

# **Code of Regulations of the Filipino-American Association of Greater Atlanta, Inc.**

Established 1974

These Regulations, which shall govern the affairs of the Filipino-American Association of Greater Atlanta, may be repealed or revised solely by the Board of Directors of the Association as provided for in the Constitution and shall take effect only upon ratification of the Constitution by the membership at a special meeting called for that purpose.

## **Regulation 1: MEMBERSHIP**

### **Section 1. Eligibility for Membership.**

1. Membership in the Association shall be open to any person who has any special interest in the objectives of the Association as stated in the Constitution's Preamble.

### **Section 2. Membership.**

A member shall be any person who has attained to the age of eighteen years who is not in default of dues and fees or under suspension, is entitled to all the rights and privileges of membership.

### **Section 3. Suspension and Expulsion from Membership.**

1. A member may be suspended or expelled from membership for disorderly conduct in an Association event, malfeasance in office, conviction in a court of law for felony, misdemeanor, and other acts inimical to the image of the Association, but such power to suspend or expel shall be vested in the Board of Directors, who shall hear all the allegations about the alleged errant member.
2. A member subject to suspension or expulsion may present his case before the Board of Directors, may be represented by counsel, and the right to confront his accusers.
3. All decisions of the Board of Directors are subject to appeal to the Tribunal of Elders whose decision shall be binding and final.

## **Regulation 2: DUES AND FEES**

### **Section 1. Dues and Membership.**

1. Being a Sociocultural organization, the Association Officers, committee members, Elders, and everyone involved in the conduct of business for the Association are on a volunteer basis and do their work without any form of remuneration.
2. Dues shall be twenty-five dollars annually for each family, fifteen dollars for individuals and five dollars for students aged 18 to 25 years. A FAMILY is defined as HUSBAND and WIFE and CHILDREN under age 18 years, including all SENIOR household members. SENIORS are defined as the parents or in-laws and are qualified dependents of the head of family. The membership dues are in effect for 365 days from the date of payment.
3. Dues paid by members shall be taken as payment for the year in which the payment is made. Dues paid by new members during the last quarter of the year shall be considered as payment for dues for the coming year.

## **Regulation 3: ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS**

### **Section 1. Election Committee**

1. An Election Committee of at least four members shall be empanelled by the incumbent President at least two months before election day with the President as ex officio Chair of the Committee.
2. The Election Committee shall solicit, accept, qualify, and certify applicants for nomination in the election and publish in the newsletter the names of all the candidates with the corresponding offices for which they are candidates, and such other information as may be pertinent to assure a quick and orderly election.
3. On the day of the election, all candidates shall be nominated from the floor. The candidates shall have been certified by the Election Committee at least two hours prior to the floor deliberations. Certification consists of each candidate being nominated in writing by a member, and the candidate accepting the nomination in writing, and both nomination form and acceptance form being submitted to the Secretary two hours before the election meeting begins.

### **Section 2. Elections**

1. The incumbent Board of Directors shall conduct the election at the meeting called for the purpose of electing candidates for office and shall establish the rules and guidelines of the election procedures, but that such rules and Regulations shall not violate the letter and essence of the Constitution.
2. All candidates for any office or position shall be present during the nomination and election.
3. No candidate names shall be printed on the ballots except that there shall be a listing of all the names of the candidates posted conspicuously during

the election.

4. Officers shall be elected by a majority vote and serve for the respective periods specified herein until their successors are elected and qualified.

5. Voting for a given office shall be done by secret ballot when more than one candidate is running for that office. The President shall receive the ballots and such ballots shall be counted and certified correct and final by the Board of Directors. The candidates who receive the largest number of affirmative votes shall be the official winners. If the difference in a contest is less than 10 percent of the votes cast, a candidate may ask for a recount. In case of a tie, a run-off shall be held between the two top candidates at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors.

## **Regulation 4: UNAPPROPRIATED FUNDS**

### **Section 1. Expenditure of Unappropriated Funds.**

No check shall be issued for any unbudgeted item without Board approval, except between meetings, when the President may authorize expenditures up to \$150 each time, subject to an annual limit of \$1,000. Disbursements for unbudgeted items shall be presented by the Treasurer at the next Board meeting.

### **Section 2. Minimum Funds of the Association.**

The incumbent Board of Directors shall transfer an operating account with a minimum of two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) to the incoming Board of Directors each year. Any amount in excess of this minimum amount shall be transferred to the Legacy Fund.

## **Regulation 5: COMMUNICATION**

1. Timely communication of new events, Laws, scheduled meetings, and other such information to the general membership is of paramount importance in achieving the stated objectives of the Filipino-American Association of Greater Atlanta. The general mode of communication shall be via an official Association newsletter, flyers and the Association website.

2. In addition to the Newsletter, the Association shall post information on the Association on its website on the Internet.

## **Regulation 6: ELDERS**

1. The Elders shall not discuss tribunal cases outside official sessions of the Tribunal.

2. The Tribunal of Elders shall develop and publish procedures for its

operations.

END OF THE CODE OF REGULATIONS