

**OREGON OLDTIME FIDDLERS' ASSOCIATION (OOTFA) INCORPORATED
STANDING RULES - REVISED: September 15, 2023**

STANDING RULES

These Standing Rules may be amended by simple majority vote of the
Board of Directors.

ARTICLE I. Instruments

All acoustic stringed instruments are allowed. Instruments with electrical amplification, drums and other percussion instruments, woodwind instruments (except harmonica) and brass instruments are not permitted.

ARTICLE II. Dues

Section 1. Dues

- A. Annual dues of \$35.00 for a household are payable on January 1 of each year. This includes an individual, a couple or all family members residing at the same address.
- B. Dues shall only be prorated for new members.
- C. Lifetime members are not required to pay dues.
- D. Dues will be reviewed annually at the OOTFA State Convention and increased, if determined necessary by the OOTFA Board of Directors. Notice will be given to membership prior to any increase.

ARTICLE III. OOTFA Monthly Newsletter

Section 1. Electronic Version

Households receiving The Hoedowner as a pdf attachment to an email will not be assessed a charge to receive the newsletter.

Section 2. Mailed Version

- A. Households, including Life members, receiving The Hoedowner by U.S. mail will be assessed an additional \$5.00 charge.
- B. The expense to OOTFA for the mailed Hoedowner will be reviewed annually at the OOTFA State Convention by the OOTFA Board of Directors. Notification will be given prior to price changes.

ARTICLE IV. District Assessments

- A. All District income will be assessed twenty percent (20%), payable to OOTFA and mailed to the State Treasurer monthly by the District Treasurer. This includes all performances, jams and non-scholarship donations.
- B. If a facility charges rent to hold a district event, that amount may be deducted prior to assessing the 20% due for that event. All event expenses will be paid by District.
- C. Only monies received from grants or specifically designated for scholarship donations are exempt.

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ARTICLE V. OOTFA Awards

Section 1. OOTFA Bill Yohey Award (Accompanist Award)

- A. Screening Committee
 - (1) The President shall appoint a committee chair, who will solicit at least 2 committee members to select the recipient.
 - (2) Nominees should be submitted to the OOTFA President on the appropriate form by March 1.
- B. Candidate
 - (1) Must be a past or current member of OOTFA.
 - (2) Have contributed outstanding service to OOTFA's goals for a minimum of 5 years.
 - (3) Should have been an accompanist at OOTFA events other than in his/her own district.
- C. A trophy will be presented to the recipient with his/her name engraved on it at a OOTFA State membership meeting.
- D. Instructions and forms can be obtained from a District or State officer or the OOTFA website: <http://www.ootfa.org>.

Section 2. OOTFA Norm Nash Award (Distinguished Service Award)

- A. Screening Committee
 - (1) The OOTFA President shall appoint a committee chair who will solicit at least two (2) committee members to select recipient.
 - (2) Nominees must be submitted to the OOTFA President on the appropriate form by March 1. President will forward names to committee chair.
- B. Candidate
 - (1) Must be a past or current member of OOTFA.
 - (2) Have contributed outstanding service to OOTFA's goals for a minimum of 5 years.
 - (3) Contributions should strengthen OOTFA organization.
 - (4) Should be more than holding a District or State office.
- C. A name plate with recipient's name will be added to the perpetual plaque.
- D. This plaque should be prominently displayed at all State functions.
- E. In addition, a certificate will be awarded to the recipient at a bi-annual OOTFA State membership meeting. The certificate will include "Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers' Norm Nash Distinguished Service Award", recipient name and the year awarded.
- F. Instructions and forms can be obtained from a District or State officer or the OOTFA website: <http://www.ootfa.org>.

ARTICLE VI. Kielhorn Funds

Section I. Kielhorn Trust

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- A. In 2012 OOTFA received from the Trust of Norman and Hattie Kielhorn a substantial gift, directed to be used specifically to:
 - (1) Purchase equipment for use at concerts,
 - (2) Conduct music camps for Oregon youth,
 - (3) Promote the appreciation of 'old time fiddle music' among Oregon's youth.
- B. This bequest was established as a permanent endowment fund at The Oregon Community Foundation. Annual distributions from this endowment fund provide Kielhorn grant funds administered by the OOTFA Board of Directors. Current Kielhorn Grant Application Instructions and Grant Form can be obtained from a District or State Officer or the OOTFA website: <http://www.ootfa.org>.

Section 2. General Definitions

- A. Concerts - a musical performance by players or singers for an audience that does not involve theatrical staging. This does not include music jams.
- B. Promote - further the progress of something, especially a cause, venture, or aim; support or actively encourage; give publicity to a product, organization, or venture so as to increase public awareness.
- C. Appreciation - a sensitive awareness, recognition of value.
- D. Equipment - sound equipment used for live performances such as microphones, amplifiers, speakers, stands, cords.
- E. Youth - any person 18 years of age and under.

Section 3. Kielhorn Grant Application

- A. Screening Committee
 - (1) President shall appoint a Screening Committee Chair, who will solicit two (2) members who:
 - (a.) Are neither State nor District officers
 - (b.) Serve for twelve (24) months that coincide with the State Office terms.
- B. Grant applications must be approved by at least two District officers.
- C. All grant applications must comply with the purposes specified in the Trust.
- D. No one grant application may exceed two thousand five hundred (\$2,500) dollars.
- E. Grants should not be for individuals, families or very small groups and cannot be for individual private instruction.
- F. Grants can be used to pay for specific services provided by a non OOTFA member or company but cannot be used to support an activity from an organization that is not a 501(c)(3) corporation.
- G. Grant application must be complete and signed.
- H. Grant monies will be forwarded by check from the OOTFA State

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Treasurer to the District Treasurer.

- I. An accounting of grant monies received and dispersed by the district will be included in the District Treasurer's reports to the State Treasurer.
- J. Within three (3) months of completion of grant a final report must be submitted to Board of Directors, including financial data and summary of project results.
- K. Grant funds cannot be used for general operating funds of an OOTFA District or a third-party organization.
- L. Instructions and forms can be obtained from a District or State officer or the OOTFA website: <http://www.ootfa.org>.

ARTICLE VII. OOTFA Scholarship Program

Section 1. OOTFA State Scholarship Committee

- A. The OOTFA Scholarship committee is presided by the Vice President, who shall appoint three (3) members-at-large to serve for a term of one (1) year.
- B. Members of the committee shall be active participants of OOTFA events, regularly attending meetings and jams.
- C. To prevent conflicts of interest, no committee member shall vote on a decision from which he or she may benefit personally.

Section 2. State Scholarship Funds

- A. Scholarship funds shall be limited to fifty percent (50%) of the instructor's fee. Workshops and instruction must be approved by the scholarship committee.
- B. An OOTFA member of any age may apply for a scholarship to cover tuition. Application must be signed by District Chair.
- C. Availability of funds is limited to seventy-five percent (75%) of State Scholarship Account in any fiscal year.

Section 3. Workshops and Private Lessons

- A. Preference for Scholarship funding will be given to workshops, including online instruction.
- B. The requested amount is limited to approval of Scholarship committee. Districts may also apply to help fund a specific workshop.
- C. The purpose is to provide low-cost instruction. It is recommended all workshop students be required to pay a nominal fee to instructor to ensure attendance.

Section 4. Instructor

- A. Instructor and tuition fees are to be approved by the committee. The qualified instructor should teach old time music recognized by OOTFA.
- B. Written agreement shall be signed by instructor and the OOTFA State President or designated person. Dates and fees to be stated in agreement.

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C. State Scholarship Applications

Instructions and forms can be obtained from a District or State officer or the OOTFA website: <http://www.ootfa.org>.

Section 5. OOTFA Fiddle Workshops

The primary purpose of an OOTFA workshop is to give instruction to those who are interested in learning to play the fiddle and other stringed instruments and improve their skills. In doing so, the organization is perpetuating old time music.

- A. In order that the skill of fiddling is to survive and be perpetuated, we must strive to recruit and train new acoustic musicians.
- B. The workshop teaches such skills as techniques, pitch, timing, performance, stage presence, new tunes and the care and maintenance of acoustic stringed instruments.
- C. Students are taught by demonstration, lecture, small groups, large groups and one-on-one.

ARTICLE VIII. Revisions Supersede All Previous Standing Rules.

Adoption of these Standing Rules shall serve to void, replace and supersede all previous Standing Rules of OOTFA.