

Oregon Bluegrass Association



From 4/19/09 Annual Member Meeting (a revised reinstatement of Chapter Guidelines put forth in 2005)

Addendum to OBA Bylaws Allowing Chapters

Chapters of the Oregon Bluegrass Association within the state of Oregon shall be allowed as follows:

1. Chapters shall consist of ten or more interested OBA members in good standing within an area and limited to one Chapter per county as a maximum. As long as there is a minimum of ten members in good standing within that Chapter, the Chapter is active. If a Chapter's active membership drops below ten and is inactive for more than four months, the Chapter will be dissolved. Any inventory and/or monies from the dissolved Chapter will be given to the state OBA Board and held or disbursed by same.
2. Each Chapter will be established with a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Member-at-Large. Each Chapter's officers will be nominated and voted in by the specific chapter members annually. Term length of the Chapter officers is two years. Each Chapter's officers and members shall conduct their business and abide by state OBA rules and regulations. In times of conflict within a chapter, the state board will be the final hearing panel for conflict resolution.
3. The President of each chapter will have a seat on the state OBA Board. The State board is a mix of all of the state chapters' presidents and the standing board. The standing board is nominated and voted in every two years at the state annual membership meeting by the general membership as it has been since OBA's incorporation in 1982. The standing board will meet monthly. The combined boards (those of the state and of each Chapter) meet at least once a year. Chapters can volunteer to host the meeting and/or the State Annual Member Meeting may suffice.
4. Chapters will be encouraged to hold monthly jam sessions in their areas. In addition each chapter will make sure that they have a place to jam and that the expense of a place to jam is taken care of. It is expected that a chapter will have its business meeting either at this time or within that same month at a publicly announced location and time. Both the jam and the meeting will be under the OBA's insurance umbrella. The business meeting is open to all OBA members in good standing. No closed-door meetings will be held as per the state of Oregon's open meeting policy law.

5. Funding of Chapters is accomplished as follows: All OBA membership dues are paid directly to the state OBA Treasurer. Any funds generated by each Chapter will be held and used by the local Chapter with the exception of 20% of which will be sent to the state Treasurer as earned. Each Chapter is encouraged to perform and hold performances. These performances, when necessary, are entitled to the OBA's insurance umbrella. Said coverage will require coordination between the chapter president and the OBA Treasurer (who deals with the insurance agent. It must be the chapter's responsibility to get the necessary information to the OBA Treasurer in a timely manner (including date, time, ownership of the facility where event will be held, contact person for the facility, etc.) so that a Certificate of Liability Insurance can be issued when necessary. Chapters may use their accumulated funds for rental of a meeting or performance hall, instruments and lessons for needy children within their district, or for arranging bluegrass in the schools or for production of concerts in their Chapters.

6. All Chapters may assist in the annual state bluegrass festival either as volunteers, or performers as well as ticket sales, poster distribution, OBA booth staffing or in other areas of need. Each Chapter may participate on the Sunday of the festival with a gospel show and may bring a group to perform from their areas.

7. Each January, the state OBA board will also sponsor a statewide gospel shows as a means to raise funds for the state festival. It is expected that each Chapter will participate in local and/or the state wide shows. In this case, 20% of all funds collected after expenses from Chapter gospel shows will go to the state Treasurer. These shows are entitled to the OBA's insurance umbrella. Again, said coverage will require coordination between the chapter president and the OBA Treasurer (who deals with the insurance agent. It must be the chapter's responsibility to get the necessary information to the OBA Treasurer in a timely manner (including date, time, ownership of the facility where event will be held, contact person for the facility, etc.) so that a Certificate of Liability Insurance can be issued when necessary.