

Louisiana Mosquito Control Association

Bylaws

Adopted on: 09/17/2025

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LMCA Mission: Since 1959, this non-profit organization has worked to improve educational resources, technical guidance and enhanced communication to increase scientific and practical knowledge of mosquito abatement and arboviral control to improve the health and quality of life for the people of Louisiana

Article I – Membership

Section A: Membership Categories

Membership in the Louisiana Mosquito Control Association (LMCA) shall be available to individuals, organizations, government entities, students, retirees, and other persons or entities with an interest in mosquito and vector control.

The Association shall maintain the following membership categories:

1. **Government Sustaining Membership** – Membership for eligible government entities engaged in mosquito or vector control.
2. **Individual Membership** – Membership for individuals with an interest in mosquito or vector control.
3. **Industry Supporter** – Membership for eligible commercial entities supporting mosquito or vector control through services, equipment, products, or related activities.
4. **Industry Benefactor** – Membership for eligible commercial entities seeking an elevated level of support and participation in the Association.
5. **Student Membership** – Membership for eligible students with an interest in mosquito or vector control.
6. **Retired Membership** – Membership for eligible retired individuals fully retired from employment and formerly active in LMCA.

Specific eligibility requirements, dues, fees, benefits, and other conditions applicable to each membership category shall be established and governed by the LMCA Policy Document.

All members shall receive applicable benefits as outlined below and are expected to adhere to LMCA's Code of Ethics and Bylaws.

Section B: Review of Membership Categories

The Board shall have the authority to review and revise membership dues, fees, eligibility requirements, benefits, and other administrative conditions associated with each membership category. Such requirements shall be maintained in the LMCA Policy Document.

Section C: Honorary Members

Individuals who have received the Hathaway-Ritter Distinguished Achievement Award shall be recognized as Honorary Members for life of the Louisiana Mosquito Control Association (LMCA). Honorary membership is a lifetime designation and does not require renewal.

Honorary Members are:

- Exempt from annual membership dues
- Granted complimentary registration to the LMCA Annual Meeting
- Eligible to bring one guest or spouse to the Annual Meeting at no additional cost

Section D: Membership in Good Standing

Requirements for maintaining membership in good standing, including the fulfillment of applicable financial and administrative obligations, shall be established in the LMCA Policy Document.

Section E: Delinquency and Removal

Procedures regarding membership delinquency, expiration, removal from the membership roll, and the suspension or termination of membership benefits shall be established in the LMCA Policy Document.

Article II – Annual Meetings; Electronic Voting

Section A: Annual Meetings

1. The Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Mosquito Control Association (LMCA) shall be held during the first two full weeks of December each year, at a time and location determined by the LMCA Board. In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the control of the Association, including but not limited to natural disasters, severe weather, public health emergencies, or other unforeseen events that make holding the Annual Meeting during this period impracticable or impossible, the LMCA Board may reschedule the Annual Meeting to another date.
2. A quorum for the Annual Meeting shall consist of at least ten percent (10%) of the voting members in good standing.
3. Business conducted at the Annual Meeting shall generally follow Robert's Rules of Order unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws or by action of the LMCA Board.

Section B: Electronic Meetings and Voting

1. The LMCA Board may authorize the use of electronic or virtual platforms to conduct meetings of the membership, committees, or Board, including the Annual Meetings, provided that:
 - Reasonable measures are taken to verify the identity and eligibility of participants, and
 - All members have equitable access to participate.
2. Electronic voting may be used for official LMCA business, including elections, bylaw amendments, or other matters requiring member input. The Board shall ensure:
 - A secure and accessible platform is used,
 - Members receive clear instructions and adequate notice (minimum 30 days when possible), and
 - Voting remains open for a reasonable period to ensure full participation.
3. A quorum for any meeting or vote conducted electronically shall be determined using the same percentage-based thresholds established for in-person meetings.

Article III – LMCA Board and Vice President

Section A: Composition of the Board

1. The Board shall consist of twelve (12) voting members, with additional voting membership permitted for Past Presidents who retain voting privileges as provided in these Bylaws.
2. The Board shall include at least one representative from each of the following categories:

- a. **Academia** – An individual employed full-time at an accredited college or university, whose expertise contributes to education, training, or research related to entomology, vector control, or public health.
- b. **Public Health** – An individual affiliated with a recognized public health entity such as the Louisiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (LADDL), the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), or comparable organizations, as well as trusted medical or veterinary professionals whose work supports public health, disease prevention, or community well-being.
- c. **Industry** – An individual employed in the private sector who provides products, services, or technical expertise that support mosquito control, vector management, or related public health initiatives.
- d. **Mosquito Abatement District (MAD) Director** – An individual who serves as the director or equivalent lead administrator of a recognized mosquito abatement district, responsible for overseeing operations, policy, and community engagement in mosquito management.

Section B: Terms and Term Limits

- 1. Board members shall serve a term of three (3) years.
- 2. An individual may serve a maximum of three (3) full terms as a Board member and then must fall off for one full term.
- 3. An individual may serve in the office of Vice President, President, or Past President no more than twice in their lifetime.
- 4. Partial Board terms (less than 18 months) served to fill a vacancy shall not count toward the three-term Board limit.
- 5. Each year, four (4) Board positions shall be subject to election to maintain a staggered rotation of Board terms. Individuals elected to these positions may include eligible incumbent Board members seeking an additional term and/or newly elected Board members are subject to the term limits established in this Section.

Section C: Elections and Nominations

- 1. The Nominating Committee shall be responsible for opening the call for nominations, collecting, vetting, and proposing eligible candidates for the Board and the office of Vice President. The final slate shall be submitted to the Board for approval and forwarded to the membership for voting.
- 2. To be eligible, candidates for the LMCA Board or Vice President must:
 - o Be members in good standing
 - o Support the mission of the LMCA
 - o Adhere to the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct
 - o Demonstrate a commitment to active engagement with the membership
- 3. The nomination process shall proceed as follows:
 - o Nominations will open on September 1st and close on October 1st each year.
 - o The Nominating Committee will conduct interviews with all nominees to assess their eligibility, qualifications, and alignment with LMCA's mission and values. Only candidates who meet the criteria will be moved forward for Board approval and inclusion on the ballot.
 - a. Individuals elected to serve as Vice President or President must be members in good standing but are not required to be current Board members at the time of nomination or election.

- The slate of eligible candidates will be submitted to the Board for approval and then distributed to the membership for vote.
4. Voting Procedures:
- All members in good standing are eligible to vote or submit a write-in nominee.
 - The four (4) candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected to the LMCA Board.
 - The Vice President shall be elected by a majority of votes cast by the membership.
 - In the event of a tie, a runoff vote shall be conducted between the tied candidates.
 - Should a vacancy occur, the LMCA Board may appoint a qualified individual to serve temporarily until the next Annual Meeting.

Section D: Meetings of the Board

1. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at the call of the President.
2. A quorum shall consist of seven (7) members of the Board.
3. The President may submit matters for Board consideration via electronic communication or video teleconference, provided all Board members are given the opportunity to participate.
4. Matters considered electronically shall require a majority vote of the quorum (7 members) to pass.
5. Any three (3) Board Members may request that a matter under electronic consideration be deferred to an in-person meeting.

Section E: Authority and Responsibilities

The Board is responsible for establishing the general policies and strategic direction of the Louisiana Mosquito Control Association.

Article IV – Administrative Officers

Section A: Composition and Terms

1. The officers of the Louisiana Mosquito Control Association (LMCA) shall include the following:
 - President
 - Vice President (President-Elect)
 - Past President
 - Secretary-Treasurer
 - Any additional officers as may be specified by the **LMCA Board**
2. The Vice President (President-Elect) shall be elected by the general membership and shall serve a one-year term, after which they shall automatically assume the role of President.
3. The Secretary-Treasurer shall serve at the discretion of the **LMCA Board** and may be reappointed annually or as otherwise determined by the Board.

Section B: Duties and Expectations

Unless otherwise specified by the Board, the duties of the officers shall generally include the following:

1. **President:** Provides executive leadership for the Association, presides at meetings, sets agendas in collaboration with the Board, appoint committees of their choice during their term, and represents LMCA in official capacities.
2. **Vice President (President-Elect):** Supports the President, prepares to assume the presidency, and may carry out presidential duties in the absence or incapacity of the President.

3. **Past President:** Shall serve as Spring Workshop program director, moderator and event organizer. He or she shall serve a chairperson of the Technical Advisory committee and Board liaison for the Education committee.
4. **Secretary-Treasurer:** Maintains accurate records of all proceedings, oversees financial accounts, manages dues collection, and provides regular financial reports to the Board.
5. Additional expectations for each role may include regular attendance at meetings, adherence to LMCA's mission and ethical guidelines, and active engagement with membership and initiatives.

Section C: Role-Specific Policies

Detailed responsibilities, procedures, and expectations for each officer shall be outlined in a separate LMCA Officer Role & Responsibilities section of the Policy Document, to be reviewed and updated as needed by the Board.

Article V. Amendments

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members voting at an Annual Meeting or by electronic poll, provided that the members have been notified in writing of the proposed amendment(s) at least thirty (30) days prior to the date set for adoption.

Article VI. Association Policies

The Louisiana Mosquito Control Association shall maintain a separate Policy Document that outlines the detailed rules, procedures, and guidelines governing the operations and conduct of the Association. This Policy Document is considered an official component of the Association's governance and shall be reviewed and updated as necessary by the Board. All members and officers are expected to adhere to the policies set forth therein.

