

# **ABNORMAL BREWERS BY-LAWS**

Approved October 12,1992  
Revisions approved 02/14/2005  
2<sup>nd</sup> revision approved 04/14/2008  
3<sup>rd</sup> revision approved 07/13/2009  
4<sup>th</sup> revision approved 12/14/2009

## **ARTICLE I – NAME**

### **Section 1 - Corporate Name**

The name of the corporation shall be The Association of Bloomington-Normal Brewers, Ltd.

### **Section 2 - Common Name**

The club shall be commonly referred to as the "ABNormal Brewers".

## **ARTICLE II - PURPOSE**

### **Section 1 - Purpose**

To enjoy and promote the hobby of homebrewing.

### **Section 2 - Goals**

To engage in enjoyable social activities focused on homebrewing as a common foundation.

To learn more about beer, beer tasting, beer judging and brewing techniques, based on sharing knowledge and experience.

To promote the hobby and enjoyment of homebrewing.

To promote the responsible use of alcoholic beverages.

## **ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

### **Section 1 - Eligibility**

All persons who may legally consume alcoholic beverages pursuant to the Laws of the State of Illinois are eligible for membership.

### **Section 2 - Acceptance**

The criteria for membership acceptance is to make application to the club and to keep the annual dues current. Acceptance of a previously revoked member shall be by majority vote of the members.

### **Section 3 - Rights and Liability of Members**

Each regular member of the club shall have the right to vote on club matters. Only regular club members shall be entitled to attend and/or participate in club special events or opportunities unless the club officers open said event or opportunity to other types of members or non-members upon such terms and conditions as the officers may approve from time to time. The members of the club shall not be liable for the debts or obligation of the club. No member shall receive compensation for services rendered to the club except as otherwise approved by the officers of the club. A club member may be reimbursed from the contingency fund for expenses reasonably incurred on behalf of the club, if approved by the club President and Treasurer.

### **Section 4 - Guests**

Regular club meetings are open to the public unless the club officers expressly close that meeting or function. Members may and are encouraged to bring guests to regular club meetings.

Section 5 - Membership Year

The membership year of the club shall be the calendar year.

Section 6 - Non-Discrimination

Club membership shall not be denied to any individual on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, or sex.

Section 7 - Hold Harmless

Participation in this club is entirely voluntary. Participants are aware that participation in club activities may involve the consumption of alcoholic beverages and this may affect perception and reactions. Participants accept responsibility for their conduct, behavior and actions and absolve Abnormal Brewers of responsibility for their conduct, behavior and actions.

Section 8 - Types of Membership

All types of membership are subject to Sections 1 and 2 of Article III.

A - Regular Members

Open to all persons as provided by Sections 1, 2, and 6 of Article III. Dues for a regular member will be set by the officers.

B - Institute Member

Officers may award institute sponsor membership to organizations or companies in exchange for services or other benefits to the club or its members. Institute members shall not have voting rights, and are not eligible to become officers.

C - Honorary Member

The officers may offer honorary membership to any individual. Honorary members shall not have voting rights and are not eligible to become officers. Honorary members may not represent Abnormal Brewers in any AHA Club Competition or similar event as determined by the officers.

Section 9 - Revocation of Membership

Any membership in the club may be revoked by the vote of a majority of the members. Such a vote must be recommended by a club officer. Notification to the membership that a revocation vote will be conducted on the removal of a member must be included in the regular notice of the monthly meeting. A person whose membership is revoked shall not be entitled to a refund of dues.

## ARTICLE IV - VOTING

Section 1 - Eligibility

All club members, of any membership type that has voting rights (according to Article III Section 8), and have dues paid up current are eligible to vote.

Section 2 - Items Put to Vote

The club's officers shall decide when and the kinds of issues and topics to be voted on by the membership. Any member may petition to any officer for issues to be brought to a vote.

Section 3 - Quorum

A meeting consisting of at least one officer and one-third of the regular club members is to be considered a quorum.

Section 4 - Election Dates

Elections of officers and directors are held yearly in November with the new officers and directors taking office in December.

Section 5 - Nominations

Nominations shall be made by the nominating committee or from any member.

#### Section 6 - Voting Method

Voting is by such method as the officers shall prescribe. When a provision in these by-laws requires a "majority of the members" that shall mean a majority of the members attending the meeting during which the vote is held.

### ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

#### Section 1 - Officers

The following positions make up the entirety of the club's officers:

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Technical CZAR

#### Section 2 - Officer Responsibilities

President - This officer will normally conduct the meetings. Often, the President is the one who plans the meetings, arranging for an interesting demonstration or discussion. This officer reviews the financial records of the organization quarterly or as needed.

Vice President - This person assists the President as required.

Secretary - This officer keeps the minutes of the regular meeting, edits and publishes the club news and communicates with other organizations and individuals.

Treasurer - This officer handles the finances, collects dues and sees that they are deposited in the club's accounts. The Treasurer keeps the financial records, maintains the club membership list and submits an annual budget for approval by regular club members in January of each year.

Technical CZAR - This officer assists the membership at large with questions of a technical nature concerning homebrewing and organizes technical presentations as needed.

#### Section 3 - Removal

Any officer of the club may be removed by the vote of a majority of the members. Such a vote must be recommended by a club officer. Notification to the membership that a vote will be conducted on the removal of an officer must be included in the regular notice of the monthly meeting.

#### Section 4 - Officer Resignation or Death

On the resignation or death of an officer, the remaining officers shall select a person to take the responsibility of the officer who left and this person shall serve out the remainder of the officer's term.

### ARTICLE VI - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1 - The Board of Directors shall consist of the club officers, serving the same term and subject to the same conditions as set forth herein for officers.

### ARTICLE VII - NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

#### Section 1 - Non-Profit Status

The club is declared as a nonprofit organization. This does not give it tax exemption status under rules of the United States Department of Internal Revenue Service (IRS) unless applied for and received at a later date.

## ARTICLE VIII DUES

### Section 1 - Calendar

Dues are paid annually in January or before for the ensuing calendar year. The dues are set by the officers. When current members pay their dues, they must pay dues for the full year.

New members are charged dues on the following basis:

January - July: 100%

August - October: 50%

November and December: No charge for current year if paid in full for coming year

### Section 2 - Form of Payment

Dues will be collected by the Treasurer and may be paid in cash, money order, traveler's check, personal check and all other cash based negotiable media.

### Section 3 - Reporting

The Treasurer shall report the financial status of the club at each meeting.

## ARTICLE IX - MEETINGS

### Section 1 - Meetings of Members

Members shall meet monthly on the second Monday of every month unless otherwise instructed by the club officers. The officers may change the meeting time and location for special events as needed. Permanent changes to regular meeting time and location will require a majority vote of the membership prior to any change. In the event of the unexpected loss of a meeting location the club officers shall secure a temporary meeting location. A quorum must be present before any club business may be conducted.

### Section 2 - Meeting Procedure

In transacting official business, the rules of Parliamentary procedure contained in Roberts' "Rules of Order" shall generally govern all meetings of the club.

## ARTICLE X - CONTINGENCY FUND

### Section 1 - Fund

A contingency fund may be included in the annual budget report by the Treasurer to cover unexpected expenses or losses of the club. The amount of the fund shall be determined by the club officers and approved by a majority vote of the members.

## ARTICLE XI - BY-LAW ACCEPTANCE CHANGES

### Section 1 - Acceptance

These by-laws are accepted at the time of adoption by a majority vote of registered members.

### Section 2 - Procedure for Changes

Any member may petition for a change in the by-laws. When changes are suggested, the petition must be presented in writing and introduced at a regular meeting of the organization. The proposed changes shall be published in the newsletter and will be voted on at the next regular club meeting provided a 30 day waiting period has been met. A vote of the majority of the club's current members, that are eligible to vote according to Article III Section 8, must approve a by-law change.