laws.

Section 3.

Any decision rendered by the Executive Board on a problem of ethics, as provided for in Section 2 of this Article, not specifically covered in the Code of Ethics, may be incorporated into the Code of Ethics by an affirmative two-thirds of the members present at the annual meeting, provided written notice thereof has been mailed to every member of the Association at least seven (7) days prior to the date set for the meeting.

ARTICLE VI.

NOMINATIONS

The nominating committee of the Association shall consist of the Executive Board and the Association delegates to the Louisiana Dental Association. All nominations for office shall be handed to the Secretary at or before a regular meeting to be held in November of each year. Committee nominations shall be announced by the Chair at said meeting and prior to the election at said meeting, the Chair will call for any nominations from the floor.

The Association shall, except as provided below, nominate the Director to the Louisiana Dental Association whose term of office shall be two (2) years, and an Alternate Director to the Louisiana Dental Association, whose term shall be two (2) years.

ARTICLE VII.

ELECTION, INSTALLATION, AND VACANCIES
OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Section 1.

All officers are to be elected annually at the regular November meeting, and shall serve for one (1) year, or until their successors are duly elected and installed.

One member will be elected bi-annually for a term of two (2) years to serve on the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Dental Association. One member shall be elected annually for a term of two (2) years from the district not holding the office of Director, to serve as an Alternate Director to the Louisiana Dental Association. Said Alternate Director shall be reimbursed by this Association for travel to meetings of the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Dental Association on the basis of reimbursement provided to the Director by the Louisiana Dental Association.

Section 2.

Elected officers of the district shall be installed at the January meeting. The Treasurer, the Director, and the Alternate Director to the Louisiana Dental Association shall be installed bi-annually at the regular January meeting.

Section 3.

Vacancies occurring in any elective office of the district during the year shall be filled by a temporary appointment by the President; unless an election is ordered by the Executive Board of the District. No member shall hold dual elective offices in the Association.

ARTICLE VIII.

MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Section 1.

This Association shall meet at least four (4) times a year. Meeting dates will be announced by the Secretary, provided that the district shall schedule meetings from the foregoing number to be held specifically in the months of January, May, September, and November. The November meeting shall include, "nomination and election of officers"; the January meeting, "installation of officers".

Section 2.

Special meetings of the Association may be called by the Executive Board or the President of the district.

Section 3.

Written notice shall be sent by the Secretary of the district to the membership, the District's Director, and the Alternate Director to the Louisiana Dental Association at their last known address, of the time and place of all meetings at least seven (7) days prior to the date set for the meetings. If the meeting is a special one, the notice shall also state the object or purpose for which the meeting is called.

Section 4. Quorum

Twenty (20) per cent of the active membership present at a district meeting shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE IX.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Section 1.

1. The meeting called to order by the President.
2. The reading and disposal of the minutes of the previous meeting.
3. Communications.
4. Proposals for membership.
5. Election of members.
6. Reports of officers, Executive Board and Committees.
7. Unfinished business.
8. New business.
9. Scientific program.
10. Election of officers and Board Members.
11. Installation of officers and Board Members.
12. Adjournment.

Section 2.

by the officers.

The order of business may be changed.

Section 3.

Sturgis', "Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure", shall govern this Association on all points of parliamentary law not covered by the By-Laws. A copy of said book shall be provided by the

Secretary at all meetings of the Executive Board, and of the Association.

ARTICLE X.

DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

Section 1.

The dues of the Society shall be set annually by the Executive Board and shall be in addition to the dues of the Louisiana Dental Association and the American Dental Association. The Board shall act on the setting of the amount of annual dues at their regular meeting prior to the Annual Meeting of the Association as provided in Article V., Section 3.

Section 2.

Annual dues of active members shall be payable in accordance with Section 1 of this Article.

Section 3.

All dues of this Association are payable in advance of January 1 of each year.

Section 4.

Any member who has not paid, prior to March 31, the dues and all assessments for the current year shall be automatically dropped from membership.

Section 5.

Life members shall be exempt from all dues other than those that may be levied by the Louisiana Dental Association and the American Dental Association.

Section 6.

Any member of this Association

angaged in active service in the armed forces of the United States shall be relieved in the payment of dues, and upon returning to private practice shall be relieved of the payment of dues or assessments for the remaining period of the year in which he resumed private practice. This suspension of dues shall not constitute a lapse in membership in any respect, and shall apply only to those members in active service during war or a national emergency and for the regular prescribed period of service thereafter, not including any period of voluntary extended service.

Section 7.

Honorary and retired members shall be exempt from all dues and assessments.

Section 8.

Any former member desiring reinstatement, who has resigned or has been dropped for non-payment of dues or assessments, must pay the dues of the current year, and must make application as provided in Article III., Section 3.

Section 9.

Assessments may be levied by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present at the Annual Meeting or any special meeting of the Association, provided that a notice of intention shall have been previously sent to the members prior to said meeting.

ARTICLE XI.

COMMITTEES

The Chairman of each committee of the district shall make a written report to the Executive Board at the meeting prior to the Annual Meeting in September or whenever requested by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE XII.

CLINICS AND LECTURES

Section 1.

No person shall be allowed to give a clinic under the auspices of this Association, unless he is a member of some reputable scientific society, or a person of known scientific ability.

ARTICLE XV.

RIGHT TO DISCIPLINE MEMBERS

Section 1.

This Association reserves the right to punish any of its members who may be convicted of malpractice, unprofessional conduct, violation of the Code of Ethics, or violation of the By-Laws.

Section 2.

Charges against any member shall be made in writing to the Executive Board and signed by three (3) members.

Section 3.

The Board shall furnish the accused member with a copy of the charges, giving him at least thirty (30) days notice of the time of hearing before the Board.

Section 4.

The Board shall make a thorough investigation of the evidence and if, in the opinion of the majority of the Board, the charges are substantiated, the case shall be presented to the Association for final action.

Section 5.

The accused member shall be given at least ten (10) days notice of the hearing before the Association.

Section 6.

The Association may, by a two-thirds vote, render any one of the following decisions:

1. It may exonerate.
2. It may reprimand.
3. It may suspend.
4. It may expel.

Section 7.

The Secretary of the Association shall immediately notify the Secretary of the State Association and the American Dental Association of such action when the individual's standing in either organization is involved.

ARTICLE XVI.

APPEALS

Any member who may feel aggrieved by the action of this Association shall have the right to appeal to the Board of Directors of the State Association.

ARTICLE XVII.

AMENDMENTS

The By-Laws adopted by this Association may be repealed or amended at any duly convened meeting of this Association by an affirmative two-thirds vote of the members present, provided the resolution to

repeal or amend has been submitted in writing at a previous meeting, or written notice thereof has been mailed to the members of the Association, with the approval of the Executive Board, at least seven (7) days prior to said meeting.

ARTICLE XVIII.

DENTAL AUXILLARY

The Dental Auxillary shall be defined as: That organization composed of the spouses of members of the Acadiana District Dental Association abiding by its own rules and By-Laws. The Dental Auxillary shall function as a direct arm of the Dental Association and perform those duties which the President of the Society dictates necessary.

ARTICLE XIX.

TREASURY IN CASE OF DISSOLUTION

In the event that this, the Acadiana District Dental Association, should dissolve for any reason whatsoever, the remaining funds in the treasury shall remain in account for a period of one (1) year to pay any unpaid debts. After that time the remaining funds shall be forwarded to the Louisiana Dental Association for their disposition.