



Oconto County Association for Home and Community Education (HCE)

By-Laws

Updated September, 2005
Updated, May, 2004
Revised, October, 1998
(Individual Membership Accepted in 1981)

ARTICLE 1 NAME OF ORGANIZATION

The name of the organization shall be the Oconto County Association for Home and Community Education (HCE)

ARTICLE 2 PURPOSE OF ORGANIZATION

The purpose of this organization is to study home and community issues under trained leadership; to increase skills; and to share information. This knowledge will contribute to the well being of families and the community. It is intended that the HCE Association serve as an advisory body for the county program.

ARTICLE 3 MEMBERSHIP OF THIS ORGANIZATION

Section 1.0

Anyone may become a part of the Association by accepting the by-laws and by payment of annual membership dues. Members' payment is due upon joining the organization. Membership options are club membership or individual membership.

Section 1.1

We ensure that potential members have equal access to programs and facilities without regard to age, race, creed, color, handicap, sex, sexual orientation, developmental disability, national origin, ancestry, marital status, arrest record or conviction record.

Section 1.2

Each organized club shall elect a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer, or such other officers, as the club needs. It is recommended elections be held in the spring with the officers assuming their duties January 1. The incoming officers/chairs would have preference to attend the State Conference, with financial support over outgoing officers.

Section 1.3

Membership encourages members to participate in the HCE programs and obligates the members to share knowledge and to keep the records required. Educational programs will be offered countywide. Knowledge acquired shall be shared with others.

ARTICLE 4 OFFICERS OF THIS ORGANIZATION

Section 1.0

The elected officers of the Association shall be President, Vice President/Education Program Coordinator, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 1.1

Officers of the Association shall be elected as terms expire, from members showing leadership within the organization, and should have held a club office. Officers are to serve for a two-year term. Officers and President-Elect will be elected at the spring association meeting and take office January 1.

Section 1.2 Officers may serve the next consecutive term at the end of their first two years of office. In case of a vacancy, the Executive Board shall appoint or elect someone to fill the unexpired term of the vacant office.

ARTICLE 5 GOVERNING BODY OF THIS ORGANIZATION

Section 1.0 The governing body of this Association shall be the County Association, consisting of all members.

Section 1.1 The Association shall care for the regular business of the Association.

Section 1.2 The voting body of the County Association shall consist of two votes per club and two votes for individual members. For voting privilege, the individual members are considered one group. A majority shall rule. If a tie occurs, the County President shall cast the deciding vote and is unable to vote representing any other group.

Section 1.3 The County Association must meet at least once a year.

ARTICLE 6 EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THIS ORGANIZATION

Section 1.0 The executive board shall be composed of the county officers, the chairs of the following: Cultural Arts, International/Citizenship, Membership/Marketing, Family Coordinator, Newsletter Editor, one designated member from each club and one individual member .

Section 1.1 The purpose of the Executive Board is to review and study matters affecting the Association and make necessary recommendations to the County Association.

Section 1.2 The Association president-elect and the family living agent are members' ex-officio and should attend executive board meetings.

Section 1.3 The Executive Board will meet at least twice annually. An executive board member should attend all meetings or send a substitute.

Section 1.4 The Executive Board shall act for the Association on matters requiring immediate action.

ARTICLE 7 COMMITTEES OF THIS ORGANIZATION

Section 1.0 All county-wide committees may consist of 5 members or a club.

Section 1.1 The term of county committee members will be two years.

Section 1.2 The committee members may rotate every year with two going off and two coming on.

Section 1.3 Committee members will be replaced at Association meetings or appointed by the President.

Section 1.4 Shall consist of the following committees: Nominating, M&O Day of Learning, Spring Banquet, Scholarship.

Section 1.5 Standing Committees are projects that may become regular committees over time, upon completion of guidelines, if the organization desires.

Section 1.6 These committees shall plan, implement and evaluate their respective program. These committees shall also elect a chair and a recorder annually.

Section 1.7 Minutes shall be sent to President, President Elect, Treasurer, Vice President/Education Program Coordinator, Family Living Agent, and all members of that committee.

ARTICLE 8 EDUCATION PROGRAM CHAIRS

Section 1.0 Education Program Chairs shall be appointed by the Vice-President/Education Program Coordinator and serve a two year term.

Section 1.1 The Education Committees shall work with the Vice President/Education Program Coordinator to plan and implement their programs to meet the interests of the membership.

Section 1.2 Money will be allocated for these programs as budgeted.

ARTICLE 9 QUORUM

A majority of those attending shall rule at Executive Board and County Association meetings.

ARTICLE 10 RULES OF ORDER

Section 1.1 Roberts Rules of Order shall be the governing rule of the Association.

Section 1.2 Parliamentarian may be appointed by the President at Executive Board and Association Council meetings.

ARTICLE 11 ORDER OF BUSINESS

Order of Business shall be determined by the President. The Family Living Agent shall advise.

ARTICLE 12 DUES OF THE ORGANIZATION

Annual dues shall be the amount agreed upon by a vote at an Association meeting. These are payable to the County Treasurer upon joining the organization and to be renewed annually.

ARTICLE 13 CALENDAR YEAR

The HCE year shall begin January 1st and run through December 31st.

ARTICLE 14 AMENDMENTS

The By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote of the Association at any regular or special meeting.

ARTICLE 15 ABANDONMENT OF THE ORGANIZATION

Section 1.0 Upon abandonment of this organization, the remaining funds or any other property shall be disbursed on advice by the County Association and Family Living Agent.

Section 1.1

After paying or making provisions for the payment of all the Liabilities of the Association, disposition of all the assets of the Association exclusively for the purposes of the Association in such matter, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) as the County Association shall determine.

Homemakers Creed

We, the Homemakers of Wisconsin believe in the sanctity of the home, the cradle of character, blessed by motherly devotion and guarded by fatherly protection. We pledge ourselves: to work for the preservation and improvement of home and community life; to strive for healthier minds and bodies, and better living; to promote the welfare of our boys and girls, the nation's greatest asset; to be true to God and Country of lasting service to our homes and communities.

Prayer Creed

Dear God, give us the grace to see
The blessings which have come from thee;
Give us the strength to do our duty,
To see in everything some beauty;
Teach us that love and cheerful giving,
Tolerance and decent living,
Make of our home a place sublime
Where there's no room for hate or crime
A place where good friends gather round;
Where laughter, mirth and cheer abound.
Not selfish thoughts nor worldly greed
Let this, dear Master, be our creed.