



BYLAWS

**As approved at the
2005 Biennial RAD Conference
Washington, DC**

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ARTICLE I: NAME

Section 1. Name

The association shall be known and designated as the Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf, Incorporated, hereinafter referred to as the Alliance or the RAD, Inc.

ARTICLE II: LOCATION

Section 1. Location

The Alliance shall be in North America.

ARTICLE III: LANGUAGE

Section 1. Language

1.1 American Sign Language (ASL) and Langage des Signes Quebecois (LSQ) shall be manual and tactile languages of the Alliance.

1.2 English and French shall be the languages of the Alliance documents. Spanish shall be applied if needed.

Section 2. Documentation

2.1 All documents shall be in English, French and Braille for archival records of the Alliance. Spanish shall be applied if needed.

ARTICLE IV: OBJECT

Section 1. Purpose

The Alliance shall be operated for its social benefits of its chapters prescribed in Article V, Section 1 for the promotion toward education, moral and social welfare of the deaf/hard of hearing or deaf/hard of hearing visually impaired citizens with sincere effort to better the condition and well being of its members of good standing regardless of the following:

1.1 ethnos. creed, race and religion

1.2 status. economic, physical, representative and social

1.3 sex. male, female, intersex

1.4 sexual orientation. gay, lesbian, bisexual and straight

1.5 gender expression

Section 2. Mission

RAD's mission of the Alliance shall be to integrate, support, and serve the following:

- 2.1** Social/Fellowship
- 2.2** Education
- 2.3** Leadership/Team-Building
- 2.4** Visibility/Awareness
- 2.5** Diversity
- 2.6** Network
- 2.7** Advocacy
- 2.8** Deaf Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer – Deaf LGBTQ

Section 3. Association

The Alliance shall be a non-profit organization.

ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Categorization

The membership shall be comprised of the following:

- 1.1** chapter
- 1.2** individual

Section 2. Qualification and Conferment

2.1 Chapter

Upon recognition of an organization representing deaf gays, lesbians, bisexual and transgender in North America through payment of membership dues prescribed in the Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf Policy Handbook, Guidelines, Policy Manual, such organization shall hereinafter be called as chapter or chapter affiliate.

2.2 Individual

Upon conferment to individuals with their sincere interest toward advancement in the welfare and success of the Alliance through payment of membership dues prescribed in the Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf Policy Handbook, Guidelines and Policy Manual, such members shall:

- 2.2.1** have voice and no vote.

ARTICLE VI: BOARD MEMBERS

Section 1. Board

The board members of the Alliance shall be comprised of the following:

1.1 Executive Board: president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer.

1.2 Members-at-Large (Non-Officers): A representative each from Gays and Lesbians Association of the Deaf - East (GLAD-E), Deaf Gays and Lesbians of the West (DGLow), Deaf Bears and Cubs (DBCO) and the Deaf Lesbian community; Deaf Queer Resource Center (DQRC); International Deaf Leather (IDL); RAD Youth; and Deaf Senior Citizen.

Section 2. Qualifications

Officers

2.1 Individuals running for an office of the Alliance shall be a member of a local chapter or be an Individual Associate member of the RAD in a good standing.

2.2 They must be deaf/hard of hearing or deaf/hard of hearing visually impaired gays and lesbians.

2.3 Members-at-large (non-officers)

They must be responsible for maintaining liaison with the Alliance.

Section 3. Terms of office

3.1 The service of the officers shall be a term of two (2) years and shall not go three (3) consecutive terms in the same position.

3.2 The officers of such dissolved chapters shall continue on the Executive Board of the Alliance until termination of the term.

Section 4. Service of Office

4.1 The Board shall direct the Alliance at any time between the delegate meetings,

4.2 The officers of the Executive Board cannot hold an office in RAD and the chapter at the same time.

4.3 The Executive Board of the Alliance shall be no more than two (2) officers from the same chapter.

4.4 The officers-elect shall assume their duties prescribed in the Article VI. Section 8, immediately after adjournment of the conference.

4.5 The Executive Board answers to the full Board.

4.6 The Executive Board shall not make any decisions without the full Board except in emergency situations where an immediate decision is of critical importance and the rest of the Board cannot be reached within a reasonable time frame.

4.7 The Executive Board must inform the Board of all decisions made without the Board within 48 hours.

4.8 The Board may veto by majority vote any decisions made by the

Executive Board.

Section 5. Resignation

- 5.1 A letter of resignation of an officer must be submitted to the President.
- 5.2 In the event of President's resignation, his/her letter of resignation shall be submitted to the Secretary.

Section 6. Removal from Office

The removal of such officer from the Executive Board for infraction of duties required by the Alliance shall be voted by two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Executive Board of the Alliance.

Section 7. Vacancy

The President shall appoint in the vacancy of such officer except the President for the remainder of the term.

Section 8. Duties of Officers

8.1 President

- 8.1.1 As the chief spokesperson, the President shall chair Executive Board and delegate meetings.
- 8.1.2 The President shall represent RAD in any non-affiliate organization.
- 8.1.3 The President shall appoint standing committee chairpersons and three (3) auditors and a translator applied in the Article III, Section 1.1 promptly after the conference, a parliamentarian on the first day of the delegate meeting of the Alliance and a RAD historian on a permanent basis.
- 8.1.4 The President shall appoint ad-hoc committee chairperson mandated by the delegates of the Alliance.
- 8.1.5 The President may become an ex-officio on the committees.
- 8.1.6 At every conference, a parliamentarian shall provide with a negotigate fee do his/her services.

8.2 Vice-President

- 8.2.1 The Vice-President shall chair the meetings and serve at any time during the absence or vacant seat of the President.
- 8.2.2 The Vice-President shall preside over the committee meetings.
- 8.2.3 The Vice-President shall be a law committee chairperson or appoint a member of the Alliance to chair the law committee.
- 8.2.4 The Vice-President and the law committee shall prepare by-laws revisions of the Alliance in compliance with the Robert's Rules of Order and parliamentary authority.
- 8.2.5 The Vice-President shall monitor and assist preparing by-laws of the chapters in compliance with the laws of the Alliance.
- 8.2.6 The Vice-President shall conduct leadership workshops with assistance from the President.

8.3 Secretary

8.3.1 The Secretary shall record minutes and jot down roster of the chapters of the Alliance at every meeting.

8.3.2 The Secretary shall file all correspondence and bring necessary ones to the meeting.

8.3.3 The Secretary shall send the minutes to the chapters within sixty (60) days after the conference and send current bylaws, guidelines, policy reports and related materials (such as financial & membership dues) to all chapters 90 days before the next conference.

8.3.4 The Secretary shall contact for the name of the chapter delegates and alternate delegates sixty (60) days before the conference.

8.3.5 The Secretary shall record the minutes of all Executive Board and full Board meetings. These minutes shall be made available within 30 days.

8.3.6 The Secretary shall compile a complete list of all decisions made by the Executive and full Board between delegate meetings and make available this list upon request.

8.3.7 The Secretary shall submit copies of all documents, including but not limited to, meeting minutes, flyers, general and board correspondence to the Historian.

8.3.8 The Secretary shall submit any RAD-related documents to any Board member upon request. This request may be made at any time and must be honored within 30 days.

8.4 Treasurer

8.4.1 The Treasurer shall file receipts, financial and tax reports.

8.4.2 The Treasurer shall pay the bills after written approval from the President or Vice President in absence of the President and attach to the receipt.

8.4.3 The Treasurer shall send unaudited financial reports to the chapters and the RAD Board three (3) months before the conference.

8.4.4 The Treasurer shall report all the financial assets of the Alliance at the delegate meeting.

8.4.5 The Treasurer shall do the audit at the conference before the delegate meeting.

8.4.6 The Treasurer shall submit detailed financial reports to any Board member upon request. This request may be made at any time and must be honored within 14 days.

8.5 Members at Large shall:

8.5.1 provide at least three (3) activities.

8.5.2 be appointed and removed only by the organization that they represent.

8.5.3 submit biennial reports to RAD at least (60) sixty days before the conference.

8.5.4 have privilege and vote at delegate and special meetings called by

the president.

8.5.5 handle any matter or situation among their constituents.

ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES

Section 1. Standing Committees

The standing committees of the Alliance shall be the financial committee, the law committee and the entertainment committee.

Section 2. Committee Chairs

The committee chairs shall be appointed by the President with approval from the Board to carry assigned tasks of the Alliance.

Section 3. Committee Appointees

3.1 The President shall appoint three (3) auditors for the conference.

3.2 The Board shall appoint a pageant director.

3.3 The Board shall appoint a translator.

ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS

Section 1. Delegate Meeting

1.1 It shall be held during the conference of the Alliance unless otherwise ordered by the Executive Board.

1.2 The delegate meeting shall be compromised of a delegate and an alternate delegate from each chapter in good standing, committee chairpersons, election committee, conference host and officers and members-at-large of the Alliance.

Section 2. Quorum

2.1 The quorum shall consist of at least thirty percent (30%) of the chapters in good standing present at the meeting.

2.2 A delegate meeting may proceed with no vote if the quorum is below the requirement.

Section 3. Special Meeting

The president or any officer of the Alliance through certified mail may call for a special meeting at least thirty (30) days in advance.

ARTICLE IX: PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

Section 1. Duties of Parliamentarian

1.1 Parliamentarian shall monitor the delegate meeting of the Alliance in compliance with by-laws of the Alliance.

1.2 The parliamentarian of the Alliance shall take an interpretation of the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order into account.

1.3 An interpretation from the parliamentarian shall be binding unless it is proven incorrect through advisement.

Section 2. Parliamentary Authority

The current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be the parliamentary authority on all matters not covered by the by-laws of the Alliance.

ARTICLE X: BY-LAWS

Section 1. Amendments

1.1 No amendments shall be made to the by-laws except two-thirds (2/3) of the delegate vote at the delegate meeting.

Section 2. Submission

Motions or amendments must be submitted to the Vice-President by postage mail or electronic mail (E-mail) thirty (30) days prior to the conference.

Section 3. Modification

A revision or an amendment to by-laws of the Alliance shall be adopted twenty-four (24) hours after the initial presentation through vote of the majority at the delegate meeting.

ARTICLE XI: DISSOLUTION

Section 1. Endowment

Upon the dissolution of the Alliance and after payment of all of its debts and liabilities, the assets of the Alliance shall evenly be distributed to the affiliated chapters of good standing.

ARTICLE XII: ELECTION

Section 1. Election Committee

1.1 The President shall appoint an election committee chairperson.

1.2 The election chairperson shall develop election tally committee of three (3) persons.

Section 2. Officers

2.1 An election of the officers shall be held during the last day of the delegate meeting.

2.2 A vote shall be cast by secret ballot.

2.3 No vote shall be cast by proxy.

2.4 An election of the officers shall be conducted in a simple majority of the vote.

ARTICLE XIII: ORDER OF BUSINESS

Section 1. Alliance meeting

- 1. Call to order**
- 2. Roll call**
- 3. Minutes**
- 4. Financial Report**
- 5. Officer's Reports**
- 6. Committee Reports**
- 7. Necrology**
- 8. Unfinished business**
- 9. New business**
- 10. New Election of officers**
- 11. Selection of future conference site**
- 12. Good of the order**
- 13. Adjournment**