

**CONSTITUTION  
OF  
BREWERS AND DRINKERS AROUND SILVER SPRING  
(As of January 2017)**

**ARTICLE ONE  
Founding**

**Section 1. Name**

The name of this organization shall be BREWERS AND DRINKERS AROUND SILVER SPRING (AKA BADASS, AKA BREWERS AND DRINKER AROUND SILVER SPRING).

**Section 2. Purpose**

BADASS is organized and operated exclusively for the pleasure and recreation of its members within the meaning of Section 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as amended) or the corresponding provisions of any superseding federal revenue law.

In the conduct of all aspects of its activities, BADASS shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, creed, color, national origin, gender or sexual orientation. Participation in club activities and other events may be restricted on the basis of age.

The purpose of BADASS shall be to encourage all members:

- To promote the dissemination of knowledge in the art of beer, mead, and cider brewing;
- To mature as brewers and enthusiasts in these drinks cultivate a community of like-minded people;
- To educate connoisseurs and devotees in identifying the components of beers, meads, and ciders;
- To encourage and reward individuals dedicated to the brewing arts;
- To foster the responsible use of the products of our craft; and
- To celebrate the fruits of our labors.

**Section 3. Membership**

The membership of BADASS shall be open to any person who legally enjoys fine beers, meads, and ciders, either by making their own or by enjoying the work of others.

**ARTICLE TWO  
Government**

**Section 1. Supreme Law**

All legislative and executive powers shall be given to and controlled by the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors shall consist of all the elected officers of BADASS.

## **Section 2. Elected Officers**

The elected officers of BADASS shall be:

- BADASS Quartermaster
- Keeper of History
- Commander of the Treasury
- IT Commander
- Guardian of BADASS Events
- Lieutenant of Education
- Membership Ambassador

Additional Appointed Positions shall be:

- BADASS(es) At Large

An elected office may be occupied by more than one person subject to Board approval.

## **Section 3. Term of Office**

All offices shall be held for a period of one year, commencing on January 1st elections, and terminating on January 1st of the next year.

A person may serve in the same elected position for three consecutive terms.

## **Section 4. Removal from Office**

Any officer missing three Board of Directors meetings and/or six membership meetings during his/her term of office, without reasonable excuse, shall be removed from office and replaced as soon as possible.

A reasonable excuse shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Any officer, as determined by a majority of the Board of Directors, found not performing his/her duties, may be removed from office, subject to the approval by a majority vote of the membership at the next membership meeting following a report from the Board of Directors to the membership.

## **Section 5. Vacancy of Office**

Any interim vacancy on the Board of Directors shall be filled by appointment by the Board of Directors, subject to the approval by a majority vote of the membership at the next membership meeting following the vacancy.

In the event the membership votes down the appointment by the Board of Directors, there will be open nominations for the vacant office and an election held at said membership meeting to fill the vacancy.

## **Section 6. Returning to BADASS**

All elected officers and any members, upon completion of their term in office or assignment, shall return to the BREWERS AND DRINKERS AROUND SILVER SPRING any and all papers, documents, and property deemed to be important to the operation and history of, and belonging to BADASS.

Failure to comply may result in expulsion from BADASS and civil action if deemed necessary.

## **ARTICLE THREE**

### **Duties of Elected Officers**

#### **Section 1. BADASS Quartermaster (AKA President)**

The duties of the **BADASS Quartermaster** shall be as follows:

- a. To uphold the Constitution and By-Laws of BADASS.
- b. To interpret the Constitution and By-Laws of BADASS when necessary.
- c. To set the theme and agenda for the Board and membership meetings.
- d. To call meetings to order and conduct them in an orderly manner.
- e. To call for special meetings when necessary.
- f. To form committees when necessary.
- g. Shall be an ex officio member of all committees.
- h. Shall have no vote on motions made at membership meetings and/or Board of Directors meetings, except to break a tie.
- i. Shall appoint another Officer to run the monthly meeting if the Quartermaster is unable to attend.

#### **Section 2. Keeper of History**

The duties of the Keeper of History shall be as follows:

- a. To take the minutes of Board of Directors meetings and membership meetings, submit them to the **IT Commander** for publication on the website and any other electronic presence the club may have, and maintain a file of all minutes.
- b. To document in images, writing, and other forms of media club events, gatherings, and other events attended by club members.
- c. To research and maintain a record of the club's history, including documenting significant past and future events.

### **Section 3. Commander of the Treasury (AKA Treasurer)**

The duties of the **Commander of the Treasurer** shall be as follows:

- a. To administer BADASS's finances.
- b. To collect and document monies owed to BADASS.
- c. To manage the club's Check book and arrange to have check signing authority.
- d. To reimburse expenses incurred by members on behalf of BADASS.
- e. To submit a report to the Board of Directors on a quarterly basis, or when requested by the **BADASS Quartermaster**.
- f. To create an annual budget to be agreed upon by the Board.
- g. To maintain the inventory and dispersal of club gear, e.g. t-shirts, hats, glasses and more.

### **Section 5. IT Commander**

The duties of the **IT Commander** shall be as follows:

- a. To promote BADASS to the media and the public at large.
- b. To maintain a file of BADASS's history and events, including, but not limited to, photographs, event descriptions, and meeting minutes authored by the Secretary of Information.
- c. Research, design and maintain the club's online presence. The site shall contain news and scheduling information, archives of recipes, photos, newsletters and other items deemed pertinent.

### **Section 6. Guardian of BADASS Events**

The duties of the **Guardian of BADASS Events** shall be as follows:

- a. Shall work to set up events outside of monthly membership meetings
- b. Shall chair and work to organize “The Free State Homebrew Club Guild” (<http://www.mdhomebrewers.com>) related events, for example the annual holiday party
- c. Assists with coordinating the monthly meetings

### **Section 7. Membership Ambassador**

The duties of the **Membership Ambassador** shall be as follows:

- a. To maintain a current membership roster.
- b. To issue membership cards to members in good standing.
- c. To organize membership drives.
- d. To proctor nominations and elections for BADASS Board members.
- e. Enforce proper etiquette at our meetings.

### **Section 8. Lieutenant of Education**

The duties of the **Lieutenant of Education** shall be as follows:

- a. Identifies education topics (technical and general)
- b. Ensures they are prepared before delivery at the meetings,
- c. Arranges speakers, and administers any special education events (e.g., a special Learn to Brew event)

### **Section 9. BADASS(es) At Large**

The unelected and optional position of **BADASS at Large** is designated for member(s) approved by the Board of Directors who wish to actively participate and comment on the governance of the club. They shall have no official authority or duties except those prescribed to them by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE FOUR**

### **Quorums**

## **Section 1.**

Members will be notified of the agenda and proposed resolutions of a membership meeting 30 days in advance. A resolution or election is considered approved if it received over 50% of the votes cast. Members must be in good standing to vote on resolutions.

A quorum at a Board of Directors meeting shall consist of one half of the Board of Directors plus one.

## **ARTICLE FIVE Election of Officers**

### **Section 1. Eligibility**

Any person who has been a paid member and is in good standing with BADASS may run for an elected office.

### **Section 2. Nominations**

Nominations will open at the October membership meeting. The method of collecting nominees' names shall be done at the discretion of the Quartermaster or the Quartermaster's designate.

### **Section 3. Balloting**

An election shall be held at the November membership meeting. Only paid members with a membership card may vote. The balloting shall be done at the discretion of the Quartermaster or the Quartermaster's designate with provisions taken for absentee and secret ballots.

### **Section 4. Tally**

Tallying of the ballots shall be done at the discretion of the Quartermaster or the Quartermaster's designate.

The new officer(s) for each office shall be that person(s) with a plurality of the votes for that office.

## **ARTICLE SIX Installation of Officers**

### **Section 1. New Officers**

At the December membership meeting, officers-elect will begin a one month internship. Installation of the new officers shall occur at January membership meeting.

## **Section 2. Officers Filling Vacancies**

Any officer filling a vacancy shall be installed at the meeting at which the membership voted its approval.

## **ARTICLE SEVEN Meetings**

### **Section 1. Membership Meetings**

Membership meetings shall be held on the third Monday or Tuesday of each month at the agreed upon location. The exceptions being the months there is a special event, like a joint meeting with another club.

All members are encouraged to attend these events and meetings.

### **Section 2. Board of Directors Meetings**

Board of Directors meetings shall be at a time and place called by the Quartermaster. There shall be a minimum of 2 meetings per year, with additional meetings called by the Quartermaster as needed. These should be announced two weeks in advance of the meeting.

All officers are required to attend and provide a report pertinent to their office. Also, any member may attend these meetings. A summary of the meeting will be shared with the general membership via email and at the next regular membership meeting.

## **ARTICLE EIGHT Amendments**

### **Section 1. Resolutions**

From time to time it may be necessary to modify this Constitution and By-Laws. The procedure shall be as follows:

- a. Any individual, or committee, or the Board of Directors may write a resolution to modify this Constitution and By-Laws. It shall include the reason for the change, the article, the section, the paragraph, etc., where the change will occur, and what the change will be.
- b. If an individual member has drafted a resolution, he/she may present it to the Board of Directors for presentation to the membership or bring it to a membership meeting for

presentation to the membership. The purpose of presenting it to the membership is to inform them about it.

- c. After presentation the membership shall vote on whether or not to accept the resolution for consideration.
- d. The resolution shall be posted on the website after the initial membership approval.
- e. At the next membership meeting, the resolution will be voted on by the members in good standing. A 2/3 majority is required for the resolution to be adopted.

## **BY-LAWS OF THE BREWERS AND DRINKERS AROUND SILVER SPRING**

### **ARTICLE ONE**

#### **Section 1. Membership**

BADASS membership shall be open to any person who agrees with the purpose of BADASS as articulated in section 2 of the constitution. A member in good standing that has voting rights is any person who is current with annual dues and attends at least six membership meetings a year.

#### **Section 2. Dues**

Annual dues shall be determined by the officers for each calendar year. Members shall receive a membership card, access to the members only area of the website, and may enjoy any other benefits that come along with membership in BADASS.

Dues will be reassessed as needed based on club expenses and needs.

#### **Section 3. New Members**

BADASS encourages new people interested in our purpose to join BADASS. New people can attend 3 membership meetings before being asked to officially join as a member in good standing.

#### **Section 4. Returning Members**

Returning members who do not renew shall be placed on an inactive list. If a returning member has not renewed for a period of five years, his/her name shall be dropped from the list.

#### **Section 5. Membership Agreement**



The Board of Directors shall codify a membership agreement that is required for all members. The agreement shall outline acceptable behavior and risks assumed by members. It will cover a code of conduct and outline liability.

## **Section 6. Membership Cards**

The club shall provide to each member a card designating them as a member of BADASS. The card shall be required for all discounts and voting privileges except where waived by the Board of Directors or vendor.

## **ARTICLE TWO**

### **Section 1. Meeting Setup**

Meetings shall begin with a call to order by the Quartermaster. Introductions of any new attendees will be facilitated, followed by any relevant announcements. Guest speakers or educational topics will follow the announcements. After the meeting agenda has been covered attendees will have the option to engage in open discussion and tasting of the beers brought to the meeting. Additionally there will be an area where those interested in more detailed analysis of their beer can receive feedback from members with prior judging experience.

## **ARTICLE THREE**

### **Section 1. Annual Budget and Use of Club Funds**

The Commander of the Treasury will create an annual budget to include the anticipated club expenses and club revenue over the course of the year. The budget will include website costs, insurance costs, and other expenses that the club anticipates to incur throughout the year. It will also include anticipated revenue by dues and other events, as well as any funds remaining from previous years.

The Board of Directors will meet to review the proposed budget. The Board will vote on the budget to accept it for the next year. Club funds will only be utilized in accordance with the agreed upon budget.

If an additional expense is needed it must be discussed and agreed upon by the Board before funds can be spent.

## **ARTICLE FOUR**

### **Section 1. Effective Date**

This Constitution and By-Laws shall be considered in effect when approved by at least two thirds of the membership present at the membership meeting where this document is put to a vote.

**ELECTED LEADERSHIP (2017)**

**BADASS Quartermaster (AKA President):**

Michelle Tacconelli

**Keeper of History:**

Justin Kirby

**Commander of the Treasury (AKA Treasurer):**

Brian Taylor

**IT Commander**

Gary Sharp

**Guardian of BADASS Events:**

Mark Lewis

**Membership Ambassador:**

Matt Ellis

**Lieutenant of Education:**

Adam Stine