

Navarre Krewe of Jesters, Inc.
**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
& BY-LAWS**

ARTICLE I: NAME OF CORPORATION

The organization shall be known as the “NAVARRE KREWE OF JESTERS, INC.” here after called “The Krewe”, in these by-laws.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE OF CORPORATION

Per the articles of incorporation, the Purpose of the Krewe is to organize, promote, produce and present an annual Mardi Gras parade for the entertainment and welfare of the citizens and guests of same. The Krewe is a community minded organization and as such will represent and maintain high moral and social standards.

ARTICLE III: MEETINGS

The monthly Membership meeting will be held at a specified location. The Board of Directors will meet as needed, date and time to be determined by the Board. (See policies.) The only requirements to conducting any Krewe meetings are those stated in these Bylaws and the attached policies.

ARTICLE IV: EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board will be comprised of members in good standing, elected from the Membership annually at the June membership meeting.

President:

Conducts meetings, delegates committees and votes only in case of ties. The president constructs meeting agenda based on committee reports, membership requests, and general business and will have the authority to negotiate and sign all contracts on behalf of “The Krewe”.

Vice-President:

Assists the president and presides over meetings in the absence of the President; the Vice-President has the authority to sign contracts in the absence of the president.

Secretary:

Records minutes of all meetings; generates any necessary correspondence, and responds as necessary. (See Policies)

Treasurer:

Pays all bills as directed by the board, balances accounts, and makes a report at each membership meeting. The treasurer will also keep a journal of business per standard accounting procedures and prepares an annual financial report, as stated in policies.

Membership Chairman:

Keeps a log of membership attendance, at the monthly membership meeting. Combined with Committee Chair attendance will determine members in good standing and forward to Executive Board. Maintains a document with signatures of new Jesters stating that they have read the Bylaws and Policies, and a document that all members sign yearly when paying their dues stating that they have reviewed the current Bylaws and Policies.

2 Board Members at Large:

Provide and bring forward “Krewe” related information to the Board from the membership.

ARTICLE V: REQUIREMENTS OF MEMBERS

The Krewe is an Equal Opportunity Organization open to all interested persons without discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations or any other legally protected status.

1. The Membership dues shall be determined by the Executive Board and approved by the regular Membership. Dues are not refundable.

- c2. Applicants for membership must be at least 21 years of age at the time of application.
3. New members will sign a document stating that they have read the Bylaws and Policies.
4. All members will sign a document when yearly dues are paid stating that they have reviewed the Bylaws and Policies.
5. No minors will be allowed at any Jester function unless it is deemed a family friendly event.
6. Special guests, ages 18 and older, will be allowed on the float with the approval of the President, after signing an insurance waiver.
7. All Krewe members, at all times, will refrain from conduct that reflects negatively on the Krewe as a whole, to include: verbal, physical, and social media commentary. Failure to uphold these standards will be met with a 3-step disciplinary action by the Executive Board: First offence will be verbal, second offense will be written, and third offense will be expulsion from the Krewe by Executive Board recommendation, with the approval of a majority of members present. In December, that failed. Danny and Mark were supposed to work together to rewrite this. It never happened.

ARTICLE VI: MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

1. Dues for regular membership will be paid in full prior to 31 May or the member will neither be eligible to vote or run for office. (See Policy 9 regarding dues amount and delinquency.)
2. A member must be in good standing to have a voice and a vote at all meetings and elections. Good standing includes:
 - Attending at least one Membership meeting per quarter.
 - Actively participating in at least one committee, participation to be verified by committee chair.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

1. Dues for Associate Membership must be paid annually subject to terms in the Krewe Policies.
2. Dues must be current for an Associate Member to enjoy the benefits of membership.

ARTICLE VIII: ROYALTY

The royalty will be selected by a majority of the members present at a Membership meeting, as determined in (Policy 12.).

Royal Court

Grand Marshall:

The selection of the Grand Marshall will be a significant member of the community. Examples include: civic leaders, military leaders and community members who have fostered a positive interest in the growth of the Navarre area. A Jester may be nominated, however nominee must have had significant impact on community programs and/or Navarre area interests, rather than his/her participation in "The Krewe."

King and Queen:

Must be a Member in good standing in the Krewe. Selected candidates should be individuals who have had a significant impact on the operations and events of the Krewe. (Policy)

Non-Royal Court.

Queen of Hearts:

Must be a member of good standing in the Krewe. Selected candidates should be individuals who have had a significant impact on the operations and events of the Krewe. (Policy [12.](#))

Lester, the Jester:

Must be a member of good standing in the Krewe. Selected candidates should be individuals who have had a significant impact on the operations and events of the Krewe. (Policy)

Queen of Hearts:

Must be a member of good standing in the Krewe. Selected candidates should be individuals who have had a significant impact on the operations and events of the Krewe. (Policy)

ARTICLE IX: ELECTIONS

1. Annual elections will be conducted during the June membership meeting. Ballots will be distributed after the meeting in May via mail. Only current dues paid members will be allowed to vote. Each Jester is allowed one vote for each office. Ballots may be mailed to the Jesters P.O. Box 5879, Navarre, Fl. 32566 or cast at the membership meeting in June. Ballots will be accepted no later than 15 minutes after the commencement of the meeting. The President will select two members who are not running for election to collect and count the ballots.
2. Elections will be held for the following offices and they will be considered the Executive Board of the Krewe: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chairman, and 2 Members-at-Large. The individuals receiving the most votes will fill the positions. The term of office for each of the elected officials will be from the current June election meeting to the following June election meeting. Nominations for these offices will be in writing, and will take place during April and May. Nominations will be made at the Membership meetings or via e-mail or regular post to one of the Executive Board members who will read it at the meeting. If nominating an individual it should be confirmed before the nomination that the individual to be nominated would accept the nomination. (See policy regarding if a Board member vacates his/her position.)

ARTICLE X: CHANGES TO THE BY-LAWS

All changes, additions, or deletions of any portion to the bylaws for the Krewe will be presented to the Executive Board in the form of a motion

(s) for review. The motion (s) will be presented at the next Membership meeting for discussion, whether or not the Executive Board recommends its passage. After discussion the motion will be tabled as written until the following membership meeting. At the subsequent Membership meeting the motion will be presented to the general Membership for time- limited discussion and a vote will be taken. The motion will carry with a majority of the vote of the general membership present at that meeting. (See policies relating to discussions and regarding amendments.)

ARTICLE XI: DISSOLUTION OF THE KREWE

Upon dissolution of the Krewe, all outstanding financial obligations will be met, including scholarships that have been awarded. All remaining assets will be distributed to local Navarre charities, as determined by the Executive Board.

Article XII: PROCEDURAL RULES

These Bylaws and the “Krewe’s written policies” are the rules which govern the organization.