



**BY-LAWS  
OF THE  
NATIONAL  
HAMPTON  
ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATION  
INCORPORATED**

Revised January 25, 2003

**NATIONAL HAMPTON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**Hampton University, Hampton, Virginia 23668**

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# ARTICLE I - Authority

The Board of Directors of the National Hampton Alumni Association, Inc., (the NHAA, Inc.) in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation of the NHAA, Inc., adopt and institute these By-Laws to regulate the internal affairs of the NHAA, Inc., as are appropriate to its authority and responsibilities.

## **Section 1: Purpose**

- (a) Raise monies for Hampton University.
- (b) Recruit students to attend Hampton University.
- (c) Propose and manage an Annual Program Budget.
- (d) Work cooperatively with University personnel to develop and implement programs that will benefit Hampton and the National Hampton Alumni Association, Inc.

# ARTICLE II - Membership

There shall be three (3) classes of membership.

## **Section 1: Regular Voting Membership**

All holders of degrees, diplomas, and certificates heretofore and hereinafter granted by Hampton University and its predecessors, and all persons who attended Hampton University and its predecessors for at least one semester (including a summer session) and left in good standing, are afforded voting membership in the NHAA, Inc.

## **Section 2: Associate Membership**

Associate memberships may be granted by a local chapter of the NHAA, Inc., to any person who exhibits interest by support of, and participation in, the program(s) of the NHAA, Inc.

## **Section 3: Honorary Membership**

Honorary membership may be granted by the Board of Directors of the NHAA, Inc., regions or local chapters.

# ARTICLE III - Board of Directors

**Section 1:** The Board of Directors of the NHAA, Inc. shall consist of the following persons:

- (a) The National President who is designated Chairman of the Board
- (b) First National Vice President
- (c) Vice President (Eastern Regions)
- (d) Vice President (Western Regions)
- (e) Recording Secretary
- (f) Corresponding Secretary
- (g) Treasurer
- (h) The Regional Presidents
- (i) The Director of Alumni Affairs of Hampton University (Ex officio)
- (j) Legal Counsel (Ex officio)
- (k) Immediate Past National President of the NHAA, Inc.
- (l) Chaplain
- (m) Student Recruitment Chairperson
- (n) Alumni-Giving Chairperson

**Section 2:** The Board of Directors shall select by a majority vote its legal counsel. The Director of Alumni Affairs of Hampton University shall serve during his or her term of office.

## **Section 3: Elections**

An election of the national officers President, First Vice President, Vice President (Eastern Regions), Vice President (Western Regions), Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer shall be conducted among the regular voting membership in even-numbered years.

Nominations for the national officers shall be made in writing by chapters to the Nomination Committee by October 15th of odd-numbered years. A written ballot shall be prepared and mailed to each regular voting member by March 1st of the even-numbered years. Each properly authenticated ballot received from regular voting members by midnight April 1st of even-numbered years will be counted and the person receiving the most actual votes (a plurality) for each national office shall be certified by the Teller Committee as elected for a two-year term beginning July 1st of the even-numbered years.

First Vice President is nominated by any Chapter and all alumni can vote for the candidates. Vice President (Eastern Regions) is nominated only by chapters from the MidAtlantic, NorthAtlantic, North Carolina and Southeast Regions. All alumni across the country can vote for that person(s). The person must reside in one of those regions.

Vice President (Western Regions) is nominated only by chapters from the Far West, Midwest and Southwest Regions. All alumni across the country can vote for that person(s). The person nominated must reside in one of those regions.

If chapters do not nominate people for all elected positions by the nomination deadline, the Board of Directors will nominate persons for the vacant posts, with no recommendations.

**Section 4:** Regional Presidents shall be elected by regular voting members residing in the region of their representation.

**Section 5:** The Board of Directors of the NHAA, Inc. shall meet twice a year. A Board Meeting can be cancelled with a concurrence of a majority vote of the Board 30 days prior thereto.

A quorum for Board meetings shall be eight (8). Any Board member attending a Board meeting may call for an executive session, secret ballot or both. Robert's Rules of Order shall be the guide for the parliamentary procedure at Board meetings and Board Committee meetings.

**Section 6:** The Board of Directors shall have the general charge of conducting the business affairs of the NHAA, Inc., including the management of the Corporation, the recommendation of a program budget to Hampton University and the levy of National dues on the membership.

**Section 7:** Upon the death or resignation of the National President, the First National Vice President shall assume the title and the duties of the National President and the Board of Directors shall elect an acting First Vice President from the Alumni Council membership at their next meeting. Upon the death or resignation of any other national officer, the National President shall appoint an alumni council member to the vacant position for the remainder of the term.

## ARTICLE IV - Finances

### **Section 1: Budget**

The President of the NHAA, Inc., or his/her designated officer shall develop and prepare an annual program budget in consultation with the Board of Directors. The proposed budget for the next fiscal year, beginning July 1, shall be presented to the NHAA, Inc., Board of Directors for adoption no later than the preceding August 31st.

### **Section 2: Alumni-Giving Goals**

The National Alumni-Giving Chairperson is responsible for developing and recommending the national alumni-giving goal in consultation with the NHAA, Inc., Board of Directors and the Alumni Council. The National Alumni-Giving goal, including goals for regions and chapters, for the next fiscal year, beginning July 1st, shall be prepared for Alumni Council review no later than the preceding April 30th. The goals shall be ready for adoption at the following Fall Board of Directors meeting.

## ARTICLE V - Executive Committee of the Board of Directors

There shall exist an Executive Committee of the NHAA, Inc.'s Board of Directors, which shall be composed of the National President, the three National Vice Presidents, the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary, the Corresponding Secretary and Chaplain. When the Board of Directors is not in session, this Executive Committee shall have the responsibility of attending to the day-to-day functions of the NHAA, Inc.'s Board of Directors.

# ARTICLE VI - Standing Committees

**Section 1:** After the election of the national officers, the National President shall appoint the following Standing Committees of the Board, namely: Credentials, Audit, Merit Awards, Parents, Mentorship-Career Network, Alumni-Giving, Student Recruitment and Retention. Standing Committees may be combined at the discretion of the National President.

**Section 2:** Each committee shall consist of no less than three (3) nor more than nine (9) persons.

**Section 3:** Committee policies and actions are subject to review and determination by the Board of Directors.

**Section 4:** The purpose of the committees shall be as listed below:

(a) Credentials - shall pass upon the credentials of the Alumni Council, Official Delegates, Members-at-Large and provide for their proper identification. It shall also verify the credentials of candidates nominated for national office as well as request of members seeking recognition as a Chapter.

(b) Audit -shall monitor all income and expenditures of funds to assure compliance with budget appropriations.

(c) Awards -shall select one or more persons, regions and/or chapters to receive awards. It shall also recommend criteria for selection of the recipients.

(d) Parents -shall serve as the coordinating body with parents of all students and former students of Hampton University and its predecessors.

(e) Mentorship-Career Network - shall coordinate all activities between the NHAA, Inc., and students at Hampton University and its predecessor.

(f) Alumni-Giving -shall develop a program or strategy and organize the regions and chapters to maximize the amount and participation of alumni in alumni giving for the benefit of Hampton University. This committee shall be chaired by the National Alumni-Giving Chairperson and composed of the regional Alumni-Giving Chairpersons.

(g) Student Recruitment and Retention -shall serve as the coordinating body regarding student recruitment and retention activities of local, regional and national activities. This committee shall be chaired by the National Student Recruitment and Retention Chairperson and composed of the regional Student Recruitment and Retention Chairpersons.

(h) Alumni Recruitment and Chapter Development - shall serve as the coordinating body regarding alumni recruitment for local, regional and national activities. This committee shall be co-chaired by the Vice Presidents (Eastern and Western Regions) and composed of the regional Alumni Recruitment and Chapter Development Chairpersons.

# ARTICLE VII - Special Committees

Special committees appointed by the National President shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Nominations -shall submit nominations to the Board of Directors of the NHAA, Inc., at the Board meeting prior to the Annual Plenary Session, of even-numbered years, for voting by the regular membership.
2. Teller - shall be responsible for accurately recording the ballot count of all national elections.

# ARTICLE VIII - Chapters

- Section 1:** A chapter shall be any regularly organized affiliation of five (5) or more regular members as defined in Article II which has been recognized by Hampton University and the NHAA, Inc., their predecessors or is established as herein provided.
- Section 2:** Five (5) or more regular members may seek recognition as a chapter by written petition to the Credentials Committee.
- Section 3:** A chapter shall be committed to the purpose and spirit of the NHAA, Inc., and shall cooperate with its program. Chapters are expected to abide by and adopt rules and regulations consistent with the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, written operating procedures and/or duly promulgated rules and regulations of the NHAA, Inc., and its regions.
- Section 4:** A new chapter may not be organized in the same locality where a chapter is currently functioning without the approval of the Executive Committee of the respective region. The Board of Directors, NHAA, Inc. shall issue a charter for the new chapter upon certification by the Credentials Committee.

# ARTICLE IX - Regions

- Section 1:** A region is a geographical area composed of any group of five (5) or more chapters.
- Section 2:** The seven (7) constituted regions of the NHAA, Inc. are:
- (a) Mid-Atlantic
  - (b) North Carolina
  - (c) Southeast
  - (d) Southwest
  - (e) Midwest
  - (f) Far West
  - (g) North Atlantic
- Section 3:** Any five (5) chapters can, by written petition to the Credentials committee, request designation as a Region of the NHAA, Inc.

- Section 4:** Each region shall coordinate the activities of the chapters within its jurisdiction and aid them in carrying out their programs to the fullest extent possible. Each region shall convene an annual convention and/or a retreat and shall have the authority to adopt rules and regulations and to execute plans to accomplish its mission. Regions are responsible for informing and training their membership about the operations, mission and business of the NHAA Inc., and abiding by the rules and procedures of the NHAA, Inc.
- Section 5:** Regional constitutions and by-laws shall not be contrary to the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, written operating procedures and/or duly promulgated rules and regulations of the NHAA, Inc.
- Section 6:** Regional presidents, with the approval of the Region's Executive Committee and the National President can visit and convene chapter meetings for the purposes of reorganization, maintaining records or information gathering if a chapter is becoming inactive or loses a president through death, resignation or inactivity.

## ARTICLE X - Duties of the National Officers

- Section 1:** President -shall have the usual executive powers of supervision and management of the NHAA, Inc., including, but not limited to:
- (a) Serve as Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the NHAA, Inc.;
  - (b) Preside at all meetings of the NHAA, Inc.;
  - (c) Be the Chairperson of the Alumni Council as per Article XV;
  - (d) Present for consideration, proposed budget policies and programs for the NHAA, Inc.
  - (e) Shall be the official medium of communication between Hampton University, its Office of Alumni Affairs, Board of Trustees and the NHAA, Inc.;
  - (f) Appoint the Chairperson and members of all standing and special committees;
  - (g) Call special meetings when deemed urgently necessary;
  - (h) Represent the NHAA, Inc., with other societies at public meetings and conferences or designate an alternate representative;
  - (i) Shall provide an annual report to the Hampton University Board of Trustees at their spring meeting and the NHAA, Inc., membership at the Annual Plenary Session.

### **Section 2: Vice Presidents**

(a) First Vice President -shall perform the duties of the President in all cases in which the President is unable to serve. He/She shall serve as alternate to the President and assist in such matters as may be delegated to him/her by the President or the Board of Directors. He/She may serve as a member of any committee, except the Nominations or Teller Committees, whenever designated by the President. He/She shall assist with administrative activities of the Corporation, Reunion Weekend and support class leaders as Chairman of the Council of Reunion Class Leaders.

(b) Vice President (Eastern Regions) - This Vice President is responsible for chapter development and alumni recruitment for the four Eastern regions and is Co-Chairperson of the Chapter Development and Alumni Recruitment Committee. This Vice President co-chairs the

Councils of Chapter and Regional Presidents for the purpose of advising the NHAA, Inc., Board of Directors on issues. The NHAA, Inc., President may call upon this Vice President to represent him/her in his or her absence within their geographic area of responsibility.

(c) Vice President (Western Regions) -This Vice President is responsible for chapter development and alumni recruitment for the three Western regions and is Co-Chairperson of the Chapter Development and Alumni Recruitment Committee. This Vice President co-chairs the Councils of Chapter and Regional Presidents for the purpose of advising the NHAA, Inc., Board of Directors on issues. The NHAA, Inc., President may call upon this Vice President to represent him/her in his or her absence within their geographic area of responsibility.

**Section 3:** Recording Secretary -shall record the minutes of the NHAA, Inc.'s official meetings and serve as Secretary of the Corporation.

**Section 4:** Corresponding Secretary -shall be responsible for preparing and distributing all correspondence for business undertaken by the Board of Directors and the Alumni Council.

**Section 5:** Treasurer -shall serve on the Budget Committee and keep an update of the sources, receipts and disbursements of all NHAA, Inc. funds.

**Section 6:** Chaplain -shall perform devotional services, express sympathies of NHAA, Inc., to alumni and friends and other appropriate duties.

**Section 7:** Parliamentarian -shall be appointed by the President and shall insure proper parliamentary procedure is followed at all meetings of the NHAA, Inc.

**Section 8:** Duties of all officers shall include the following:  
1. Attend at least 50% of Board meetings unless there is an excused absence  
2. Remain a member in good standing of their home chapter and region  
3. Provide written report to NHAA, Inc. Board of Directors identifying accomplishments for the year. The other duties of all officers shall be those customarily performed by such officers, except as herein otherwise provided.

## ARTICLE XI - Qualification of National Officers

**Section 1:** Only members in good standing with chapters may hold national office, except at-large members who reside at least sixty (60) miles from an active chapter. Good standing shall consist of the following:  
1. Payment of dues, and  
2. Making a financial contribution to Hampton University, and  
3. Participation in and support of chapter and regional activities

**Section 2:** Only members as defined in Article II, Section 1, of the NHAA, Inc.'s By-Laws may hold national office.

**Section 3:** Elected officers, as defined in Article X, shall serve for a term of two (2) years and shall be

eligible for re-election for one individual successive two-year term.

**Section 4:** Individuals duly elected may not occupy more than one elected national office at any given time.

**Section 5:** Candidates of the Office of the President and the three Vice Presidents shall be members of the Association as defined in Article II, Section I, and shall serve in some type of leadership capacity in the local or regional capacity prior to being nominated.

## ARTICLE XII - Council of Regional Presidents

The primary purpose of said council shall be to discuss common problems/issues and share ideas toward improving the overall operating effectiveness of each chapter.

The council shall advise the Board of Directors and make recommendations in reports to the Board of Directors of the NHAA, Inc.

## ARTICLE XIII - Council of Chapter Presidents

The primary purpose of said council shall be to discuss common problems/issues and share ideas toward improving the overall operating effectiveness of each chapter.

This council shall advise the Board of Directors of the NHAA, Inc., and make recommendations in reports to the Board of Directors of the NHAA, Inc.

## ARTICLE XIV - Council of Reunion Class Leaders (CORL)

There shall be a Council of Reunion Class leaders of each reunion class which council shall be convened by the First Vice President prior to the Reunion Weekend. ,

The Reunion Class leaders for the ensuing five (5) years shall be elected by their respective ' reunion classes. Each reunion class shall elect three class leaders: a President, a Vice President and a Secretary/Reporter. The President shall serve on the Alumni Council during the official reunion year of his / her class and the President, Vice President and Secretary-Reporter shall serve as class leaders from their class on the CORL until the next official reunion of their class.

The purpose and duties of the CORL are as follows:

(a) The CORL shall serve an additional means by which alumni, through their class loyalties, may be bound more closely to Hampton University and to one another. CORL shall give priority attention to alumni-giving; to promoting and strengthening the NHAA, Inc.'s national program and outreach and increasing attendance at the Regional and National Sessions of the NHAA, Inc., and during Reunion Weekend.

(b) In furtherance of said aims, the President of each official reunion class shall serve a one-year tenure on the Alumni Council during his/her class reunion year and each reunion class president shall work closely with the First Vice President in building a program and procedure by which class members will be located,

revitalized, where necessary; involved where possible and kept personally informed concerning the NHAA, Inc., and Hampton University. At the end of his /her one-year tenure on the Alumni Council, he/she will make a written report (to his/her class and the Board of Directors of the NHAA, Inc.) which shall contain such recommendations and comments as he/she shall deem appropriate.

The First Vice President shall appoint a Presidential delegate for any class that is not organized or the event there is no successor for a vacancy which occurs between reunions.

The appropriate graduating Senior Class Officers shall serve as reunion delegates to CORL until their first class reunion, unless someone else is selected by the class.

## ARTICLE XV - Alumni Council

There shall be an Alumni Council which shall coordinate the programs and affairs of the NHAA, Inc., in accordance with the actions of the NHAA, Inc.'s Board of Directors and of the Alumni as manifested at the Annual Plenary Sessions or National Meetings of the NHAA, Inc. The Council is advisory to the NHAA, Inc., Board of Directors and has the power to recommend programs and actions for Board consideration. When appropriate, the Board of Directors can delegate decisions governing the Association to the Council. The Alumni Council shall meet at least once a year. A quorum for Alumni Council meeting shall be thirty (30).

The Alumni council shall be composed of:

- (a) The Officers of the NHAA, Inc.;
- (b) The most current Reunion Class Leaders;
- (c) The Presidents of local chapters;
- (d) The Regional Presidents;
- (e) One (1) At-Large Member who shall be appointed by the President;
- (f) All Past Presidents of the NHAA and/or NHAA, Inc., in an honorary status;
- (g) Standing Committee Chairpersons and Special Committee Chairpersons;
- (h) President of the Hampton Boosters;
- (i) Presidents of alumni professional associations.

## ARTICLE XVI - Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Alumni Council may be called by the President, any Vice President, or by the request in writing of sixteen (16) members of the Council.

Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called upon the written request of eight (8) members of the Board of Directors.

All requests for special meetings must be submitted to the Corresponding Secretary.

## ARTICLE XVII - Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the NHAA, Inc., shall conform to the fiscal year of Hampton University: July 1 -June 30.

## ARTICLE XVIII - Alumni Trustees

When an alumni trustee vacancy exists on the Board of Trustees of Hampton University, the Board of Directors of the NHAA, Inc., chapters, regions or an individual alumnus can recommend for consideration the name( s) of an alumnus (alumni) to the Board of Trustees of Hampton University.

## ARTICLE XIX - National Meetings

The Board of Directors of the NHAA, Inc. has the authority to conduct a national meeting of alumni, the program of which shall be developed by the Board of Directors. The Board has the option of implementing the National Meeting in even-numbered years (biennial).

On the day prior to the conferring of degrees to graduates of Hampton University at the close of the regular academic year, in Hampton, Virginia, an open meeting of the Association can be convened. This meeting shall be designated as the Plenary Session of the NHAA, Inc. The Board of Directors of the NHAA, Inc. has the authority to change the date, time and location of the Plenary session during Reunion Weekend.

## ARTICLE XX - Alumni Professional Associations

The alumni of the various organized professional groups of Hampton University may organize their own professional association(s) and be recognized as a constituent professional associate entity upon approval of their Articles of incorporation or Constitution, and By-Laws, which do not contravene those of the NHAA, Inc., by a majority vote of the Board of Directors of the NHAA, Inc. These groups will function under the aegis of the NHAA, Inc.

## ARTICLE XXI - Limits of Contractual Obligations

### **Section 1: Authority to bind the Association**

The National President shall have the authority to bind the NHAA, Inc., within the limits defined herein. From time to time, only an individual(s) or an officer(s) of the NHAA' Inc., may be authorized, by a majority vote of the Executive Committee, to act on behalf of and bind the Association.

### **Section 2: Contractual Obligations**

The National President nor the Board of Directors shall not enter into a contract which exceeds five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or one year in duration without the approval of a majority vote of the alumni council members present at the meeting.

## ARTICLE XXII - Amendment to By-Laws

The By-Laws may be amended by two-thirds of those persons present at a meeting of the Alumni Council of the NHAA' Inc., provided the duly proposed change(s) to the By-Laws have been sent to all Alumni Council members at least sixty (60) days prior to the meeting at which time said amendment(s) is/are sought to be passed.

## ARTICLE XXIII - Discretion in Board and Alumni Participation

### **Section 1: Conflict of Interest**

Care in voting and personal actions shall be exercised to avoid conflicts of interest by all Board and Alumni Council members.

### **Section 2: Personal Gain**

Board and Council members shall abstain from voting on any projects or proposals through which they may incur personal or financial gain.