

GREAT LAKES DEAF WOMEN'S BOWLING ASSOCIATION - CONSTITUTION

2016 - 2017

ARTICLE 1 - NAME

This organization shall be named as Great Lakes Deaf Women Bowling Association ("GLDWBA") (formerly known American Deaf Women Bowling Association (ADWBA)). The location of this organization shall embrace the States (upstate New York, western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota) and portions of Canada bordering the five (5) Great Lakes.

ARTICLE 2 - OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this organization are to:

1. Encourage and foster bowling among the deaf women of America.
2. Conduct an annual GLDWBA American Tenpins tournament.
3. Decide the championship of the GLDWBA in five (5) events.
4. Be governed by the rules and regulations as outlined by the United States Bowling Congress ("USBC") with GLDWBA rules as needed.
5. Be classified under the U.S. Internal Revenue Service charter.

ARTICLE 3 - MEMBERS

All bowlers participating in the present tournament must be members of GLDWBA. They must have current USBC cards or pay a five (\$5) participating fee which will go to GLDWBA General Fund in order to participate in the tournament.

ARTICLE 4 - OFFICERS

The officer shall be the Tournament Director.

ARTICLE 5 - MEETINGS

An annual Board of Directors meeting shall be held on a Friday night during the month of April.

ARTICLE 6 - AMENDMENT

1. This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) votes of all Board of Director members at the regular meeting upon the recommendation of the Executive Board members.
2. Any proposed amendment shall be submitted in writing and reading to the Executive Board of Directors at least **30** days prior to vote. When approved by the Executive Board of Directors, the proposed amendment shall be brought and approved by the Board of Directors members at its annual regular meeting.
3. The suspension of the Articles of Constitution and Bylaws of the Great Lakes Deaf Women Bowling Association is prohibited.

ARTICLE 7 - DISSOLUTION

In the event that GLDWBA shall dissolve, the monies in the general fund shall be divided among the previous host cities.



GREAT LAKES DEAF WOMEN'S BOWLING ASSOCIATION - BYLAWS

ARTICLE I - NAME

This organization shall be known as the GREAT LAKES DEAF WOMEN'S BOWLING ASSOCIATION ("GLDWBA"). The GLDWBA will follow the GREAT LAKES DEAF BOWLING ASSOCIATION ("GLDBA") tournament on a date that shall be held during the month of April.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

To encourage and foster bowling among only the deaf women of American and to conduct an annual tournament of the game of American Tenpins, the results of which shall decide the championship of the GLDWBA, in five-woman teams, doubles, singles, all events and Queen and Senior Queen.

ARTICLE III - OFFICERS

- 1 - The Executive Board members shall consist of GLDWBA Tournament Director, GLDWBA Assistant, GLDBA President, GLDBA Vice-President, GLDBA Tournament Director, GLDBA Hall of Fame Director, the current chairperson and the following year chairperson. The GLDWBA Tournament Director shall serve a three year term.
- 2 - Any interested bowler who would like to run for the office of Tournament Director shall be in good standing, shall have bowled in at least six (6) GLDWBA tournaments, must be a resident of the Great Lakes region, and shall do one of the following:
 - 3 - Have been a captain of the team at least three (3) GLDWBA tournaments.
 - 4 - Outgoing officers shall turn over to the newly elected officer(s) all records including, but not limited to, minutes of meeting, copies of bylaws, GLDWBA properties, documents, and monies by August 1 following the GLDWBA tournament.

Auditing Committee

- 5 - The auditing committee shall consist of two (2) current USBC-associated bowlers. The Tournament Director, with the GLDBA President's approval, will appoint the auditors annually.

Board of Directors

- 6 - The Board of Directors shall consist of:
 - A. Chairpersons of the current host and next year host's tournaments,
 - B. Captains of all the teams competing in the current GLDWBA tournament, and
 - C. Active former executive officers who have served two or more terms.Each member of the Board of Directors shall have one vote.
- 7 - The Board of Directors shall be vested with the control and management and by a majority vote may delegate its authority in whole or in part of the Executive Board.
- 8 - All former executive officers who have held four (4) or more years of service shall be automatically appointed to be served on the advisory board when necessary.
- 9 - The annual meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held in the tournament city during progress of the tournament, at a such time as the GLDBA President may designate, and at such meetings shall elect their officers and promulgate tournament regulations for the coming year.
- 10 - The active captains and members of the Executive Board of GLDWBA, who shall be present at the meeting on time, shall constitute the quorum and a majority of such members of the GLDWBA Board of Directors so present may transact any business of said association:

ARTICLE IV - DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

- 1 - The Tournament Director shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of all the meetings and conduct all correspondence. She shall receive and deposit all entry monies and revenues from the tournament properly – direct or indirect – to the credit of the Great Lakes Deaf Women's Bowling Association that may be withdrawn only on checks drawn by herself with the authorization of the GLDBA President.
- 2 - The Tournament Director shall deposit all monies in a federally insured bank, which is in the city where she resides. Therewith, the signature cards shall consist of two (2) signatures of the Tournament Director and the GLDBA President. The Tournament Director shall be responsible for all the transactions.
- 3 - The Tournament Director shall be responsible for all prize distributions after the annual tournament. This will be done by check within thirty (30) days after the tournament. Should the prizes not be paid out, the GLDBA President shall notify the U.S. Bowling Congress ("USBC") and the bonding company. The Tournament Director shall be suspended for the wrongdoing of her job.
- 4 - The Tournament Director shall be responsible for paying out all legal and authorized bills before the end of each fiscal year by June 5. She will submit a financial report to each of the Executive Board members.
- 6 - The Tournament Director shall keep a true account of all receipts and disbursements and make an annual report to the Board of Directors. Prior to the upcoming tournament, the Tournament Director shall mail the minutes and the financial report of the previous tournament, updated bylaws, necessary schedules, and a letter to all participating bowlers.
- 7 - The Tournament Director shall be bonded for the full amount of the association funds and bank deposits at the association's expense. The bond is to be held by the Tournament Director and the duplicate bond by the active President for safekeeping purposes.
- 8 - The Tournament Director shall handle the contract signing with the management of the lanes; the site must be inspected by one of the GLDWBA officers in order to fulfill the requirements for the GLDWBA tournament. Her transportation and one-day lodging expenses will be reimbursed by the GLDWBA general fund if necessary.
- 9 - The Tournament Director, subject to the approval of the GLDBA President, shall set the entry fees.

- 10 - The Tournament Director, subject to the direction and approval of the Executive Board, shall have the sole charge of conducting annual tournament events and shall conduct the events in the style of USBC's tournaments. She shall make her own arrangements with the assistants at the tournament city and hire whatever extra help she deems necessary to attend to clerical labors. **The salary will be .50 cents per bowler per event for the assistances if they are selected from the General Fund.** The Tournament Director shall select the tournament assistants by the month of January prior to the next tournament.
- 11 - The Tournament Director shall select a Senior Chairlady to run the Senior Queens tournament. She will be conducted under the direction and supervision of GLDWBA's Board of Directors.
- 12 - The Tournament Director cannot make any decisions contrary to USBC or GLDWBA bylaws or tournament rules.

ARTICLE V - EXPENSES

1. Transportation expenses of the Tournament Director shall be paid out of the general fund of GLDWBA. The transportation expenses to be reimbursed at **the rate of GLDWBA's Tournament Director (.40 cent per mile)** for the tournament (round trip) or by the cost of airfare/train, whichever is cheaper. **If the Tournament Director is not from the GLDWBA region, she will be paid the maximum of \$200.** Communication expenses for the GLDWBA officers shall be paid out of the general fund.
2. A. The lodgings for the Tournament Director for three (3) nights shall be paid equally between GLDWBA and the host city (50% and 50%, respectively).
B. Lodging expenses shall be paid out of the GLDWBA general fund.
3. The Tournament Director shall be reimbursed the sum of one dollar (\$1) per woman per event entered during her term in office. The reimbursement shall be drawn from the tournament expense fees.
4. The auditing committee shall be paid twenty-five dollars (\$25) per committee member for the services, to be drawn out of the GLDWBA general fund.
6. The recording secretary shall be paid twenty-five dollars (\$25) for her services, to be drawn from the GLDWBA general fund.
7. The Tournament Director of the Lillian E. Kernz Queens event shall be reimbursed one dollar (\$1) per participant in the Queens event. The reimbursement shall be drawn from the Queens tournament expenses.

ARTICLE VI - MEETING

1. The annual meeting of Board of Directors shall be held in the current tournament city during the tournament following the GLDBA tournament when the GLDBA President may designate on Friday night of April. At such meetings, the captains shall elect their officers. The active captains and members of the Executive Committee of GLDWBA who are present at the meeting on time shall constitute a quorum.
 2. The order of business at the annual GLDWBA meeting shall be as follows:
 1. Roll Call
 - A. Quorum
 - B. Introduction
 2. Opening Ceremonies
 - A. Welcoming Remarks
 - B. Invocation
 3. Pledge of Allegiance
 4. Reading of Minutes and Actions
 5. Report of Officers in Order
 6. Report of Law Committee
 7. Unfinished Business
 8. New Business
 9. Announcements by Future Tournament Chairperson
 10. Election of New Officers
 11. Oath
(I hereby pledge myself to perform faithfully the duties of my office to the best of my abilities and to uphold the Constitution and Bylaws of the Great Lakes Deaf Women's Bowling Association, so help me, God.)
 12. Good of Order
 13. Announcement
 14. Adjournment
 3. The Tournament Director is responsible for:
 - A. getting proposals from the bowlers and officers during the tournament. The proposals shall be reviewed for next meeting's new business.
 - B. sending proposed motions (from the bowlers and officers) to the Executive Board members for the review ninety (90) days before the next tournament starts.
 - C. getting approval or denial for proposed motions by the Executive Board members to the Board of Director meeting and bringing them to New Business, in order to be approved or declined by the captains (Board of Directors members). Any new proposals made during the New Business shall then be referred to the Law Committee for review and be brought up during New Business at the next Board of Director meeting.
- If there is any disagreement with submitted proposals, they shall be brought up during New Business meeting.

ARTICLE VIII - EMERGENCIES

The Executive Committee has the authority to act in any or all emergencies.

ARTICLE IX - LILLIAN ELLIS KERNZ QUEENS

1. The Lillian Ellis Kernz Queens tournament is held in conjunction with the annual GLDWBA tournament.
2. The Queens event is open to all GLDWBA bowlers who enter all events.
3. Entries close in the date based on the current entry form. A late entry fee of **five dollars (\$5)** will be charged for entries arriving after the deadline and will be added to the prize fund 100%.
4. The entry fee shall be at least thirty-five dollars (\$35) which includes prize fees, printing, postage, tournament fees, and alley fees.
5. All prize fees will be returned 100% to qualified participants.
6. The host organization will donate ten dollars (\$10) per bowler (**Minimum of \$500. / Article XI – 2 – A2**) The first-place prize with the minimum guaranteed at **three hundred dollars (\$300)**.
7. Bowlers' handicap scores will be based on a 70% difference between her average and 200. The minimum average for a bowler will be set at average of 135.
8. The qualifying round will be three (3) games across six (6) lanes (opening round).
 - A. One third (1/3) of the entrants will collect prize money while one fourth (1/4) of the entrants will participate in the first round of the Queens event. The ~~second~~ first round will bowl $\frac{3}{2}$ more games and add that to the first three scores to advance to the top four spots of the step ladder bracket. If there are more than 33 bowlers, then the second round will bowl one game to add the previous scores. The four (4) highest qualifiers will advance into the final round using the position: 4th against 3rd; 3rd against 2nd; 2nd against 1st.
9. In case of a tie in any game, a full roll-off game will determine the winner.
11. If a bowler is unable to appear at the start of the first round, an alternate bowler will be given the opportunity to replace her. After the first round, no alternates will be permitted. (A bye will be given and the winner will advance to the next round.)
12. The bowler shall be responsible to check the line-up board for her starting lanes and the time she is expected to be present to bowl.
13. The starting time will be determined by the Tournament Director.(depending on the numbers of bowlers entered). Entries may be accepted up to half an hour before the starting time.
14. A plaque donated by the host city will be given to the Queens champion.

ARTICLE X - SENIOR QUEENS

1. The Senior Queens event is held in conjunction with the annual GLDWBA tournament.
2. In order to enter the Senior Queens event, a bowler must be at least 50 years old with the understanding that she is not to enter the GLDWBA's Lillian E. Kernz Queens tournament and is to enter all events.
3. Entries must arrive by the date as listed upon the current form.
4. The host organization will donate ten dollars (\$10) per head (bowler) toward the first-place prize.
5. The entry fee shall be at least thirty dollars (\$30), including prize fees, printing and postage costs, tournament fees, and alley fees.
6. All prize fees will be returned 100% to qualified participants.
7. Bowlers' handicap scores will be based on 70% difference between her average and 200. The minimum average for a bowler will be set at average of 115.
8. The qualifying games will be three (3) games across six lanes. The top four (4) bowlers will advance to match play. Single elimination will be used until a winner prevails. In case of a tie in any game, a full roll-off game will determine the winner.
9. If an entrant is unable to appear at the beginning of the first round, an alternate will be granted to replace her. After the first round begins, no substitutes will be allowed.
10. The GLDWBA Tournament Director will decide the starting time based on the number of bowlers entered. Entries may be accepted up to half an hour before the starting time.
11. A plaque donated by the host city will be given to the Senior Queens champion.

ARTICLE XI - GLDWBA TOURNAMENTS

Host City

1. The GLDWBA annual tournament date shall coincide with that of the GLDBA when the GLDWBA makes its decision on the site of the next tournament.
2. The organization of the host city sponsoring the tournament shall pay GLDWBA the minimum of **two thousand two hundred fifty dollars (\$2,250.)** or more at the time of nomination.
 - A. It will be split in three ways:
 - (1) The minimum of **one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500)** or more donation is for the prize of the handicap **Team, Singles and Doubles events** (\$75 per team X 20 teams). **Host would be responsible to pay for extra donation, which is \$75 per team if the women went over 20 teams.** A first-place prize in double/single event is to be equal to the amount per bowler in the team event.
 - (2) **\$500 minimum prize fee for Lilian Kernz Queens (\$10 per entry x 50 entries)**
 - (3) The other two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) is for the host bid fee that will go directly to the GLDWBA general fund.
3. The lodgings for the Tournament Director for three (3) nights shall be paid equally between GLDWBA and the host city (50% and 50%, respectively).
4. The Hall of Famers will not be charged for the registration fee.
5. The host of the tournament city is required to donate plaques to the winner(s) of each actual ~~and handicap~~ pinfall event and mail them to the winners who did not receive them if necessary.
6. The host city shall pay GLDWBA the minimum of **seven hundred and eighty dollars (\$780) (24 Teams) or fifty percent (50%) of bowlers' ballroom admission (whichever is greater)** during the tournament regardless of quantity of bowlers.
7. The tournament shall be sanctioned and conducted according to the rules and regulations of the USBC unless otherwise arranged with the Congress by the Tournament Director of the GLDWBA.

Bowlers' Entries

8. Acceptance of teams shall close at midnight approximately thirty (30) days before the opening of the tournament. Under no conditions will applications be accepted after the stated deadline.
9. Each bowler must write her USBC membership number when filling out an entry form. No bowler is eligible to complete more than once in any event.
10. Any team who is deemed responsible for letting any hearing person to participate in the GLDWBA tournament shall forfeit any claims of entry fees and prizes.
11. No high school girls or younger are to participate in the tournament.
12. A. All replacement bowlers must be in the hands of the Tournament Director (during the tournaments) at least one (1) hour before the scheduled time of bowling.
B. If no replacement bowler is found prior to the start of a tournament, only a full team is allowed to keep the absent bowler's average and handicap minus 10 percent (10%) of the average.
C. If there is a team with one (1) unavailable bowler (blind), the base average of 115 minus 10 percent (10%) of the average will be applied.
13. A. A bowler must bowl in a team event in order to participate in the double/single events. In addition, all bowlers must bowl doubles in order to bowl singles.
B. The local bowlers are to bowl on the last squad of the single and double events.
14. The single event will be bowled first and double event will follow consecutively.
15. Any late bowler shall forfeit the score in any missed frames in any event.
16. The entry fees shall be paid in the form of postal money order, express moneys order, certified check, or bank draft with the completed entry forms. Personal checks or any entry fees less than the full amount will be not accepted.
17. No entry fees shall be refunded unless a replacement bowler is found.
18. **The dress code for GLDWBA tournaments is as follows:**
 - A. Dress in sleeved polo shirt/blouse with collar, nice slacks/trousers.**
 - B. No denim or colored jeans, capris and shorts are allowed.**
 - C. Skirts/Skortis can be worn as long as length is no more than one inch above the knee.**
 - D. Any bowlers who disregard any of the above item A, B or C may be disqualified.**
19. Discrimination against or use of profane language toward any bowler of the GLDWBA is forbidden.
20. Each bowler is responsible for her own scores.
21. Complaints of any individual bowler should be written in triplicate and sent to any member on the Executive Board. This member shall see to it that the other Board members rule on the said complaint.

Average

22. A bowler's average is to be verified by the GLDWBA Tournament Director.
23. A. The highest USBC-sanctioned average of 21 or more games from the previous year's winter season must be used;
B. If no average from the previous season is available, the entrant must use the current year's average of 21 or more games as of February 1;
C. If a bowler's GLDWBA's average from three (3) to five (5) years prior is ten (10) pins higher than her last year's, she will receive the GLDWBA average in the present tournament.
D. If no establishment average from the previous season and this season, the entrant will use the average based on the tournament average of three (3) previous GLDWBA tournaments of as of last five (5) years.
E. If the above does not apply, then the entrant will enter the game with a 175 average with 60%hcp=15 hcp per event including L.E. Kernz Queens.
24. Handicap will be based on 70% of the difference of bowler's average and 200 actual in the Team, Single and double events, excluding L.E.Kernz Queens. The minimum average is 115; anyone who has a lower average than 115 must use 115 as her average.
25. A bowler's average will be rerated if she has won a prize of three hundred dollars (\$300) or more in the period from last year's GLDWBA tournament date to the present GLDWBA tournament date. The Tournament Director will determine the amount of rerate. The rerate system is as follows: The average of the bowler's league will be subtracted from the actual average of a tournament that a bowler won during the year between the GLDWBA tournament dates, times 20% will be the average used for the current GLDWBA tournament. If a bowler has won more than 1 tournament, 10% more will be added for each tournament won with a maximum of 40%.
Failure to comply with this provision shall cause to forfeit tournament entry fees and prize winnings (Rule 319d).

Prizes

26. A minimum prize fee shall be fifteen dollars (\$15) per woman per event. Bowling and tournament expense fees shall be separated from the entry fees.
27. The handicap prize will be at a ratio of one to four (1 to 4) or to be determined by the Tournament Director.
28. Should an odd number of teams occur in a tournament, a dummy team is to be used, and the cost of the game is to be paid out of the GLDWBA general fund.
29. If there is a tie first in the teams, singles, doubles, or all events, the host of the tournament city is responsible for the expenses of an extra trophy(ies) or plaque(s).
30. Any bowler who bowls a 300 game per tournament (team, doubles, singles) shall receive one hundred dollars (\$100). These awards of one hundred dollars (\$100) will be drawn out of GLDWBA general fund.
31. The prize checks must be mailed to the participated bowlers within thirty (30) days of the tournament.

ARTICLE XII - GLDWBA HALL OF FAME

1. The purpose of the GLDWBA Hall of Fame is to honor deaf women (either living or deceased) who have contributed exceptional bowling services and achievements to the deaf community as bowlers and/or leaders. There shall be two (2) categories of honorees: Bowlers and Leaders.
2. The nominating body for the Hall of Fame committee shall consist of former Presidents and Secretary/Treasurers of GLDWBA.
3. A. The GLDWBA Hall of Fame voting body committee shall consist of the Executive Board of the GLDWBA (excluding the two chairpersons of GLDWBA tournaments), law committee, past officers, and three to seven (3 to 7) bowlers, appointed by the President, who are interested in the welfare of GLDWBA during the odd-numbered year between the Hall of Fame elections.
 - B. The number of voters shall be an odd number.
 - C. A secret ballot voting system shall be used. For those who do not participate in the current tournaments, their ballots will be done by mail and be returned before April 1 of that year.
4. The Tournament Director of GLDWBA, upon request, will assist in furnishing GLDWBA records only to the members of the Hall of Fame Committee.
5. Nominations and biographies must be submitted to the secretary of Hall of Fame Committee on or before March 1st preceding the tournament date.
6. Women shall be nominated on the basis of her outstanding performance, integrity, sportsmanship, and character. No consideration will be given to race, religion, creed, or geographical home.
 - A. Bowlers must have bowled in a total of at least eight (8) GLDWBA tournaments. Death of a bowler auto-eliminates the eight-year eligibility clause for which an election can be held.
 - B. Bowlers must show outstanding achievement in a number of GLDWBA tournaments. Their GLDWBA records shall be listed on all future ballots and shall be used as a basis of their election by the electors.
 - C. Leaders must have contributed at least eight (8) years of service to GLDWBA as captains, officers, and/or chairpersons of bowling tournaments.
 - D. The Hall of Fame nominating committee may submit up to five (5) names in each category for election each year.
7. Once every two (2) years during an odd-numbered year, the ballot for the "Bowlers" category shall be submitted to the Hall of Fame committee during the Executive Board meeting. Once every four (4) years during the odd-numbered year, the ballot for the "Leader" category shall be submitted to the Hall of Fame committee during the Executive Board meeting.
8. Points: Points will be awarded to bowlers who have placed in the top three (3) of each event which consist of team, doubles, singles, all events, queens and senior queens. First place will receive 3 points, second place will receive 2 points and third place will receive 1 point for each event. The position of President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer will receive 2 points for each term. The position of auditors and recording secretary, Law committee and host chairlady will receive 1 point (The officers and law committee positions will be awarded up to the year of 2012, starting in 2013, the Tournament Director position assumes.)
9. Any candidates receiving at least 42 points shall be declared elected.
10. If no candidate receives the requisite 42 points, the Secretary/Treasurer shall declare it null.
11. Any Hall of Fame candidates failing to achieve 42 points shall remain to receive another chance at the next election.
12. Any "write-in" or additions to the ballot shall be voided.
13. The results of votes cast by the Hall of Fame committee shall be announced at the annual GLDWBA Board of Directors meeting during the even-numbered years.
14. A newly elected Hall of Fame member shall receive a plaque in recognition of her achievements at the ballroom during the GLDWBA tournament.

ARTICLE XIII - DISSOLUTION

If there is should be a dissolution of the GLDWBA, the monies in the general fund shall be divided among the previous host cities. The Executive Board will consider the number of times a host city have had has hosted the GLDWBA tournaments.