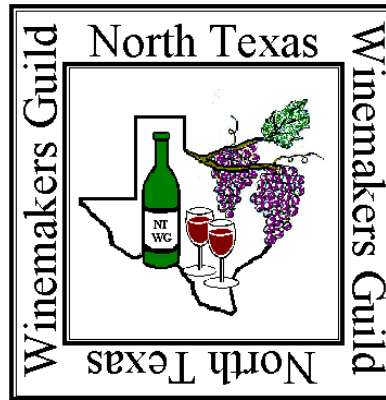


NORTH TEXAS WINEMAKERS GUILD

BY-LAWS



ARTICLE I: Name

The name of the organization is “The North Texas Winemakers Guild”, referred to herein as “The Guild.”

ARTICLE II: Purpose

The purpose of this organization is to:

1. Encourage and support the art of winemaking and wine appreciation in Texas.
2. Serve as a gathering point for people who are interested in improving their winemaking skills through education, contests, sharing of information, and social interaction.

ARTICLE III: Membership

Section 1.

Membership in The Guild is open to everyone who is interested in the art of winemaking and who is of legal drinking age in the state of Texas.

Section 2.

The active membership of The Guild shall consist of persons who have paid their dues. Active members will have full voting privileges on all issues discussed by The Guild.

Section 3.

Members of The Guild acknowledge that consumption of alcoholic beverages is an individual responsibility. Accepting membership status automatically means that the member agrees to abide by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission rules and regulations; the member acknowledges and takes responsibility for his/her own actions, and the member will never hold another member or meeting host responsible for his/her own actions.

ARTICLE IV. Dues

Section 1.

The Guild's fiscal calendar will run from January through December.

Section 2.

Dues are to be paid annually during the month of January. Any Member who has not paid their dues by the March meeting will be dropped from The Guild roster.

Section 3.

Annual dues are \$10 per person or \$15 per couple. For Members joining The Guild after June 30 of the fiscal year, the dues owed will be one-half of the annual amount.

Section 4.

The dues amount is set by the recommendation of the Officers and is subject to change pending approval of the membership majority vote. Dues may be changed only in December with the changes taking affect beginning in January of the following year.

ARTICLE V. Meetings

Section 1.

Guild meetings will be held monthly, usually on the third Saturday, unless it has been determined and approved in advance by the Membership that another date is more appropriate because of a holiday, conflict or other extenuating circumstance.

Section 2.

Guild members and each person in their party are expected to bring a side dish or snack and a bottle of wine to meetings that they attend.

Section 3.

The active members in attendance at a regular Guild meeting will constitute a quorum. In the event that any member feels there is an insufficient number of attendees to assure a fair opinion, that member may move to table the business until the next meeting.

ARTICLE VI: Officers

Section 1.

The following Elected Offices are established for The Guild:

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer

Section 2.

The duties of the Officers of The Guild are:

- President – The duties of the President are to preside over meetings of The Guild, document meeting minutes, develop and distribute the monthly newsletter and member contact information, review and approve the content of The Guild Web site, schedule activities and prepare the annual Guild calendar. The President is also responsible for Public Relations for The Guild, including but not limited to distributing information about The Guild, soliciting new members for The Guild, and identifying opportunities for advertising and exposing the presence and purpose of The Guild to the Public.
- Vice President – The duties of the Vice President are to provide input to the monthly newsletter, review the content of The Guild Web site, assist in the scheduling of Guild activities, and to identify and support Public Relations opportunities for The Guild. During any absence of the President, the Vice President will reside over The Guild meetings, document meeting minutes, and prepare and distribute the monthly newsletter.
- Treasurer – The duties of the Treasurer are to collect, record and deposit annual membership dues and other collected funds, maintain The Guild bank account, maintain a list of active paid members, and approve submissions for and provide reimbursement for Guild business expenses. The Treasurer resides over The Guild meetings and documents meeting minutes in the absence of the President and the Vice President.

Section 3.

The term of office for all Officers of The Guild will be one fiscal calendar year.

ARTICLE VII: Elections

Section 1.

The Annual Election of Officers for The Guild will take place prior to the third Saturday of January so that the new Officer roster can be announced at the January meeting of the new year. All Officer positions will be voted upon.

Section 2.

Names of candidates for The Guild Officer positions must be submitted no later than midnight of the second Saturday of December of the ending year. Nominations for candidates may be made by other members provided the nominated candidate accepts the nomination and agrees to fulfill all responsibilities of the position if elected.

Any candidate submitted for consideration to a Guild office must be an active (dues paid) member of The Guild.

Section 3.

The Election Ballot will be presented to The Guild members no later than midnight of the third Saturday of December.

Each paid member will be eligible to vote in the election. Voting may be voiced in person at the December meeting or may be submitted via email or via paper ballot.

Voting on the Election Ballot will be concluded at midnight on the second Saturday of January of the new year. Final results of the voting will be presented to The Guild members no later than midnight of the third Saturday of January for that new year unless a tie occurs.

Section 4.

The candidate who runs for a Guild Office and receives the most votes of the membership will win election to the Office. In case of a tie, a 7 day extension will be allowed for the members to revote on the tied candidates.

Any approved candidate who runs unopposed for a Guild Officer position shall automatically be elected to that Guild Officer position, without need for a vote from the Guild membership.

Section 5.

Newly elected Guild Officers will begin their term with the January meeting of the fiscal year following the election.

Section 6.

Any elected Guild Officer who does not renew his/her membership during the year they are serving office must relinquish their position.

Guild Officers are subject to removal from office by a two-thirds vote of the membership for failure to perform their assigned duties.

The President may appoint an interim officer for the vacated position until a special election can be held. A special election will take place to fill any vacated Guild Officer position as soon as nominations have been solicited and accepted.