



## BY-LAWS OF THE DANTE CLUB OF SACRAMENTO, INC.

### ARTICLE I

#### NAME

The Organization shall be known as the DANTE CLUB OF SACRAMENTO, INC.

### ARTICLE II

#### AIMS AND PURPOSES.

It shall be the aims and purposes of the DANTE CLUB to be a FRATERNAL CLUB; to encourage FRIENDSHIP; to provide ACTIVITIES for Club Members and Families; Sustain the ITALIAN HERITAGE; and be good CITIZENS in the community.

(AMENDED 2/23)

### ARTICLE III

#### MEMBERSHIP

##### Section One: QUALIFICATIONS:

1. To be a member of the Dante Club, the Applicant must be of good moral character. He must fulfill the requirements of one of the classes listed below.

##### Section Two: CLASSES:

#### 1. REGULAR MEMBERS:

a. He must be Italian in origin as listed below:

- (1) By birth.
- (2) Both parents are of Italian origin or extraction.
- (3) Either parent is of Italian origin or extraction.
- (4) Grandfather or grandmother is of Italian extraction.
- (5) He must be 21 years of age or more.

#### 2. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

a. An Associate Member can be non-Italian by birth or origin, but his spouse must be the daughter of a member of the DANTE CLUB, either deceased or living, in good standing.

b. An Associate Member can be non-Italian by birth or origin, but his spouse must be of Italian origin and a current member of the Dante Club Auxiliary. (Amended 5/17)

c. An Associate Member can be non-Italian by birth or origin, but his spouse must be of Italian origin. (Amended 10/23)



d. Membership Committee will record and track three Associate Member waiting lists. When there is an opening for an Associate Member, the first priority is the subsection a list(above). If no one is on the subsection a list, then the next priority is the subsection b list (above). Finally, if no one is on the subsection b list, then the opening goes to the subsection c list (above). (Amended10/23)

e. Associate Members will not exceed 15% of the total membership of the Dante Club. They may enjoy all rights and privileges of membership, except they cannot be nominated or elected to office.

### 3. LIFE MEMBERS:

a. Life Membership may be given to a member after the age of 65, if in the eyes of the Board of Directors, he has been a dues paying member in good standing for at least 30 years, and has served the club in an official capacity, or above and beyond the normal call of duty. He must be approved by the General Membership. They must be recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by the General Membership. They pay no dues and will not be counted in the total membership. (Amended 6/08)

b. Inactive Life Membership may be given on request to those members who have been in good standing, but who become incapacitated and are unable to attend functions and meetings. They must be recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by the General Membership. They pay no dues and will not be counted in the total membership.

### 4. HONORARY MEMBERS:

a. An Honorary Member must be one who has rendered or can render distinguished service to the club.

b. He can be of any national origin.

c. He must be proposed by the President, and approved by the Board of Directors, for presentation to the General Membership for approval.

### Section Three: DUES and INITIATION FEES:

1. The dues for classes No.1 and 2 will be \$100.00 per year.

Classes No.3 and 4 will pay no dues.

2. The initiation fee for classes 1 and 2 will be \$100.00.

3. These fees may be changed by a recommendation of the Board of Directors to the General Membership, by the same process as amending the By-Laws. (10/20)

4. Dues will be paid annually in advance.

5. Members currently serving in any branch of the armed forces who can provide a copy of written orders indicating that they have been assigned to a location that is not within one hour traveling distance to the Dante Club for a period of



six months or more will be exempt from paying dues for the year(s) of their assignment. (Amended 11/16)

#### Section Four: ARREARAGE:

1. A member who is in arrears in his dues one month will be considered delinquent and will be subject to the following restrictions. He will be ineligible for nomination and election to any office. He may not participate in the Nomination or Election of Officers, nor vote on the question that requires a two-thirds majority, or the Amending of By-Laws.
2. A member who is in arrears 3 months or 90 days, and has been properly notified by the Financial Secretary, may be dropped from the rolls and lose all rights of a member.
3. Any member, whose membership in the Dante Club has been terminated in any manner, will forfeit all interest in any funds, or other property of the Dante Club and all rights to the use of the Dante Club name, emblem or other insignia.
4. If a member becomes delinquent in his dues due to illness, or inability to pay, and if the Financial Secretary upon examination of his records, deems the reason just, the Board of Directors may suspend the payment of dues, without loss of membership.

#### Section Five: REINSTATEMENT OF MEMBERS:

1. A member who is in arrears 3 months or less may reinstate himself in good standing by fulfilling the following conditions:
  - a. Pay all back dues, and the balance of year's dues in advance.
2. A member who has been dropped from the rolls for nonpayment of dues may seek reinstatement as follows:
  - a. Upon receipt of the Dismissal Notice, which the Financial Secretary will mail by registered mail, the suspended member may appeal to the Board of Directors, either in person or in writing, stating the reason for the arrearage. This must be done by the 2nd Board Meeting following the receipt of the Notice.
3. The Board of Directors will make its recommendation to The General Membership and the members will vote on the reinstatement. A majority vote in favor will allow the reinstatement. (10/20)

#### Section Six: LIMIT ON MEMBERSHIP (amend. 11/97)

1. Total membership of the Dante Club, including life members and associate members will not exceed 380.

## ARTICLE IV

### ORGANIZATION



Section One: OFFICERS:

1. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- a. The affairs and business of the Dante Club will be managed by a Board of Directors consisting of fifteen (15) men. The Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer/Financial Secretary, although not considered to be part of the fifteen (15) member Board of Directors, will attend Board of Director meetings and have the authority to vote on all matters coming before the Board of Directors.
- b. They must be nominated and elected biannually from the membership at large. They will hold office for two years and continue in office until their successors are duly elected and installed. (10/20)
- c. The Board of Directors will nominate and elect from its members the following officers: President, 1st Vice President and 2nd Vice President.

2. PRESIDENT:

- a. The President must be nominated and elected from the Membership of the Board of Directors. He will serve for 2 consecutive years and will continue in office until his successor is nominated, elected, and installed.
- b. He must be nominated, elected, and assume the responsibilities of his office at a special meeting, held on the same night as the General Election. He must be installed at the next regular meeting. (10/20)

3. 1st VICE- PRESIDENT:

- a. He must be nominated and elected from the membership of the Board on the same night as the General Election and assume the responsibilities of his office the same night. His term will be no more than 2 consecutive years, and he must continue in office until his successor is elected and installed. He must be installed at the next regular meeting. (10/20)

4. 2<sup>nd</sup> VICE-PRESIDENT:

- a. He must be nominated and elected from the membership of the Board on the same night as the General Election and assume the responsibilities of his office the same night. His term will be no more than 2 consecutive years, and he will continue in office until his successor is elected and installed. He must be installed at the next regular meeting. (10/20)

5. CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

- a. The Corresponding Secretary must be nominated and elected from the General Membership. He must be installed at the next regular meeting.



6. TREASURER/FINANCIAL SECRETARY

- a. Treasurer/Financial Secretary candidates must be nominated from the General Membership. A review of the candidate(s) to determine their qualifications and experience must be conducted by the Board of Directors, or appointed committee. The Board of Directors will then appoint the Treasurer/Financial Secretary based on that review. (*amended 10/20*)

7. HOUSE MANAGER:

- a. The qualifications for the House Manager will be set by the Board of Directors.
- b. The House Manager must be appointed by the Board of Directors and serve at the pleasure of the Board. (10/20)

8. ELIGIBILITY:

- a. To be eligible for office in the Dante Club, the Candidate must be in good standing in dues, and must have been an active member for 24 months.

9. SERGEANT AT ARMS:

- a. The President may, if he deems it necessary, appoint from the general membership a Sergeant at Arms.

Section Two: COMMITTEES:

1. After installation the President will appoint the following Standing Committees:

- Membership/Investigating (10/20)
- Advisory/Finance (10/20)
- Social
- Grounds and Building
- Publicity
- By-Laws
- Scholarship (amended 5/12)

ARTICLE V

POWERS and DUTIES of OFFICERS

Section One: BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

1. The Board of Directors, duly elected and installed as prescribed by the By-Laws, will have the following powers and duties:

- a. The Board will have the right to hire and fire the House Manager.
- b. They may meet on the 2nd Monday of each month, to consider the following items:

1. Written Reports from the House Manager.



2. May approve and pay all bills contracted by the Dante Club in a manner approved by the Board.
  3. Consider the acceptance or rejection of any project or social activity that involves the Dante Club.
  - c. In matters involving the expenditure of more than \$5,000.00, the Board shall consider the recommendation of the Advisory/Finance Committee and act on it.
  - d. The Board Committee Chairs will present a resume of its activities to the General Meeting. (10/20)
  - e. The Board shall have the power to fill vacancies that may occur on the Board and Officers. These appointments may be made from the General Membership, and the qualifications may be the same as an elected officer.
  - f. Quorum: In order to transact business at least 5 Directors shall be present.
2. PRESIDENT:
- a. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Dante Club and Board of Directors. (10/20)
  - b. He may appoint all Standing and Special Committees needed to conduct the Business and affairs of the Dante Club. He shall be an Ex-Officio member of all Committees.
3. 1st VICE.PRESIDENT:
- a. He will assume the Duties and powers of the President whenever the President is absent.
  - b. He may serve as the Chairman of the Advisory/Finance Committee.
  - c. He may serve on the Advisory/Finance Committee. (10/20)
4. 2nd VICE-PRESIDENT:
- a. He may assume the Duties and Powers of the President in case both President and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President are absent or disabled.
  - b. He may be Chairman of the Membership Committee and may serve on the Grounds and Building Committee. (10/20)
5. CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:
- a. It will be the Duty of the Corresponding Secretary:
    1. To insure a complete up to date roster of the members is maintained.
    2. To mail all necessary meeting notices.
    3. To handle all correspondence.
    4. His salary will be set by the Board of Directors.
    5. He will be responsible for recording & archiving all current voting, as well as documenting Policy changes. There will be a current copy at the GM office so any member, at any time, may visit the Dante Club Policies. (10/20)



6. TREASURER/FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

- a. It will be the Duty of the Treasurer/Financial Secretary: (10/20)
  1. To keep an adequate set of books and records.
  2. Upon receipt of the proper authority, he will issue all checks.
  3. The Financial Secretary/Treasurer will make a report of the following:
    - a. Total Dues Collected.
    - b. Total Receipts received from the operation of the Club House.
    - c. Make a report on the Cash Condition of the Club.
    - d. Read the names of the members delinquent in dues.
    - e. Read all the bills approved for payment.
    - f. His salary will be set by the Board of Directors.
  4. To deposit all scholarship fund donations to a specific and separate bank-account, named "Scholarship Account".
    - a. Scholarship Account funds to be used 'for the sole purpose of providing Scholarship Awards to award recipients, as designated by the Scholarship Committee. (Subsection 4 Added 5/12)

7. HOUSE MANAGER:

- a. The House Manager will be hired by and serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors.
- b. The Manager will operate the business of the Club House, under the supervision of the Board and the Advisory/Finance Committee.
- c. The Manager's qualifications and salary will be set by the Board of Directors, and its committees.
- d. The Manager will present monthly written reports to the Board of Directors.
- e. The Manager-will be subjected to a Bond of \$10,000.00. (10/20)

8. ATTENDANCE:

- a. It will be the duty of all the Elected Officers to attend all meetings, except under the following conditions:
  1. Illness
  2. Bona fide Excuse
  3. A leave of absence granted by the Board.
- b. If an Officer or Director is absent more than three consecutive meetings:
  1. His office will be declared vacant.
  2. His successor will be appointed by the Board of Directors from the Board of Directors or the General Membership. (10/20)



## ARTICLE VI

### DUTIES & POWER OF STANDING COMMITTEES

#### Section One: ADVISORY/ FINANCE COMMITTEE

1. This Committee may consist of at least 6 members; including the current President, and Treasurer/Financial Secretary.
2. This Committee may review all questions that involve the finances of the Dante Club.
3. All projects that involve significant expenditure of monies, must be first reviewed by this Committee and their recommendation given to the Board and membership.
4. This Committee may have the power to require Budgets submitted covering the activities of the Dante Club.
5. This Committee has the Power to audit the Books.
6. Committee must have a representative at the Register Reading, and the taking of the Inventory.
7. This Committee will be the Contact between the House Manager and the Board and members. It will convey the wishes of the Board to the Manager. It will advise and aid the Manager in the operation of the Club House.
8. It will assist the House Manager in the taking of Inventories.  
(10/20)

#### Section Two: GROUNDS & BUILDING COMMITTEE:

1. This Committee may consist of 5 members; it will be the duty of the Grounds & Building Committee to supervise the maintenance of the building and grounds, to recommend the necessary improvements. (10/20)

#### Section Three: BY-LAWS COMMITTEE:

1. The By-Laws Committee may consist of 5 members. (10/20)
2. It will be the duty of the By-Laws Committee to receive, consider and pass on all Amendments before submission to the General Membership at a General Meeting.
3. This Committee will be the Official Interpreter of the meaning and effect of these By-Laws.
  - a. This interpretation may be overridden by a majority of the members present.

#### Section Four: MEMBERSHIP/INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE: (10/20)

1. This Committee may consist of 5 members.
2. It will solicit new members.
3. This Committee will receive the completed applications for membership, from the Secretary.
4. It will investigate all applicants as to their qualifications for membership.
5. It will report its recommendations to the General Meeting





Section Five SOCIAL COMMITTEE:

1. The Social Committee may consist of approximately 7 members; the Chairman will be a member of the Board of Directors.
  - a. It will plan and recommend all forms of entertainment.
  - b. Under its jurisdiction the following events will be planned.
    1. Cioppino Dinners
    2. Christmas Dinner
    3. Other Social Events
    4. Monthly Raffle
  - c. The Chairman of the Social Committee may appoint from the members of the Social Committee, the Chairman and members of the Raffle Committee. (10/20)

Section Six: PUBLICITY COMMITTEE:

1. This Committee may consist of 1 or more members.
2. It will provide all publicity of Club Events.

Section Seven: SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: (Section added 5/12)

1. This Committee may consist of 3 or more members.
2. It will solicit scholarship applicants.
3. It will investigate all applicants as to their qualifications.
4. It will review and report its recommendations to the Board of Directors for approval.
5. It will serve as Trustees of the Scholarship Funds and Scholarship Account.

Section Eight: SPECIAL COMMITTEES: (amended 5/12)

1. The president will appoint, at the necessary time, any special committees needed for special conditions.

## ARTICLE VII

### MEETINGS

Section One: REGULAR MEETINGS:

1. The regular meeting of the Dante Club may be held on the 3rd Monday of each month except during July and August.
2. The meeting may be called to order at 8:00 p.m. Nine members, other than the President and Secretaries; will constitute a Quorum.
3. All meetings will be presided over by the President; in case of his absence the Vice Presidents will preside according to the By-Laws.
4. The following will be the Order of Business and Procedure in the Conducting of Meetings:
  - a. Call to order
  - b. Pledge
  - c. Quorum Call



- d. Roll Call of Officers
- e. Reading of Minutes of Previous Meetings
- f. Reading of Correspondence
- g. Report of Board, with Recommendations
- h. Standing Committee Reports
  - 1. Advisory/Finance (10/20)
  - 2. Grounds & Building
  - 3. By-Laws
  - 4. Membership/Investigating (10/20)
  - 5. Social
  - 6. Publicity
  - 7. Scholarship
- i. Report of Special Committees
- j. House Manager's Report
- k. Old Business
  - 1. Special Orders (Use when appropriate)
    - 1. Initiation
    - 2. Nominations
    - 3. Elections
    - 4. Installation
- m. New Business
- n. Treasurer's Report on the Financial Condition of the Club
- o. Good of the Order
- p. Adjournment

#### Section Two: SPECIAL MEETINGS:

1. Special Meetings of the Board of Directors or the General Membership may be called by the President at his discretion to discuss special problems. However, the Agenda of such meetings must be stated on the Notices and will be the only order of business. The addition of other business to the order of the day may be accomplished by majority of the members present. (10/20)
2. Special Meetings may be called at the request of 2 or more members of the Board of Directors. These meetings are subject to the same rules as above.
3. Two or more members may request a Special Meeting, subject to the same conditions above.

#### ARTICLE VIII

#### NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

##### Section One: NOMINATIONS:

The Board of Directors and Officers must be nominated and elected as provided in the following sections:



1. The Nominating Committee, consisting of 5 members of the Board of Directors, may be appointed by the President at the November meeting of the Board of Directors.
2. The Nominating Committee may nominate 5 candidates and make its report to the November general meeting. The members at the November/December general meetings may nominate 10 or more candidates. To be placed on the ballot, candidates must be present at this meeting.
3. The Corresponding Secretary and the Treasurer/Financial Secretary will be nominated from the floor at the November/December general meetings.
4. The Corresponding Secretary will prepare a ballot containing the names of all the qualified candidates. (10/20)

#### Section Two: ELECTIONS:

1. The Election of the Board of Directors, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer/Financial Secretary will be held during the December general meeting. The 15 candidates with the largest number of votes will be designated as the Elected Board of Directors. (*amended 10/20*)
2. During an intermission of the General Meeting the newly elected Board will hold a special meeting. At this meeting, the New Board will nominate and elect from its members the following officers:
  - a. President.
  - b. 1st Vice-President.
  - c. 2nd Vice-President.This will be the only business transacted at this special meeting.
3. Immediately after the Special Meeting, the General Meeting will reassemble, and the New Officers will be introduced.

#### Section Three: TIES:

1. In case of a tie vote in the ballots cast for Director or Officers the following procedure will be used:
  - a. A new ballot containing the names of the candidates who were tied will be prepared.
  - b. There will be a new vote cast.
  - c. If the number of ballots cast is deemed to be too large to count at this meeting the results may be announced at the next meeting or at a special meeting.
  - d. If there are only two parties to the tie, and if both candidates are agreeable, the flip of a coin may be used to break the tie. Otherwise the casting of a secret ballot is the only method.



## ARTICLE IX

### NEW MEMBERS

#### Section One: APPLICATIONS:

1. Applications for membership in the Dante Club will be made as follows:
  - a. The applicant will complete a regular form, furnished by the club, answering all questions.
  - b. The application will be signed by the applicant and one sponsor. The application will then be forwarded by mail to the chairman of the Membership/Investigating Committee.

The chairman of the Membership/Investigating Committee will report all applications received at the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors.
  - c. After the application has been read at the Board of Directors meeting, it will be referred to the Membership/Investigating Committee. The report of the Membership/ Investigating Committee will be given at the General Meeting.
  - d. If no vacancies exist on the rolls of the Dante Club, the application will be filed and processed in the order received.
  - e. If there are applications on file and a vacancy exists, the applications will be processed on an alternate basis: to wit, one son of a member and one non-son of a member.
  - f. The initiation fee and dues will be due and payable upon notification of acceptance and before initiation. (10/20)

#### Section Two: BALLOTING ON APPLICATIONS:

1. Applications, after being reviewed and approved by the Investigating Committee, will be read at the general meeting. They will be voted upon at the same meeting.
2. Applications receiving at least 3 negative votes, 0 will be rejected. However, upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried, another vote may be taken at the same meeting. If there is no second vote proposed, the rejected candidate may apply again in 6 months by completing a new application. If the candidate who has been rejected has paid the necessary fee, the Treasurer/Financial Secretary will refund the total amount paid.
3. Applicants will be notified by the Membership/Investigating Committee of their acceptance or rejection. (10/20)

## ARTICLE X

### EXPULSION of MEMBERS

1. All members must be of good moral character and law abiding. Members who have been convicted of a felony will be automatically stricken from the rolls.

The Treasurer/Financial Secretary is authorized, after having duly ascertained that there was such a conviction, to cancel the membership.



2. Members may be expelled from the Club for any reason, which may be deemed sufficient by a majority of the members present at a General Meeting.
  - a. Such a member may be reinstated to membership by a majority vote of the members present at a General Meeting. (10/20)

## ARTICLE XI

### DANTE CLUB FACILITY

The Dante Club Facility is maintained for the use of Members in good standing:

1. Children of the Members may use its facilities, subject to the following conditions:
  - a. They must be accompanied by the parent.
  - b. The parent will at all times be responsible for the conduct of the child and be responsible for any damages to Club Property.
2. Members may bring a guest, who may use the facilities, subject to the following conditions:
  - a. The member will be responsible for the conduct of his guest.
  - b. if the guest is eligible to be a member, then he should be invited to join.
3. If perchance any member thinks that another is abusing his membership privilege, he will make his complaint in writing to the Board. (10/20)

## ARTICLE XII

### AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the By-Laws may be presented as follows:

1. The proposed Amendment must be in writing by a member in good standing, it must be endorsed by 2 members in good standing.
2. The proposed Amendments are to be presented to the President, who will refer it to the By-Laws Committee for proper Drafting. The By-Laws Committee will present it at the next meeting.
3. A proposed Amendment must be read at 2 consecutive meetings.
4. The Amendments will be voted on at the second meeting-
5. The Membership must be notified, and a majority of the number present is necessary for the adoption of said Amendments. (10/20)



## ARTICLE XIII

### SPECIAL USE of HALLS & RENT

The Chairman of the Advisory/Finance Committee, has the authority to grant to an Individual, Organization, or Committee the use of the Dante Club Facility, either at a reduced rental, or rent free, subject to the following conditions:

1. The Individual, Organization or Committee, has rendered the Dante Club some Special Service.
2. If it is considered to be Good for the Present and Future Welfare of the Club.
3. Or if in the Chairman's Judgment, it is a Special Occasion that warrants such consideration. (10/20)

## ARTICLE XIV

### RULES of PROCEDURE

1. Robert's Rules of Parliamentary Procedure will govern the Conduct of the Meetings of the Dante Club.
2. The Chairman of the By-Laws Committee will act as Parliamentarian.