

# **By-Laws**

## **Article 1**

### **Membership and Dues**

#### **Section 1. Membership:**

- a) This Association shall be composed of those organizations and persons which are in good standing on the 8th day of November, 1935, members in good standing of the Rockland County Volunteer Firemen's Association, companies which may hereafter be duly elected by this Association and such other persons as may from time to time be duly elected as delegates to the annual convention of this Association by the fire companies which are members of this Association.
- b) In addition, all active firefighters holding membership in a member organization may be elected to membership in this Association, providing that they are a minimum of sixteen years of age and a member in good standing in their respective organization at the time application is made for membership in this Association.

#### **Section 2. Delegates:**

Each organization shall be entitled to two delegates and two alternates to each annual convention and all regular meetings for that year and such organizations shall furnish credentials signed by the presiding officer and secretary that the members have been duly elected delegates to the annual convention by the members to represent the organization and that they are active members in good standing in such organization.

#### **Section 3. Dues:**

- a) The annual dues shall be \$20.00 for each organization, \$10.00 for each member and each organization when admitted and each member when accepted by a majority vote of the membership of the Association present at a regular meeting or annual convention, may retain membership in the Association as provided by the Constitution and By-Laws.
- b) All persons admitted to membership in the Association within the period of 90 days immediately preceding the date of the annual convention or admitted to membership at the annual convention, shall have their dues credited for the ensuing year.
- c) The annual dues shall be payable on or before the 1st of June in each year. No member shall have a vote or voice in any convention unless his dues for the current year are paid. Any member who shall be in arrears for more than one year shall be automatically dropped from the roll of membership. A member who is dropped may be re-instated upon presenting a new application and for purposes of determining the length of time they have been member of the Association, all time in good standing prior to being dropped from the rolls of membership shall be counted.
- d) All member companies shall have their dues paid by the 30th of June in order to be eligible for a member trophy in the annual Rockland County Volunteer Firemen's Association parade. Should a department, consisting of more than one company, choose to participate as a department, the dues of each company within the department, whether participating or not, must be paid by the 30th of June to be eligible for any trophies.

**Section 4. Honorary Members:**

- (a) In recognition of services performed for this Association, the Board of Directors may elect any person to honorary membership in this Association. Such persons shall be entitled to all privileges of the Association except as to vote or holding office. Such action however must be approved by the Association at a regular meeting by a majority of those present.
- (b) Honorary members shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

**Section 5. Life Membership:**

- (a) Any member of this Association whose personal membership dues has been paid for 25 years, shall be entitled to life membership therein, with all rights and privileges of a regular member. If a member has been dropped for non-payment of dues, a lump sum payment to bring their dues up to date will not be considered annual payment to entitle such member to life membership. Accumulated years shall continue with the new payment of yearly dues.
- (b) Life members shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

**Section 6. Members Dropped:**

- (a) Any member of this Association who is dropped from the rolls of their own organization for disciplinary reasons, or resigns from their organization to avoid disciplinary actions by such organization shall be dropped from the rolls of this Association.
- (b) Notification of the dropping or resignation must be in writing from the organization. The Association Board of Directors prior to dropping the member shall review the action.

## **Article II**

### **Administrative Officers**

**Section 1: Officers:**

- (a) The officers of this Association shall consist of President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Directors and five Town Vice Presidents, one from each town. No member shall be elected to office of this Association unless a member is in good standing for a period of two consecutive years, has attended at least 50% of the meetings in the last year, and also is a member in good standing in their own organization prior to such election.