

## **CONSTITUTION OF THE NIAGARA ASSOCIATION OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ART**

### **Article I-NAME**

The name of this organization shall be The Niagara Association of Photographic Art, hereafter referred to as NAPA.

*Note: The change of name to Niagara Association of Photographic Art, from The Niagara Falls Camera Club, was enacted in September 2024.*

### **Article II-OBJECTIVES**

1. Provide a forum for members to improve photographic skills and technical knowledge by way of presentations, lectures, photographic competitions and group outings.
2. Provide opportunities for members that encourage personal growth in all subjects related to photography and allow for greater awareness of the world around us.
3. Provide a congenial, respectful, and friendly setting for individuals interested in photography to meet to discuss their common interest.

### **Article III-CODE OF CONDUCT**

NAPA will embrace diversity and find value in each other's unique experiences, perspectives and characteristics. We will celebrate our authentic selves and foster an environment where everyone feels included and appreciated.

We will refrain from phrases and questions that maintain a stereotypical imagery and that are culturally insensitive. Discriminatory remarks will not be tolerated, and it is important to maintain an accepting environment, avoiding generalizing groups based on gender, sexuality, religion, political affiliation or race.

### **Article IV-MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in NAPA shall be open to persons interested in advancing their photographic knowledge and skills and participating in NAPA activities and shall become a member upon payment of their membership dues.

### **Article V-EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

#### **1. Executive Officers**

The business of NAPA and related activities will be governed by the Executive Officers. In this document as well as any subsequent documents of the Niagara Association of Photographic Art, the term Executive will refer to the Executive Officers.

Depending on the size and needs of NAPA, the Executive may be expanded or decreased as conditions warrant requiring a majority vote of the Executive at a special Executive meeting. The results of which to be communicated at the next regularly scheduled member meeting.

## 2. Term of Office

The President and Vice-President term of office shall be two years with all other Executive roles elected for a term of one (1) year.

No person may hold more than one elective office at any one time, other than when warranted.

### Committees

To conduct business expeditiously, the President in consultation with the Executive may nominate those persons necessary to assist in committee duties.

Special committees may be appointed by the President, as necessary and shall be discharged when their tasks are completed.

## 3. Voting Privileges

Meetings of the Executive shall be held as necessary to conduct the business of NAPA as determined by the President but not less than four (4) times each year.

A quorum vote of the Executive for transacting business, as determined by the President shall consist of a simple majority of the total number on the current Executive. The President shall vote on any motion only when necessary to break a tie.

All meetings of the Executive shall be conducted according to Roberts "Rules of Order".

## **Article VI-Duties of the Executive Officers**

The responsibilities and duties of the Executive Officers are detailed at Appendix A of the By-laws.

## **Article VII-Directors**

A Director may be appointed by the President from established members of NAPA to assist the executive in an advisory capacity.

## **Article VIII-Financial**

The fiscal year will run from June 1st to May 30th of the following year which will coincide with the term of the incoming executive.

Auditing of the financial statements shall be conducted by two members as appointed by the President and findings reported at the Executive meeting immediately at the beginning of each fiscal year.

## **Article IX- Meetings**

There shall be at least one general meeting each month and one competition meeting each month during NAPA's season year with any additional meetings scheduled as determined by the President and Executive

1. The final event of the year may be a banquet to be held prior to year end of the season.
2. The Executive and committee appointed by the President shall use the opportunity to highlight significant aspects of the year at the final meeting, typically the Annual Banquet to:
  - Recognize those individuals for their accomplishments through the year for their photographic achievements
  - Recognize key member accomplishments non-photographic but initiatives to strengthen the NAPA organization's objectives.
  - Executive members to review highlights of year past with members.

## **Article X- Amendments to the Constitution**

1. Any member may propose to the Executive a change to the Constitution in writing, having been seconded by another member.
2. If approved by a simple majority vote of the Executive, the proposed change will be submitted to the membership at large for consideration with the date of the vote published in the submission.
3. A vote will be taken at the next regular meeting after the notice is published.
4. A quorum of one-half of the membership must be present with two-thirds of the quorum voting affirmative to the change for the amendments to be approved.
5. Once approved, the effect date of the change to take effect as determined by the Executive and the results of the vote communicated to the full membership.

## **Article XI-Amendments to the By-Laws**

1. Any member may propose to the Executive a change to the By-Laws in writing, having been seconded by another member.
2. Executive members may propose a change to the By-Laws.
3. If approved by a simple majority vote of the Executive, the proposed change takes effect as determined by the Executive and the results of the vote communicated to the full membership.