

**ARTICLE I      PURPOSE**

1. The purposes of the Krewe of Comogo are exclusively social, not for profit and are to:
  - A. Honor the memory of Brenda Comeaux
  - B. Provide Plaquemine with a night time Mardi Gras parade.
  - C. Laissez les bons temps rouler

**ARTICLE II      MEMBERSHIP**

2.1 Any person who is at least 21 years of age, by the current parade date, shall be eligible for membership.

2.2 A prospective member shall be admitted into the Krewe of Comogo only if a majority of the Board of Directors votes in favor of the prospective member admittance.

2.3 The Krewe of Comogo will not have more than 300 riding members and 80 non riding members, not including the founding members and lifetime members. This number shall be reviewed as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.

2.4 The Board of Directors may remove any member, including lifetime members of the Krewe of Comogo as a result of any infringement of the Krewe of Comogo's Bylaws or nonpayment of dues.

2.5 Family members, to include children and step-children of founding members and new spouses of current members in good standing shall receive precedence in the admission process.

2.6 It is the sole responsibility of each member to keep the Krewe of Comogo informed of any changes in addresses.

2.7 All membership dues are non-refundable. All rider fees are transferable but not refundable.

2.8 Honorary Membership, with no dues to be paid is given to Msgr. Earl Gauthreaux, Ralph Comeaux, Jr., Darrel Comeaux, and Edward Earl Comeaux and the brother's spouses. Honorary membership is also given to Lawrence and Joycelyn Gauthreaux. This does not include float rider fees.

2.9 Any member providing alcohol for their guests must be responsible for those guests.

**ARTICLE III      FISCAL**

3.1 The fiscal year of the organization shall be May 1 to April 30.

3.2 The annual dues will be set by the Board of Directors and may be changed by the majority vote of the Board of Directors at any regular or special meeting.

3.3 Dues shall be paid March 1 through July 31. Members who have not paid their dues in full by August 1 of the appropriate year may have their names deleted from the roster of members.

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3.4 Payment of membership dues will include the right to invite one guest to the Krewe of Comogo Gala.

3.5 Upon Board approval, Founding members after the first 5 years of the Krewe of Comogo's existence shall have their dues reduced by up to 50% provided the Krewe of Comogo is financially stable.

3.5.1 To aid in determining whether the reduction should be made the Treasurer shall make a recommendation to the Board of Directors preceding the dues payment period.

### **ARTICLE IV     BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

4.1 The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the organization.

4.1.1 The initial Board of Directors/Officers of the Krewe of Comogo are as follows:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Brothers of Brenda Comeaux
- Founding Member
- Two Members At Large

4.2 Officer of the Organization Duties

President:

- a. To serve as ex-officio member of all committees
- b. To recommend individual(s) to fill vacated position(s) on the Board of Directors through the end of the current term of office
- c. To assume other responsibilities as directed by the Board of Directors

Vice President:

- a. The vice president position is to be filled by a member of the family of Brenda Comeaux, as long as they are not already in the position of President.
- b. To preside at any meeting of the Board of Directors in the absence of the President
- c. To assist the president as requested
- d. To assume the temporary position of president of the Board of Directors in the event that the president shall leave office prior to the completion of the current term

Secretary:

- a. To take minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors
- b. To assist the Board as requested

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- c. To transcribe the minutes of all meetings and retain in binder
- d. To be responsible for the records of the Krewe of Comogo and Board of Directors with the exception of financial records
- e. Make reservations/arrangements for monthly Board of Directors meetings and Annual Meeting
- f. Reads and replies to incoming correspondence
- g. Send meeting notifications
- h. Prepares all written advertisement, news articles, public relations
- i. Coordinates web site information with webmaster
- j. Prepare meeting agenda
- k. Obtain all permits

### Treasurer:

- a. To be responsible for the funds and financial matters of the Krewe of Comogo, including the payment of all bills, approved by the Board, by the Krewe of Comogo.
- b. To collect all membership dues with invoices to be emailed/mailed to members three weeks prior to April 30<sup>th</sup>
- c. To issue invoices as needed
- d. To collect funds for purchased items
- e. To make a financial report at all Board of Directors meetings
- f. To act in cooperation with an independent auditor that will be called to review the Krewe of Comogo financial records.
- g. To assume other responsibilities as directed by the President or acting President

### Chairperson of Gala:

- a. Oversee all gala committees
- b. Gala invitations
- c. Attend all meetings between the Carl F. Grant Civic Center and the Krewe of Comogo
- d. Be present at the Carl F. Grant Civic Center for decorating

### Chairperson of Parade

- a. Responsible for parade route
- b. Coordinate parade with city, parish, state officials
- c. Obtain float sponsorships
- d. Order all throws

### Membership:

- a. The Membership Committee will consist of the brothers of Brenda Comeaux. During Board voting the membership committee each has one vote.

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### Founding Member:

- a. To assist the board as directed by the President

## **ARTICLE V ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

5.1 The President, Treasurer, Secretary, Chairperson of Gala, and Chairperson of Parade will be permanent members of the Board of Directors, **unless they resign**. The Vice President will be a member of the Comeaux Family and decided upon in a meeting with the brothers of Brenda Comeaux. In the event, one of the family members is President the Vice President position will be elected by the Board of Directors. There will be two members at large on the Board of Directors. These board members will be elected every two years beginning in 2013.

5.1.1 Nomination: The nomination period for Krewe of Comogo officers at large will run from April 1<sup>st</sup> to April 23<sup>rd</sup> in odd years (ie: 2013, 2015, 2017). Officers begin their terms during the fiscal year starting on May 1<sup>st</sup> of election year. Nominations must be made in writing to the President.

5.1.2 All eligible nominees must be approved by the Board of Directors before ballots are sent by email/mail.

5.1.3 The candidate with the most votes for each office will be the winner for that particular office. In the event of a tie, the current President shall cast the deciding vote.

5.1.4 Newly elected officers will be announced via email.

5.2 Officer candidates shall be members in good standing over two years.

5.3 Spouses of the same couple cannot hold office during the same term. If both the husband and wife of a married couple are nominated for office during the same year, the President shall contact the couple in order to determine which of the two will be included on the election ballot. In the event both husband and wife are elected the President will contact the couple to determine who will hold a position. The runner up of the other position will assume office.

## **ARTICLE VI KREWE ROYALTY**

6.1 The Grand Marshal each year shall be selected by the Board of Directors and the brothers of Brenda Comeaux.

6.1.2 The Grand Marshal shall be presented with a plaque from the Krewe of Comogo.

6.1.3 The Grand Marshal will be honored at a reception sponsored by the Krewe of Comogo and attended by it's members and guests.

## **ARTICLE VII ANNUAL GALA**

7.1 The organization's annual gala shall be held the night before Mardi Gras each year.

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7.2 Any individual attending the Krewe of Comogo Gala or any Krewe of Comogo event must be at least 21 years of age. Proper identification for proof of age must be furnished upon entry.

7.3 Any guest attending the Krewe of Comogo Gala or any Krewe of Comogo event must be accompanied by a Krewe member.

7.4 Grand Marshal gala table paid for by the Krewe including decorations.

7.5 Only members may purchase gala tickets.

### **ARTICLE VIII GALA INVITATIONS**

8.1 Each member shall be able to invite their spouse or guest). Any member who desires to invite additional guests must contact the Krewe of Comogo Gala Chairperson who will disburse the additional invitations. In the event that there are additional event invitations available additions will disbursed on a first come, first serve basis after an announcement by the chairperson of the Krewe of Comogo Gala. The Grand Marshal shall have first option to purchase tickets followed by the Comeaux Brothers, Board of Directors, Members, in that order.

8.1.1 In addition to the members quota for gala invitations mentioned in subsection 8.1 the following additional gala invitations will be provided at no charge to the following members:

1. Chairperson: four (4) additional tickets each along with their own guest
2. Other officers: four (4) additional tickets each along with their own guest
3. Board of Directors: four (4) additional tickets each along with their own guest
4. Grand Marshal: eight (8) additional tickets each along with their own guest
5. Co Chairpersons will receive 2 complimentary gala tickets. Co Chairs are limited to one person for gala and one person for parade.

8.2 Member's invitations cannot be sold or transferred to non-members.

### **ARTICLE IX PARADE**

9.1 Krewe of Comogo will be responsible for supplying one float each year. This float will host the Grand Marshal. Grand Marshal float shall consist of Grand Marshal and three attendants. Costumes, insurance and minimal throws will be provided for the Grand Marshal float by the Krewe.

9.2 Each organized Mardi Gras Krewe will have the option of supplying one float for their King and Queen.

9.3 Floats will be available to the public for the rate posted for that particular year.

9.4 Children under 21 are allowed on the float with the adult inviting them being held responsible for the children. Riders aged 14 and over will be allowed to ride with proper supervision. The maximum child to adult ratio is 3 to 1.

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9.5 All float riders are required to dress in Mardi Gras costumes or period costumes. Attire must be approved by Krewe of Comogo Board of Directors.

9.6 The parade will comply with all provisions governing parades and approved by the City of Plaquemine and Parish of Iberville, State of Louisiana.

9.7 No candy will be thrown. All throws must meet the approval of the Krewe of Comogo Board of Directors.

9.8 The rate of float rental will be approved by the Board of Directors each year.

9.9 All vehicles participating in the parade must be board approved.

9.10 Only one deejay per float is to ride free and must be in costume.

9.11 In the event of in-climate weather the majority of the board will vote to determine if the parade rolls or is moved or cancelled.

9.12 All riding and float sponsor fees would be carried over to the following year if the parade was completely cancelled. This would not include gala membership dues.

9.13 Each float must have a board approved float captain who is responsible for ensuring all riders follow the Krewe of Comogo Parade Guidelines.

## **ARTICLE X MEETINGS**

10.1 The president shall be responsible for calling all meetings.

10.2 The Board of Directors shall meet at least once a month or as necessary at the call of the President.

10.3 In addition to the regular monthly meetings an annual meeting will be held for the purpose of selecting a theme for the upcoming year and election of officers.

10.4 "Robert's Rules of Order" will be followed at all times.

10.5 For Krewe of Comogo Board of Directors Meetings 66% or 6 members shall constitute a quorum.

10.6 All Board of Directors meetings are open to all members other than executive sessions. To speak at a Board of Directors meeting a person must ask to be placed on the meeting agenda at least one week before meeting date. Please contact the Board President to be placed on the agenda.

## **ARTICLE XI DISCIPLINARY POLICY**

11.1 All Krewe of Comogo members must abide by the bylaws and/or other rules and regulations or disciplinary action will be taken as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Verbal and/or written warning from President and/or Board Members

2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Membership is relinquished and dues are non-refundable.

Last Updated June 30, 2015

**ARTICLE XII AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS**

12. Any member of the Krewe of Comogo may submit a proposed amendment to these bylaws. The proposed amendment should be in writing and forwarded to either an officer or member of the Board of Directors. The proposed amendment shall then be considered at the next meeting and voted upon using the same general voting requirements noted above. If the Board of Directors approves the proposed amendment, it will be presented for a vote by the general membership.

12.1 Any proposed changes to the by-laws shall be mailed, via electronic mail, to current members. Changes will be emailed to all members with a voting deadline. There is a required 2/3 vote by all votes cast by members by voting deadline to enact any changes to the by-laws.

**CERTIFICATION**

These bylaws were approved by the Board of Directors by a two thirds majority vote on June 30, 2015.