

# Brewsquitos Homebrewing Club

## BYLAWS

### Article I. Purpose

The purpose of the Brewsquitos Homebrewing Club will be to share in the common hobby of homebrewing for members in the Greater Grand Rapids area.

### Article II. Meetings

- Meetings will be held once per month and at other times as deemed necessary.
- Time of meetings will vary, but will be announced to the Club membership in advance.

### Article III. Officer Positions and Duties

Officer positions will be filled by an election process to be held in July of each year, for a term to run from September 1<sup>st</sup> – August 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. Officer positions and duties will be as follows:

- **President:** Sets the overall direction of the Club for the year, on behalf of the Club membership. Keeps the Club's liability insurance paid and active. Holds the Club's funds in the form of a commingled bank account at an insured financial institution such as a bank or credit union. Schedules monthly meetings as described in Article 2.
- **Vice President:** Assists the President in all duties noted above. Serves as the point person for recurring or one-time special events.
- **Treasurer:** Assists the President and Vice President. Keeps the Club ledger and financial statements, in conjunction with the Club's financial policy.

Officers shall be expected to fully comply with the conditions set forth in Article 5 regarding maintaining active membership, Article 6 regarding conduct, and Article 8 regarding adherence to the Club's financial policy.

### Article IV. Dues

Dues will be set by the Club's Officer's no later than 30 days before the beginning of a new calendar year. Dues will be payable beginning on January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, and will be considered delinquent if not paid by March 31<sup>st</sup> of that calendar year. Delinquent dues will result in the member having their active status suspended until all dues owed are paid.

### Article V. Conditions of Active Membership

A member shall be considered an active member of the Club under the following conditions:

- They are of legal age in the State of Michigan to consume alcoholic beverages.
- They have paid dues, as noted in Article 4.

- They have attended at least two Club gatherings, consisting of either monthly meetings or other special events deemed to be Club functions, during a rolling 12 month period.
- They display conduct befitting of a member, in that they act as a good steward of the Club and the homebrewing community at large. Any member in violation of this standard may be subject to a review of their membership status, as described in Article 6.

## **Article VI. Eligibility & Conduct of Officers and Members**

To be eligible to serve as an Officer of the Club, a member must be considered active, as defined in Article 5, for a period of at least six (6) continuous months prior to starting their term.

If an Officer of the Club does not fulfill duties required as described in Article 3, that Officer will be notified in writing of the meeting at which removal from office will be discussed and voted upon. At that meeting, the Officer may present statements to the Club in an effort to retain the position. Removal will occur if so voted by a 2/3 majority of all active members, either by their presence at the meeting or voting by appropriate proxy.

If any member of the Club exhibits conduct that would be considered to be in violation of Article 5, they may have their status as a member formally reviewed by a majority vote of the Officers. If the Officers decide to move forward with the process, that member will be notified in writing of the meeting at which removal from membership will be discussed and voted upon. At that meeting, the member may present statements to the Club in an effort to retain membership. Removal will occur if a quorum is present, and voted by a 2/3 majority of all active members, either by their presence at the meeting or voting by appropriate proxy.

## **Article VII. Guests**

Members may invite guests to any meeting of the Club. However, members will be given preference when the venue or meeting format limits attendance. Guests must be of legal drinking age in the State of Michigan in order to attend monthly meetings. It shall be expected that guests attending more than three (3) meetings in a calendar year will become active dues paying members, with an exception for guests who are active members of another homebrewing club.

## **Article VIII. Financial Policy**

The President and Officers of the Club shall be good stewards of the Club's financial resources. Dues shall be spent on items that would be considered to be for the enrichment and benefit of the Club members. As noted in Article 3, the President will hold the Club's funds in a commingled bank account, however, financial records must be kept by a third party, which in this case is the Club Treasurer as noted in Article 3. Any funds held outside of a commingled bank account shall be done so at the sole risk of the President, and they would be fully responsible for replacement in the event of a loss or theft. The following items shall dictate the rules for approval of spending of the Club's funds. Any spending outside of this policy will not be guaranteed for reimbursement.

- The President may, at his/her discretion, make or authorize single purchases of up to \$50 without the need for other approval. These purchases shall not exceed an aggregate of \$150 during the President's annual term.

- Purchases of \$50 - \$150, or any purchases exceeding the President's \$150 annual limit, shall be approved by the Club's Officers by a simple majority. Annual Officer approvals shall not exceed \$500 during a single annual term.
- Any purchases of greater than \$150, or purchases greater than the \$500 annual aggregate of the Officers, must be voted upon by the Club's membership at a monthly meeting. The Club must be notified in advance of a meeting regarding any voting on the use of Club funds.

Any Officer who knowingly violates this policy will trigger a formal review of their eligibility to serve as an Officer of the Club, to be voted on by the Club's membership. If the violation is serious enough in nature, the Club may also vote on a formal review of the Officer's membership in the Club, as stated in Article 6.

### **Article IX. Indemnification**

Each member of the Club, in consideration of the benefits of membership, agrees to the following:

- The member understands that the consumption of alcoholic beverages may affect his or her perception, reactions, mood, and behavior.
- The member shall be solely responsible for his or her conduct and actions, and the consequences thereof, after consumption of alcohol.
- The member shall indemnify and hold harmless the Club and any other member from any liability or loss arising from, or out of the participation of the member, or the member's guest, in any Club activity, including, but not limited to, the consumption of food and alcoholic beverages.