#### **BYLAWS**

#### OF THE

# GREAT LAKES REGION OF THE AMERICAN AMATEUR KARATE FEDERATION

Amended and Recommended by 7 out of 9 AAKF Formation Committee Members, on 2/21/04 at Portage, Indiana, 1-3pm

Adopted by 3 out of 4 AAKF Voting Clubs, on 2/21/04, at Portage, Indiana, 4pm

Amendments to Article III (Article III,5) and Article IV (Article IV,B Earnings and Assets,1-2) adopted by 3 out of three Voting Clubs, on 03/21/2007, at Portage, Indiana.

Amendments and modifications to Article I (Article I B), Article III, IV, V, and VI defining members and board of directors, and removing references to voting clubs, adopted by all club representatives at the regional meeting on 4/28/2012 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

# **ARTICLE I**

#### A. TITLE

This organization will be known as the American Amateur Karate Federation Great Lakes Region, AAKF Great Lakes Region, Great Lakes, or GL Region.

#### B. OFFICE

The location of the Great Lakes Regional office is determined by the board of directors.

#### C. JURISDICTION

Jurisdiction of GL Region is: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

#### D. PURPOSE

- 1. Carry out AAKF business in the region according to AAKF rules.
- 2. Promotion of technical development within the region.
- 3. Promotion of goodwill among regional AAKF members.
- 4. Other

#### ARTICLE II

#### A. ACTIVITIES

- 1. Hold local, Regional and State Championships
- 2. Send athletes and/or teams to national or other events
- 3. Host technical seminars for development of athletes, judges and coaches
- 4. Other

# ARTICLE III

#### A. ORGANIZATION

- 1. GL Region is organized by AAKF registered member clubs and their AAKF registered individual members in the Great Lakes area.
- 2. All AAKF registered individuals who belong to an AAKF club registered in one of the states covered by the jurisdiction described in Article 1, Section C, are the members of the AAKF Great Lakes Region.
- 3. The AAKF GL Region shall have no right to suspend or remove AAKF members' technical qualifications or membership.
- 4. The GL Region cannot recognize member clubs or individuals other than registered AAKF Clubs or the clubs' registered AAKF Individual members.
- 5. Said organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

## B. REPRESENTATION AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 1. According to the AAKF Rules and Regulations (adopted on January 3, 2010), Article 6, Section 6.01, each AAKF registered club is entitled to elect a representative (a "Governor") to the AAKF Board of Governors.
- 2. The Board of Directors of the AAKF Great Lakes Region is comprised of the Governors of all the AAKF registered clubs in the region.
- 3. The AAKF Great Lakes Region members participate in the governance of the region through their club's representative on the Board of Directors.

#### ARTICLE IV

#### A. OFFICIALS

- 1. AAKF GL Region officials are as follows:
  - a.) Regional Director (representing the GL Region)
  - b.) Regional Secretary
  - c.) Regional Treasurer
  - d.) Other

#### B. ELECTIONS

1. The Director, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Great Lakes Region of the AAKF shall be elected by simple majority vote of the Board of Directors at an official meeting of the Great Lakes Region, or by letter ballot. Terms of GL Regional Director, Secretary, and Treasurer (GL Regional officials) shall be two years.

## C. DUTIES OF OFFICIALS

- 1. GL Regional Director: The Director shall be the chief executive officer of the Great Lakes Region and be responsible for the general supervision, direction, and control of the business of the Great Lakes Region.
- 2. GL Regional Secretary: The Secretary of the Great Lakes Region of the AAKF shall be responsible for maintaining all meeting records, and assisting the Director in keeping and submitting meeting minutes, maintaining regular communications with all clubs within the Region, and with the national office of the AAKF.
- 3. GL Regional Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be the chief financial officer of the Great Lakes Region and be responsible for collecting and depositing regional funds, and paying for the obligations incurred in the course of conducting business on behalf of the Great Lakes Region. The Treasurer shall also be responsible for submitting an annual financial report at annual Regional meetings. Treasurer must give periodic financial account reports when requested by Regional Director.
- 4. The GL Regional Director, Secretary, and Treasurer may appoint special committees to assist them in carrying out Regional administration.
- 5. It is mandatory that the GL Region establish a Technical Committee.

#### ARTICLE V

# A. MEETINGS

- Regional meetings must be held at least once per year and called by the Regional Director, or a simple majority of the Board of Directors. Notice of Regional meetings must be at least one month before the meeting, unless an emergency exists in GL Regional matters. Only the GL Regional Director and/or AAKF President may declare emergencies.
- 2. Regional meetings must have a quorum of Board of Directors members. A quorum in this context shall be defined as a simple majority of the Board of Directors. Proxy representation is acceptable for purposes of achieving a quorum.
- 3. Decisions shall be made by simple majority by the Board of Directors. Proxy votes are acceptable, if official AAKF Regional and/or National form is signed by the recognized club representative to the AAKF Great Lakes Region Board of Directors.

- 4. In the case of a tie in voting matters, the Director acting as chair of the regional meeting may cast deciding vote.
- 5. Regional Meetings will decide the following:
  - a. business report
  - b. previous year's financial report
  - c. new year's business plan
  - d. new year's business
  - e. election of regional officials (every other annual meeting)
  - f. other
- 6. All Great Lakes Regional rules must follow national AAKF rules and regulations and not contradict either the spirit or letter of national AAKF rules and regulations.
- 7. Within one month of the GL Regional meeting the Regional Secretary must send a report of the regional meeting proceedings and decisions to the President of the AAKF.

## **ARTICLE VI**

#### A. FEES AND DUTIES

- 1. AAKF GL Region members and clubs must pay Regional fees and duties as determined by Regional officials as well as national AAKF fees.
- 2. If Regional fees and duties are not paid, members cannot participate in Regional events.

## **B. EARNINGS AND ASSETS**

- 1. No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- 2. Upon the dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the

Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principle office of the organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes."

# **ARTICLE VII**

# A. AMENDMENTS

- 1. These AAKF Great Lakes Regional Articles may be amended or adopted by the vote of two-thirds majority of the members of the Board of Directors present at an official GL Regional Meeting.
- 2. Amendments to these Articles must be written and distributed to all members of the Board of Directors.
- 3. Authorized amendments to these GL Regional Articles will be added by the Regional Secretary to previous versions and integrated with respect to consistent organization, numbering and style.