

## INDIA CULTURAL ASSOCIATION BYLAWS

### **BYLAW 1: MEMBERSHIP**

These Bylaws were amended as of December 2015 per Article VII of India Cultural Association constitution by a unanimous vote of the Board of Trustees.

Any person who meets the membership qualification requirements of Article III of the Constitution is eligible to become a member of the India Cultural Association (ICA or HINDUMANDIR OF LAKE COUNTY) in **any one** of the following categories described herein. The eligible person shall fill out an application and pay the proper membership dues. The membership dues may be changed by a resolution passed by the Board of Trustees or General Body of the HINDU MANDIR OF LAKE COUNTY. The membership shall be renewed every year. The membership will be based on a calendar year.

For the purpose of eligibility of membership privileges based on member donations, the family shall be defined as husband, wife and children who are full time students.

There will be three categories of members: (1) Regular Member (2) Life Member and (3) Patron Member.

**For each membership category described below, any** person who pays annual membership fee or more in any calendar year by October 31, and meets the membership requirements of the constitution, shall be a member in that category. All “Eligible Donations” will count towards membership fees. Such person shall fill out an application form to express his/her willingness to abide by the Constitution of ICA (HINDU MANDIR OF LAKE COUNTY).

Each active member shall have voting rights for that year and be eligible for a Board of Trustee seat election in their respective category for that year. A person cannot be a member in more than one category.

#### **1) Regular Member**

- A. Any person who has cumulative Eligible Donations equal to “Regular Member Fee”, or more, is a Regular Member.

**“Regular Membership Dues” shall be an annual fee of \$250 for each person for the years 2015 and 2016, and \$600 thereafter.**

#### **2) Life Member:**

- A. Any person who has made a cumulative Eligible Donations equal to “Life Member Donation (X)”, or more, (a) prior to December 31, 2008, or (b) over a period of 5 consecutive years, is a Life Member.
- B. Any Regular Member who has made cumulative Eligible Donations equal to “Life member Donation (X)”, or more, is a Life Member.

- C. During the years 2015 and 2016 any Regular Member can request the Board of Trustees to be considered a Life Member by providing available evidence of their prior Eligible Donations. After reviewing the evidence, internal records of ICA and other evidence including standing of the member and input from those who have been involved with ICA since its early days, the Board of Trustees can approve the requesting member as a Life Member.
- D. A Life Member can permanently transfer his/her Life Membership to a spouse at any time. Upon death of a Life Member, the life membership will transfer to his/her spouse upon a written request to ICA by the surviving spouse if such request is made within one year of the death of the Life Member. Since this provision is new, requests for transfers for past occurrences will be entertained till December 2016. Such transfer of life membership cannot be reversed.
- E. A Life Member who has made Eligible Donations in excess of “Life member Donation (X)” can, for every additional “Life member Donation (X)” of excess Eligible Donations, apply such excess Eligible Donations towards life membership of his/her spouse or child.
- F. Once Board of trustees recognizes a person as a Life Member, he/she is a Life Member until his /her death unless he/she is disqualified per Article III of ICA constitution.
- G. “Life Member Donation (X)” shall be \$5,000 for the years 2015 and 2016, and \$10,000 thereafter.

A Life Member who has paid “Life Member Dues” is an active Life Member for that year; otherwise he/she is an inactive Life Member. An inactive Life Member becomes active Life Member when he/she pays the “Life Member Dues”.

“Life Membership Dues” shall be an annual fee of \$250 for each Life Member.

### 3) **Patron Members**

- A. Any Regular Member or a Life Member who has made cumulative Eligible Donations equal to “Patron Member Donation (Y)” or more (a) prior to December 31, 2008 or (b) over a period of five consecutive years, is a Patron Member.
- B. Any Life Member who has made cumulative Eligible Donations of “Patron Member Donation (Y)”, including the donations that counted towards his/her Life Membership, but excluding the excess Eligible Donations that were applied towards life membership of his/her spouse or child per paragraph 2(E), is a Patron Member.
- C. During the years 2015 and 2016 any Regular Member or Life Member can request the Board of Trustees to be considered a Patron Member by providing available evidence

of their prior Eligible Donations. After reviewing the evidence, internal records of ICA and other evidence including standing of the member and input from those who have been involved with ICA since its early days, the Board of Trustees can approve the requesting member as a Patron Member.

- D. A Patron Member can permanently transfer his/her Patron Membership to a spouse at any time. Upon death of a Patron Member, the patron membership will transfer to his/her spouse upon a written request to ICA by the surviving spouse if such request is made within one year of the death of the Patron Member. Since this provision is new, requests for transfers for past occurrences will be entertained till December 2016. Such transfer of patron membership cannot be reversed.
- E. A Patron Member who has made Eligible Donations in excess of "Patron Member Donation (Y)" can apply such excess Eligible Donations as follows: a) "Life Member Donation (X)" of excess Eligible Donations towards life membership of his/her spouse or child, b) The difference between "Patron Member Donation (Y)" and "Life Member Donation (X)" i.e. (Y-X) of excess Eligible Donations towards patron membership of his/her spouse or child who is a Life Member, or c) "Patron Member Donation (Y)" of excess Eligible Donations towards patron membership of his/her spouse or child who is not a Life Member. Excess Eligible Donations can only be used once.
- F. Once Board of trustees recognizes a person as a Patron Member, he/she is a Patron Member forever unless he/she is disqualified per Article III of ICA constitution.
- G. "Patron Member Donation (Y)" shall be \$20,000 for the years 2015 and 2016, and \$40,000 thereafter.

A Patron Member who has paid "Patron Member Dues" is an active Patron Member for that year; otherwise he/she is an inactive Patron Member. An inactive Patron Member becomes active Patron Member when he/she pays the "Patron Member Dues".

"Patron Membership Dues" shall be an annual fee of \$250 for each Patron Member.

### **Eligible Donations:**

All payments to ICA of \$100 or more are Eligible Donations except payments for a) Purchase of food, religious and all other auxiliary items, b) Rental payment for the Temple premises, c) non-deductible portion of fund-raising dinner tickets and d) specific payments declared ineligible by ICA.