



LONE STAR REGION

NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION



By-Laws

(As Amended January 2017)

ARTICLE I - Authority and Purpose

1. The authority for the within By-Laws is derived from the Constitution of the Lone Star Region under Article VIII, entitled By-Laws.
2. The purpose of the By-Laws is:
 - a) To set down rules which are to be followed in regulating the general affairs of the Region.
 - b) To advise the rights, duties, and powers of the Membership and Officers in relation to the Region and among themselves.

Article II - Membership and Fees

1. **Membership Dues.** Membership dues shall be collected by the National Model Railroad Association at a rate to be established by the Association and distributed to the Region in a manner established by the Regulations of the NMRA. The LSR may process the applications and collect dues on behalf of the NMRA. The LSR may further authorize the divisions to process membership applications and collect dues. If the division collects the dues, they must be forwarded to the Treasurer of the LSR, who will then send the dues to the NMRA.
2. **Fees for Members.** The Board of Directors shall set the rate of supplemental fees for members in such a manner as to insure fiscal responsibility. Nothing in the collection of these fees will constitute a fee for membership in the Lone Star Region. These fees may be amended by the following procedure:
 - a) Notice of proposed change must be made in the form of a motion at any Board of Directors Meeting. Motion shall indicate proposed effective date of change.
 - b) Notice of the motion to change the fee structure shall be published in the first available issue of *The Marker Lamp*, the official publication of the Lone Star Region, not less than sixty (60) days prior to the date of the proposed change.

3. **Annual Membership Service Fees** for regular members in the Lone Star Region, to cover costs of operation of the Lone Star Region including distribution of The Marker Lamp, may be established and payable in U.S. funds.
4. **Membership.** Any member in good standing of the NMRA who lives within the geographical boundaries of the region (with the exception of Legacy members or Corporate members) as established by the NMRA, will be a member of the Lone Star Region and the respective division of the Lone Star Region. Only those members who reside within said geographical boundaries will be allow to vote on issues within the region. No person may be a member of the Lone Star Region, or any division within the region, unless they are members in good standing of the NMRA and no person may be a member of a division unless they are members of the region. The categories as defined by the NMRA are Member, Family Member, Student Member, Patron Member, and Corporate Member. The same member opportunities available to NMRA member groups will be afforded to the LSR member.

Any member of any region of the NMRA, outside the Lone Star Region, who desires to receive a copy of the official regular quarterly publication of the Lone Star Region, The Marker Lamp, will be required to pay an annual fee of \$6.00, payable in U.S. funds, as set forth in Article II, para. 3 above. This fee for The Marker Lamp shall not be construed as a requirement for membership in the Region, and only one fee per household will be necessary to receive such publication.

Life members of the Lone Star Region as of September 1, 2005 will not be required to pay this fee, and their subscription will be paid through distributions from the General fund.

Any Division within the Lone Star Region may establish a fee to cover the costs associated with maintaining the business of the Division, so long as those fees are not considered a prerequisite for membership in the Division.

5. **NMRA Member rebate.** The LSR Region receives a rebate from NMRA as an allocation of dues. The NMRA allocation of dues shall take into account the number of rebate-qualified resident members within each Region. The LSR region shall keep 50% of the NMRA allocation to support programs and activities and shall also transfer to each active LSR division from the LSR Region's allocation of dues, 50% to support qualifying programs and activities.

ARTICLE III - Duties of Officers

1. The Officers and Directors of the Lone Star Region shall be the **President, Vice President, Board Advisor, Secretary, Treasurer (or Secretary-Treasurer), Directors-at-Large, and Directors.** The position of **Board Advisor** shall be filled by the immediate **Past President.** There will also be a **Regional Advisory Council** (herein after called the RAC) **Representative** and a **RAC Alternate.** Normally the RAC

Representative will be the LSR President and the RAC Alternate will be the LSR Vice-President.

2. The **President** shall:
 - a) Perform the usual duties of such Officer.
 - b) Serve as Presiding Officer of the Board of Directors and preside at all regular business meetings of the Lone Star Region.
 - c) Submit reports upon request from the National Model Railroad Association and/or the National RAC Representative.
 - d) Have access to the NMRA membership database, when it becomes functional.
3. The **Vice President** shall aid and assist the President in all ways possible; and shall preside in the absence of the **President** at meetings of the Lone Star Region or the Board of Directors. In the event of inability of the **President** to serve, the **Vice President** shall assume the Presidency and the Board of Directors shall elect a new **Vice President** to fill the un-expired term.
4. The **Secretary** shall:
 - a) Keep minutes of all meetings of the Lone Star Region and the Board of Directors.
 - 1) Minutes shall be kept in a substantially-bound book in order that a permanent record may be kept.
 - 2) All main motions, whether accepted or rejected, will be listed along with the name of the person making the motion.
 - 3) A summary of all minutes will be submitted for publication in the next regular issue of the *Marker Lamp*.
 - b) Prepare and mail the ballot in accordance with the Article V, Section 6, of the Constitution, when so directed by the President.
 - c) Have access to the NMRA membership database, when it becomes functional.
 - d) Have access to the National Model Railroad Association membership database and maintain the Region membership list in current status.
 - e) Furnish a list to the Treasurer for financial verification of members and for further distribution to the elected Division Directors as requested.

- f) Furnish the Membership Chair with a copy of the membership list as necessary to maintain records in current status.

5. The **Treasurer** shall:

- a) Prepare a budget to be presented to the Board of Directors following the Annual Meeting to govern the expenditures of the Region for the Fiscal Year. The Fiscal Year, for Internal Revenue Service purposes, shall run from May 1 through April 30.
- b) Accept all moneys due the Lone Star Region and deposit the funds in:
 - (1) Insured accounts in financial institutions insured by agencies of the federal government, or (2) in money market mutual funds. Disbursement of all funds will be by check.
 - 1) **General Fund.** The General Fund, as a business checking account, shall be used to receive and disburse Lone Star Region funds on a day-to-day basis.
 - 2) **Convention Fund.** The Convention Fund (as an investment account) shall hold funds as a reserve against convention losses. The Region Treasurer shall manage the Convention Fund and shall report the balance at each meeting of the Board of Directors. At each Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors shall determine the amount to be retained in the Convention Fund and shall direct the transfer of money into or out of the Convention Fund.
 - 3) **Reserve Fund.** The Reserve Fund shall be used as a reserve for the funds needed in the General Fund.
 - 4) All accounts shall be audited by a committee appointed by the President prior to presentation to the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors.
- c) Prepare a financial report to indicate the sources of receipts and the record of disbursements to be presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting and any Board of Directors meeting.

6. The **Regional Advisory Council Representative** will represent the Lone Star Region to the RAC. This person may be the President of the Lone Star Region or any other member of the region, and will be selected by a vote of the voting members of the region's Board of Directors. The RAC will include one representative from each of the 17 regions within the NMRA and representatives must have access to electronic communication (i.e. e-mail). The LSR will also elect a person to serve as the RAC alternate, normally the LSR Vice-President. The Alternate will not participate unless the Representative is unable to serve. In the event the RAC Alternate must assume the responsibilities of the Representative, the Board will select a new RAC Alternate. The RAC Representative and Alternate should attend the Board of Directors meetings to maintain an understanding of the LSR on issues, but will have no vote.

7. **Directors** shall serve the best interests of the membership in carrying out the objectives of the Lone Star Region. A vacancy shall be deemed to exist on the Board of Directors when an elected member fails to attend in person or by written proxy two (2) successive duly constituted regular meetings or special meetings as designated in the Constitution, Article VI, Section 2. Article IV, Section 6, shall apply to fill the vacancy.
8. Only the elected Officers, including the Board Advisor, the Directors, and the Directors-at-Large, but not the President, shall have the power of vote on matters brought before the Board of Directors for action or consideration. In the event that any such matter receives an equal number of votes “For” and “Against,” the President shall exercise the privilege of casting a tie-breaking vote. When one person holds the offices of both Secretary and Treasurer, that person shall be entitled to only one vote.
9. Those Officers, Directors, and Directors-at-Large newly elected in the regular annual election shall take office at the commencement of the “New Business” phase of the meeting of the Officers, Directors, and Directors-at-Large.
10. In the event that an elected Officer, the Board Advisor, a Director, or Director-at-Large will be unable to attend a regular meeting of the Board of Directors, that person may appoint any other elected Officer, Board Advisor, or Director, other than the President, to act as proxy for the purpose of the Meeting.
11. The required **quorum**, of the Board of Directors, needed in order to conduct business is a simple majority.
12. Should an elected officer be suspected of misuse of office, misconduct, detrimental performance, or malfeasance in office, the officer can be removed by the following procedures:
 - a) A written petition against the officer, signed by a majority of the Board of Directors, must be submitted to all members of the Board. Upon receipt by the Board and the officers, the officer will be immediately suspended.
 - b) Within sixty (60) days thereafter, the Board shall meet to hear from the accused and the accusers.
 - c) If the Board feels that the charges are sustained, a three-fourths majority vote in favor of a motion to remove the officer from office will effect the action. If not, the officer shall be reinstated.

malfeasance - A term used in Tort Law to describe an act that is legal but performed improperly. An affirmative act that though legal, causes harm.

ARTICLE IV - Committees

The President shall appoint a Chair for each of the following committees and such other committee members as deemed necessary:

1. **Publication.** Duties are:
 - a) Publication of the *Marker Lamp*, the official publication of the Lone Star Region, on a quarterly basis. A complete copy of each issue will be forwarded to the Web Page Chair in a form suitable for inclusion on the Lone Star Region's official web page when it is ready for the printer.
 - b) Designate, with the approval of the President, an Editor of the *Marker Lamp*.
 - c) Designate, with the approval of the President, a Publisher for the *Marker Lamp*.
 - d) Submit to the Treasurer an annual budget for all Region publications.
2. **Contest.** Duties are:
 - a) The administration of all Regional contests. The NMRA Contest Directory will be the example for Region rules. Any changes from these rules shall be approved by the Board of Directors and published in the *Marker Lamp* at least six (6) months before taking effect.
 - b) The responsibility for the Contest trophies, insuring that traveling trophies are returned prior to the Annual Meeting; and pass on the acceptance of additional trophies should any be offered.
 - c) Presentation of trophies and awards at the Annual Meeting.
 - d) Preparation and submittal of a suitable photograph for use in the NMRA Calendar.
3. **Achievement.** Duties are the administration and encouragement of the Achievement Program in the Lone Star Region.
4. **Education.** Duties are:
 - a) To serve as a liaison between the Lone Star Region and the NMRA, to include transmitting information to National and transmitting information to all members in the region, including, but not limited to, writing a column "Education News" in *The Marker Lamp*.
 - b) To provide the NMRA Education Director with a statistical report twice a year (January and June), to include, but not limited to, number of division

clinics held in the LSR; number of division contests with total number of entries; name and number of any youth activities held; name and number of any other NMRA education programs held.

- c) Provide the NMRA education Clinics Chair with a list of subject titles, clinician names, and dates held at the LSR annual convention.

5. **Nominating.** Duties are:

- a) Defined in Article V, Sections 1 and 2, of the Lone Star Region Constitution.
- b) Solicit a biographical/data sheet from each candidate for Region office, which shall constitute the sole source of official election material. The information so furnished will be compiled and mailed with the ballot. The same information can be furnished for publication in the official publication, *The Marker Lamp*, and for entry into the LSR web site. There shall be no campaign material for Region candidates published in *The Marker Lamp*, nor on the LSR web site. Only election bios may be posted to the LSR web site in the designated area for Election Bios.
- c) Solicit nominations for Region Trustee in accordance with NMRA Constitution and By-Laws.
- d) Nominations for each Region Trustee shall be forwarded to the NMRA Secretary, for inclusion on each Region's Trustee Ballot, five (5) months prior to the Region ballot mailing deadline.
- e) The election ballots will be destroyed 60 days after the close of the polls. The only exception to this rule would be a contested election, In which case, the ballots will be destroyed 60 days after the resolution of the contested election. The Nomination Chair will work with the Secretary and Web Chair to insure the destruction of all ballots.

6. **Convention.** Duties of this committee are to coordinate the activities of the host city convention committees to insure as far as possible a good convention each year. In cases where the committee decides that the host convention committee is not functioning properly, it should bring the matter promptly to the attention of the President and the Board of Directors.

7. **Membership.** The duties of this committee include promotion of new memberships and the continuation of old memberships.

8. **Historian.** The Chair shall be responsible for the assembly and preservation of records of events in the past days of the Lone Star Region.

9. **Photography.** Duties of this committee are:

- a) Coordinate with the Region Convention Chair and the host city convention Chair to insure that photographs are taken at the Annual Convention. These photographs should include a group photograph of the current officers of the Region.
 - b) Submit photographs to the Editor of the *Marker Lamp* for publication and submit photographs to the Historian for placing in the Region archives.
 - c) Coordinate with the Region Contest Chair and the host city contest Chair on producing a digital format show of the contest winners for showing at the awards presentation.
10. **Web Site.** Duties of this committee would be to maintain the Lone Star Region web site, updating it as necessary, and inserting pages of importance to the members of the LSR, as submitted by LSR Officers, Directors, Department Chairs, and/or committee members. The Web Page Chair will insure that all material inserted on the LSR pages are appropriate and represent the highest standards of suitability.
11. **Youth.** Duties of the committee include: (1) Acting as contact by the Division Directors for all youth-related model railroad activities. (2) Coordinate approved sponsorships for Junior Membership in the National Model Railroad Association and the Lone Star Region. (3) Coordinate candidates for the Junior Membership Program from each Division at the Annual Lone Star Region Board of Directors Meeting. (4) Gather ideas/programs to support the Youth membership effort and report on these at each Annual Board of Directors Meeting.
12. **Non-Rail:**
- a) Overseeing the Arts & Crafts Contest and **its** awards. This includes seeing that there are qualified judges for this contest. (3 judges are used if at all possible)
 - b) Helping guide the person in charge of the Non-Rail Program of the Annual LSR Conventions. Seeing that that person provides educational and/or entertaining activities for the Non-Rail Convention Attendees.
 - c) Chooses with careful discretion, expenditures from the LSR Non-Rail Budget Allowance.
 - d) Reporting Non-Rail activities to the LSR Board.
13. **Parliamentarian:**
- a) Provide members and the executive board with training on simple parliamentary procedures (how to state a motion, rules of debate, quorums, etc)
 - b) Maintain a copy of the Constitution and By-Laws at every general and executive meeting.

- c) Sit in close proximity to the presiding officer during meetings.
 - d) Assist with voting procedures.
 - e) Support the president in maintaining order.
14. **Events:** To foster and encourage model railroading for the LSR.
15. Such other committees shall be appointed by the President from time to time as deemed necessary.

ARTICLE V - Conventions

1. The annual LSR convention shall be known as the “Lone Star Region (Year) Convention.” On all contracts and agreements relative to a Lone Star Region convention, the name of the LSR organization shall be shown as the “Lone Star Region-NMRA” for consistency purposes. No variations are permitted regardless of whether or not the LSR loans money to the Host Group, as provided in Section 9 of Article 5 herein.
2. The Lone Star Region (Year) Convention shall be hosted, planned, managed, and conducted by any local model railroad group or organization in the Lone Star Region in accordance with the requirements and provisions stated in these By-Laws and/or the Lone Star Region Convention Guide. In these By-Laws, this group or organization shall be referred to as the Host Group.
3. The policy of the Lone Star Region is that a person must be a member in good standing of the National Model Railroad Association (or a person in the family of the member) in order to register for and participate in the activities of the Lone Star Region (Year) Convention. By reciprocal agreement, membership in other National Model Railroad Association Regions shall be honored for registration.
4. Prospective Host Groups are encouraged to “think outside of the box” for new ideas for the activities, location, and events for the LSR conventions. A prospective Host Group or organization shall present its bid for a Lone Star Region Convention to the LSR Board of Directors for approval and selection no later than two (2) years prior to the convention date.

The bid presentation shall include:

- a) Preliminary information about the proposed convention ideas and the venue or hotel facilities for standard LSR conventions, such as clinics, contests, banquet, guest room rates, and minimum room blocks.
- b) Special attractions and events unique to the convention city and area.

- c) Preliminary income estimates from registration and other sources.
- d) Preliminary expense estimates for the venue facilities, meals and related service charges; and other convention activities.

To assist in these bid proposals, convention planning guides, venue requirements, and income-expense spreadsheets will be provided by the LSR (utilizing Microsoft Word and Excel or similar programs), and are to be used for the venue documentation and the income and expense projections. The Host Group convention staff must have some members who are proficient in the use of personal computer programs and basic financial accounting.

- 5. The 501(c) (3) certification, authorized by the Internal Revenue Service on January 23, 2015, is issued only to the Lone Star Region as the parent organization. The IRS is entitled to obtain from the Lone Star Region information and/or justification about its education programs, activities, and financial considerations. Since the annual Lone Star Region Conventions are the primary Regional activity of the Lone Star Region and are the primary source of income for the Region, the contractual and financial responsibilities, liabilities, and other actions by a Host Group are the ultimate responsibilities of the Lone Star Region, its officers and members.

Therefore, the Lone Star Region must have oversight control over the LSR Regional Conventions to effectively administer the IRS requirements. To partially accomplish this the Regional Convention Committee is hereby established to provide general oversight of the LSR Regional Conventions including but not limited to all contracts and agreements, schedules, fees, expenses, financial status, key personnel, or any other issues that might impact a LSR convention.

The Regional Convention Committee shall be comprised of the LSR President, LSR Vice-President, Treasurer, and Regional Convention Chairman. The Regional Convention Chairman shall be the chairman of this Regional Convention Committee. The Host Group shall be responsible to this committee.

- 6. The final negotiated versions of all contacts or agreements must be reviewed and approved in writing by the Regional Convention Committee before these contracts may be executed by the Host Group for the following:
 - a) Hotel or meeting venue facilities and equipment.
 - b) Costs and minimum guarantees of food and beverage meal events (either provided by a hotel or outside caterer) including all service fees, gratuities, and taxes.
 - c) Other services relative to the LSR annual convention, such as transportation or equipment rentals.

7. The Host Group shall submit periodically a standardized Lone Star Region Convention Progress Report to the Regional Convention Committee. This Progress Report will provide the following information:
 - a) General information about the progress of the convention and any situations encountered or anticipated. Microsoft Word or a similar computer program shall be used for this report.
 - b) Changed or new contractual agreements discussed in Paragraph 6 herein.
 - c) Revised or updated estimates of projected convention attendance, incomes from all sources, expenses for the convention venue or hotel facilities, meal expenses and service charges; tour and clinic expenses; other convention expenses, and profit projections. The LSR will provide the financial report format in Microsoft Excel.

These Convention Progress Reports will be due at the end of each 6 month period for the second year preceding the convention start date; at the end of each calendar quarter during the year immediately preceding the convention start date, or at other interim times should conditions deem the need. The final Convention Progress Report is to be submitted two (2) weeks prior to the starting date of the convention.

The Regional Convention Committee will review these Convention Progress Reports and discuss any concerns or recommendations with the Host Group. The final Convention Progress Report must be approval by the Regional Convention Committee.

8. The Internal Revenue Service 501 (c) (3) certification is issued specifically only to the Lone Star Region and not to any other LSR subdivisions, such as the divisions, or a convention. Therefore, it is essential that all convention income and all expenses must be reported in the LSR Convention Report. All expenditures must have an original receipt for the services obtained and be cross-referenced to the applicable line-item in the LSR Convention Report; otherwise, the expenditure will be considered a donation to the convention and paid totally by the Host Group. These original receipts shall be delivered to the LSR Treasurer for permanent retention at the same time the LSR Convention Report is submitted as provided herein.
9. A LSR Advance Expenses Loan, not to exceed two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) may be advanced to the Host Group with such money to be withdrawn from the Lone Star Region's Region Convention Fund. One thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) of the loan may be requested by the Host Group not earlier than two years prior to the Convention. An additional loan not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) may be requested by the Host Group not earlier than one year prior to the Convention. Requests for advance loans must be addressed in writing to the Chair, Regional Convention Committee who will coordinate and authorize the disbursement. These Advanced Expense Loans are to be repaid in full to the Lone Star Region's Region Convention Fund before any distributions of prof its derived from the convention are made. Please note the following:

- a) The LSR loans MUST be applied for in the form of a written request. If other non-LSR regional funds are used, the LSR BOD must be notified in writing within two (2) weeks from the request for these other funds.
 - b) If LSR loans are requested, the LSR Treasurer will be a part of the Host Convention financial group and will have visibility into all financial activity including the checking account for that convention.
 - c) All expenditures must have an original receipt for the services obtained and be cross-referenced to the applicable line-item in the LSR Convention Report; otherwise, the expenditure will be considered a donation to the convention and absorbed by the Host Group. These original receipts shall be delivered timely to the LSR Treasurer for permanent retention.
10. A per capita fee of two dollars (\$2.00) is to be paid to the Lone Star Region's Region Convention Fund for each member of the Lone Star Region, or member of another National Model Railroad Association Region, registered for the Convention. The per capita fee is not required for persons in the family of the member unless such persons hold membership in the Region in their own right. This per capita fee is to be paid to the LSR before any distributions of profits derived from the LSR Annual Convention are made.
11. An amount equal to five percent (5%) of the gross proceeds from an auction conducted during the Convention shall be remitted to the Lone Star Region's Region Convention Fund. The remaining five percent (5%) shall accrue to the Host Group of the Convention. This auction proceed is to be paid to the LSR before any distributions of profits derived from the LSR Annual Convention are made.
12. An amount equal to fifty percent (50%) of the surplus of Convention monetary income over Convention-incurred expenses shall be remitted to the Lone Star Region's Region Convention Fund. Income from auction gross proceeds and from the per capital fee collection shall not be included when determining the Convention monetary income.
13. The Host Group shall retain one-hundred percent (100%) of any convention raffle revenue except in the event the financial activities of the LSR Annual Convention result in a monetary loss as provided herein. To provide backup data for the IRS 501(c)(3) regulations, the income and expenses directly related to the convention raffle shall be reported in the Financial Data -- Non-Shared Income and Expense portion of the LSR Convention Report. The raffle must be conducted during the established convention dates.
14. In the event the financial activities of a LSR Annual Convention result in a monetary loss, all incomes regardless of their sources shall be included in the "Total Convention Income" for the purposes of settling any financial obligations of the Host Group relative to the LSR Convention and determining the monetary distributions between the Lone Star

Region and the Host Group. Any surplus funds remaining after the mandatory payments have been made are distributed as provided herein.

15. Should the Host Group conduct a Train Show or sell items concurrently with the Convention (e.g. a Company Store) , all monetary income and all expenses associated with the Train Show or sale of items shall accrue to the Host Group and shall be excluded when determining Convention monetary income and Convention-incurred expenses except in the event of a monetary loss as stated in Section 14 of Article V.

16. A NMRA Board Resolution in February 2011 specifies that all merchandise sold by the NMRA, including by Regions and Divisions, must conform to any applicable NMRA standards. The following language must be included in merchandise contracts with vendors:

All merchandise shall conform to all applicable NMRA Standards, and this term is a substantial and material term of the contract requiring strict conformance. The manufacturer may either submit the product to the NMRA for conformance testing or the manufacturer may certify conformance by utilizing the procedures for self-certification pursuant to the process guidelines promulgated by the Conformance and Inspection Department of the National Model Railroad Association, Inc. Any merchandise not conforming to the applicable standards will be non-conforming and rejected.

17. The Host Group shall pay the remittances prescribed by these LSR By-Laws for the Lone Star Region Convention Fund to the Region Treasurer as follows:

- a) The per capita fee shall be remitted not later than thirty days after end of the Convention.
- b) Repayment of the advance loan; remittance of the auction proceeds share; remittance of the Region's share of the Convention monetary surplus, and all other financial matters relative to the convention shall be made by December 15 of the calendar year in which the Convention is held.

18. The Host Group shall prepare and submit a statistical and financial Lone Star Region Convention Report in the format specified by the Chair of the Regional Convention Committee:

- a) A preliminary convention report shall be submitted to the Chair of the Regional Convention Committee by October 1 following the annual convention. This preliminary report will be reviewed by the Regional Convention Committee which will submit comments back to the Host Group.
- b) The books and records of the convention will be tentatively finalized by December 1 after the closing date of the convention. The final LSR Convention

Report shall be submitted by the Host Group to the Regional Convention Chairman for review by December 1 following the convention.

This final Convention Report shall then be presented for initial review to the Board of Directors by December 31. At the first Board meeting, (mid-year or annual) following the close of the Convention, the Board will act for approval or disapproval of the report. If the Board of Directors votes to accept and approve this Convention Report, the books and records of the subject convention will then be closed.

19. Liability insurance for inside activities of a Convention shall be provided under the master policy of the NMRA. The cost of the liability insurance rider will be paid by the Region.
20. It is the responsibility of the current year convention Host Group to provide meeting facilities for the following scheduled future Board of Directors meetings:
 - a) Mid-Year – If the Board of Directors determines it is necessary to hold a Mid-Year Board meeting, it will be held after the first of the year and prior to Super Bowl weekend, unless otherwise approved by the LSR BOD.
 - b) Annual – Held during the convention week, unless otherwise approved by the LSR BOD.

ARTICLE VI - Youth Membership Program

1. **Objective.** To promote model railroading among young people, 18-years old and younger, within our communities, to encourage our young people to become involved in model railroading, and thereby encourage their peers to become involved and to become members of the Lone Star Region and the National Model Railroad Association.
2. **Method.** Sponsor Junior Membership in the National Model Railroad Association and the Lone Star Region, with appropriate dues paid by the Lone Star Region.
3. **Implementation.** To be conducted on a Division basis as follows:
 - a) At the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors, each Division Director will submit the name of one junior person, 18 years old or younger, to the Board of Directors for inclusion in the Junior Membership Program. The Board will then direct the Treasurer to pay for this person's membership in the National Model Railroad Association and the Lone Star Region.
 - 1) The payment for a Junior Membership for any one individual is on a one-time basis and will not continue on an annual basis.
 - b) The Division Directors will pick their choice from a list of candidates submitted by:

- 1) Individuals who are members of the NMRA/LSR within the Director's Division.
 - 2) Clubs that are located within the Directors Division.
 - 3) The Division Director.
 - 4) If more than one candidate is submitted, the final choice will be made by vote of the Board of Directors.
- c) In addition to the eight candidate names submitted by the Division Directors, the elected Officers may submit the name of a ninth candidate.
- d) Each submission must include a short commentary stating why the particular individual should be included in the Junior Membership Program. Reasons such as: interest in model railroading; modeling skills; and inability to pay for the dues. The most important factor is the candidate's interest in model railroading.
- e) Each year the Division Directors will each submit a new choice for inclusion in the Junior Membership Program. The same person cannot be selected more than once unless that person can show a real financial burden and/or exceptional modeling ability and no other names are submitted for consideration at the same time.
- 1) It is the Director's duty to seek new candidates for the program.
 - 2) When the same person is considered for a second year in the Program, the membership payment must be approved by a vote of the Board of Directors who will consider that person's true value to be included a second time.
 - 3) If there are no candidates from a Division for a particular year, a new list of candidates will be gathered for consideration for the next year. It is not necessary that a Division have a candidate each year, however, the Division Director is encouraged to seek out qualified candidates.
- f) The Division Director shall keep track of the progress being made by the members that have been recruited for the Junior Membership Program. By doing this, the Director can answer questions the Junior members may have, offer suggestions for improved modeling, and give whatever assistance is needed for fulfillment in the hobby.

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