



HỘI ÁI HỮU PHÚ YÊN BẮC CALIFORNIA

PhuYen Fellowship Association of Northern California

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BYLAWS

BL 1. NAME-OBJECTIVES- PURPOSES-STANCE:

1.1 OFFICIAL NAME: PhuYen Fellowship Association of Northern California (NORCAL PYFA)

1.2. OBJECTIVES - PURPOSES:

- 1.2.1. To expand the compatriotic affection and friendship among the oversea Vietnamese.
- 1.2.2. To preserve, expand and promote Vietnamese traditional culture.
- 1.2.3. To preserve and expand *PhuYenese*¹ tradition and culture.
- 1.2.4. To associate, collaborate and organize positive activities for the *Members*² and for the local Vietnamese community.

1.3. STANCE:

1.3.1. **NORCAL PYFA is a non-profit organization**, officially represents its Members, who have the same stance of the Vietnamese refugees and exiled community.

BL 2. MEMBERS:

2.1. **Official Members:** PhuYenese and anyone who is related to, interested with/in or pertaining to PhuYenese and/or the PhuYenese culture, currently living in Northern California, USA; and those who fully register to voluntarily participate in the NORCAL PYFA's activities.

2.2. **At-large Members:** Similar to official members, but are not living in Northern California, and do not belong to NORCAL PYFA's **Electorate**³. They may be invited to the general meetings to voice their concerns and opinions.

BL 3. PERSONNEL STRUCTURE:

3.1. **Executive Board:** One President, one Vice President, one Secretary General, one Vice Secretary General, one Treasurer, one Vice Treasurer and various Commissioners.

3.1.1. President:

3.1.1.1. Elected by Electorate (Ref. Election Rules).

3.1.1.2. Presidency is two-year term. One can only serve 2 consecutive terms in the office.

3.1.1.3. Resignation and Impeachment:

* President may resign for personal reasons as long as he/she should announce at least 30 days prior to his/her resignation.

* During his/her presidency, if there is 20% or more of Electorate who lose confidence in the incumbent President and propose to impeach him/her, the Executive Board will try to solve the problem. If the attempt is unsuccessful, a motion to recall must be submitted by at least 10 personal (e)mails⁴ or multi-signed petition with at least 10 signatures. The impeached President must resign within two weeks if more than half of attending Electorate vote against him/her in a secret ballot.

* Right after the President's resignation, Vice President (first choice) or Secretary General (second choice) will assume the roles of Acting or Interim President until new President is elected.

3.1.2. **Assistants:** Composed of Vice President, Secretary General, Vice Secretary General and various Commissioners, who are appointed by the President.

¹ **PhuYenese:** The people of, or pertaining to PhuYen Province.

² **Member:** members of the NORCAL PYFA.

³ **Electorate:** NORCAL PYFA's eligible voters.

⁴ **(e)mail:** regular mail and/or email.

- 3.1.2.1. Eligible candidates of Assistants must be at least 21 years old, active Members for at least one year, and have no criminal records.
- 3.1.2.2. Appointed Assistants may be replaced or deposed by the President's decision after consulting with the Executive Board and the Advisory Board.

3.2. **Advisory Board:** Requested by the President or nominated by the Members with the Executive Board's approval. Advisors' terms are two years as of the President's.

BL 4. VOTING GUIDELINES:

With the exception of the President Election (Ref. Election Rules), any decisions or general activities under the name of NORCAL PYFA are based on the following principles:

- 4.1. Voting by hands, anonymous ballots, or (e)mails.
- 4.2. The votes may be eligible if half of the Executive Boards members approve in a direct or absentee ballot.
- 4.3. Eligible voters may authorize other Executive Board members to vote for him/her as absent voters; authorization could be (e)mails.

BL 5. NEW MEMBERS:

5.1. Official Members:

- 5.1.1. Must complete the registration procedure with the approval of the Executive Board.
- 5.1.2. Must pay full annual fees or/and activity dues, if any, at the request of the NORCAL PYFA.
- 5.1.3. Must regularly participate in NORCAL PYFA'S main activities.
- 5.1.4. Must observe these Bylaws.

5.2. Invalid members:

- 5.2.1. Must self-withdrawal by notifying the Executive Board by phone or (e)mail.
- 5.2.2. Must be suspended or expelled by Executive Board's decisions for extremely violating NORCAL PYFA's Bylaws or damaging the reputation of NORCAL PYFA Itself or Its Member(s).

BL 6. ACTIVITIES:

- 6.1. Advisory Board and Executive Board should abide by their duties as assigned in the Responsibility Chart.
- 6.2. Advisory Board and Executive Board should convene regular meetings every 6 months (in April and October). Urgent meetings may be called, if necessary.

BL 7. PRINCIPLE ACTIVITIES:

- 7.1. Do abide by NORCAL PYFA's Bylaws and objective.
- 7.2. Don't participate directly in politics and sensitive activities that may damage NORCAL PYFA's reputation or friendship. NORCAL PYFA is not responsible for the Members who involve in any political or religious matters.
- 7.3. Don't utilize the name of NORCAL PYFA for personal purposes.
- 7.4. Activities under the name of NORCAL PYFA must be approved by the Executive Board and consulted with the Advisory Board.

BL 8. FINANCE:

8.1. Sources:

- 8.1.1. Annual fees and activity dues, if any, from the Members on the request of NORCAL PYFA.
- 8.1.2. Donations from benefactors and fund raising.

8.2. **Management:** Treasurer updates and reports the income, the expenditure and the balance every 6 months right after the regular meetings of the Executive and Advisory Boards.

BL 9. PUBLICIZATION AND OUTREACH:

- 9.1. Publicizing via mass media and outreaching to other organizations or communities about NORCAL PYFA's information, if necessary.
- 9.2. Every NORCAL PYFA's publication must be approved by the Executive Board.
- 9.3. The internal publication must not be abused as a free forum.

BL 10. BYLAWS AMENDMENT:

- 10.1. These Bylaws may be amended, revised, repealed, or added new articles by a referendum.