

**JOHN BOYLE O'REILLY CLUB**

**33 Progress Ave  
Springfield, Mass**

*(Last Updated March 2026)*

**CONSTITUTION  
AND BYLAWS**

Revised: \_\_\_\_\_ 1984  
Revisions: \_\_\_\_\_ 1999 through 2006  
Revisions: \_\_\_\_\_ 2006 through 2022  
Revisions: \_\_\_\_\_ 2022 through June 2024  
Revisions: \_\_\_\_\_ 2024 through May 2025  
Revisions: \_\_\_\_\_ 2025 through March 2026

## **PREFACE**

The Club was founded in 1880 and named in honor of the great Irish American patriot, John Boyle O'Reilly, who was born in Dowth Castle, County Meath, on June 28, 1844.

John Boyle O'Reilly journeyed to England at an early age to work as an apprentice in the printing trade.

So, dedicated to the Fenian cause, he joined the British Army and when discovered, was sentenced to death, later commuted to a 20-year term in Australia.

With the enlisted aid of an Irish priest, J. B. O'Reilly managed to escape his captors and eventually made his way to America with the assistance of three American sailing vessels.

After a brief stay in Philadelphia, he then journeyed on to Boston where he spent the remainder of his life, achieving great success as a writer and in time became the editor of the Boston Pilot, an outstanding Catholic weekly newspaper.

From the outlawed fugitive to the accomplished writer, this Irish American patriot, John Boyle O'Reilly received world-wide recognition until his untimely death at the age of 46 in Hull, Massachusetts.

## **CONSTITUTION**

### **Article I**

#### **NAME**

The name of this organization shall be The John Boyle O'Reilly Club of Springfield Inc. hereinafter referred to as the Club.

### **Article II**

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Club shall be to foster and perpetuate the furtherance of Irish American culture and relationships. The John Boyle O'Reilly Club was established to foster a shared interest in all aspects of Irish/American heritage, history, and culture through the association of individuals of Irish decent or relationship to conduct educational and cultural activities of all kinds, including conducting meetings and forums to continue the preservation and promotion of Irish/American culture. Passed 12/29/2024

The John Boyle O'Reilly Club maintains diversity and equal opportunity, which is paramount for the ongoing success of our organization and in tandem being a progressive community partner and embracing opportunities an pathways for all. Passed 4/28/2024

Unless the context otherwise demands, words importing any gender in this document shall be interpreted to mean any or all genders. Passed 6/30/24

### **Article III**

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1.** The members, after being sworn in, shall possess all the privileges and responsibilities of the Club as described in the Bylaws with the exception that club rentals at the membership rates apply after a six-month waiting period. Passed 11/23/25

Proposed members of this Club shall be:

- A. Club members shall be at least 18 years of age, have good moral character and have full voting rights, and are eligible to serve on the Board of Directors after 24 months of membership and attendance of at least six meetings. However, members who are not Irish by birth or descent are not eligible to be an Officer of the Club (President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer). Passed 11/23/25
- B. Nominated and seconded in writing by two Club members, and unanimously approved by the Membership Committee.
- C. New members upon being interviewed for prospective membership and on the day of their induction into the club received general information on the Club operation (committees, meetings, various events) and a brief history of John Boyle O'Reilly. Passed 11/23/25
- D. The prospective member shall have an application for membership on file with the Club Secretary and shall have paid the required fees before being sworn in. Originally passed 11/19/06

E Approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, and the vote to be by secret ballot; unless waved by all Board members present. Originally passed 11/19/06

**Section 2:** All prospective members, after having received an application for membership on file with the Club Secretary accompanied by paid dues, are interviewed by a member of the Membership Committee. The prospective member is then voted on by the Membership Committee for acceptance into the club and is presented at the next scheduled Board of Directors meeting for a vote. Following approval by the Board of Directors, the prospective member is then presented at the next scheduled member's meeting. Passed 11/23/25

**Section 3:** Members who reach the age of 65 have been paid-up members for the previous 20 years, upon request to the secretary, shall receive a Lifetime membership in the Club. Members who reach age 65 and whose continuous membership in the Ladies Auxiliary and the John Boyle O'Reilly Club equal 20 years, upon request to the secretary, shall receive a Lifetime membership in the Club. Members, who reach age 75 have been a paid-up member of the Ladies Auxiliary and/or the John Boyle O'Reilly Club for the previous 10 years, upon request to the secretary, shall receive a Lifetime Membership in the Club. Originally passed 2/26/06

## ARTICLE IV

### MEETINGS

Meetings shall be held on a regular monthly basis as determined by the Bylaws.

## ARTICLE V

### DUES

**Section 1.** All dues, including initiation and members fees, shall be recommended annually by the Board of Directors, proposed at the September regular membership meeting, and approved on a majority vote at the October regular membership meeting.

**Section 2.** Annual membership dues must be paid to the Club secretary prior to April 1<sup>st</sup> of the year for which they are due, for a member to be considered in good standing.

Members not fulfilling this requirement will not be considered in good standing and will be denied entry to all membership meetings. Members not in good standing will not be allowed to participate in activities financially subsidized or operated by the Club for the financial benefit of

Club members. Members not in good standing will not be allowed to vote for Club officers. Originally passed 11/19/06.

Should the member pay his dues after the April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline date but before September 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year, the above restrictions will be lifted upon full payment of dues. Originally passed 11/19/06.

**Section 3.** If a member fails to pay his dues for the year which they are due, the next year he/she will be required to pay that years and the previous year's dues to maintain his full length of membership. If this requirement is not met, he will have to join as a new member. If a member drops his membership for more than two years, he will be required to pay the application fee plus all back dues to maintain his full length of membership in the Club.

If this requirement is not met, he/she must join as a new member.

**Section 4.** Annual dues bills will be mailed to each member by November 30<sup>th</sup> of the preceding year.

## ARTICLE VI

### OFFICERS

**Section 1.** The officers of this Club shall be a President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Their duties shall be such as spelled out in the Bylaws.

**Section 2.** Officers shall be elected by Australian Ballot, in a manner specified in the Bylaws, and Sergeants of Arms shall be appointed by the incoming President. Passed 12/29/2024

**Section 3.** The term of office for the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary shall be one year. If for any reason any of these offices shall become vacant during the year, the President, (or the Vice President in the President's absence) shall, within 30 days, call a special meeting of the membership to fill each vacancy for the remainder of the term of office.

**Section 4.** The President, Treasurer, and Secretary will receive reimbursement expenses and salaries from the John Boyle O'Reilly Club. If an officer chooses to forgo his/her salary this will be allowed and will be reported appropriately in our financials. The salary amount is to be recommended by the Audit Committee at the September monthly meeting and voted on at the October monthly meeting. Salaries shall be paid quarterly at the end of the quarter during which earned, March, June, September, and December. For the officers not fulfilling their term for any reason, their salary will be prorated. Such salary payments shall not exceed ¼ of the amount voted by the membership. Passed 3/30/2024.

Reimbursement for other expenses shall be submitted on a monthly basis and should be paid by the next month following presentation to the Treasurer. However, expenses over Three Hundred (\$300.00) Dollars must be pre-approved by the President and Treasurer. Passed 3/30/2024

## **Article VII**

### **AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution and/or the Bylaws may be amended as specified in the Bylaws.

## **Article VIII**

### **RULES OF ORDER**

The latest copy of Roberts' Rules of Order shall be the parliamentary authority for all meetings of the Club, except where they may conflict with any specific provision of the Constitution and/or Bylaws (and the Amendments thereof)

# BYLAWS

## ARTICLE I

### DUTIES OF OFFICERS

#### Section 1: PRESIDENT

- A. Shall be responsible for the strict enforcement of the Club's Charter, Constitution, and Bylaws.
- B. Shall be responsible to the Board of Directors and to the membership for conducting orderly meetings and carrying out the responsibilities and duties specified herein.
- C. Shall preside at all meetings and ensure each meeting begins promptly.
- D. Shall conduct all meetings according to parliamentary procedures specified in Robert's Rules of Order. Passed 3/29/26
- E. Shall appoint all committees and designate the chairman whose service will coincide with the President's term. Passed 3/29/26
- F. Shall ascertain that all committees perform their assigned duties, and remove any committee member who fails therein, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors.
- G. Shall employ a Certified Public Accountant, subject to approval by the Board of Directors.
- H. Shall ensure that the amount of the bond on the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Bookkeeper, and Club Manager are sufficient to protect the Club against any financial loss. Passed 2/1/26.
- I. Shall consult with the Club Manager in all matters primarily concerned with Club business
- J. Shall perform whatever other duties assigned to him by the Board of Directors, provided such duties are not in conflict with the provisions of the Club's Charter, Constitution and Bylaws.
- K. Shall on retirement from the office or removed for cause, immediately deliver up to his successor any and all Club books, papers, and other Club property in his possession.

- L. Shall leave instructions to his heirs (and/or administrators of his Will) that all Club books, papers, and other Club property in his/her possession shall immediately be delivered to authorized personnel of the Club

## **Section 2. VICE PRESIDENT**

- A. Shall, in the absence of the President, assume all the powers and duties of the President, and such other duties assigned to him by the President.
- B. Shall, on retirement from office or removal for cause, immediately deliver up to his successor all Club books, papers, or other property in his possession.
- C. Shall leave instructions to his heirs that all Club books, papers, and other Club property in his possession shall be immediately delivered to successor. Passed 2/1/26

## **Section 3. TREASURER**

- A. Shall have charge and custody of all Club funds and shall pay all bills when due.
- B. Shall maintain a current and systematic record, on the Club's computer, using the financial software, purchased by the Club, with accurate dates of the amounts and individual sources of all receipts, and the amounts and purposes of all disbursements or gifts made in the Club's name. Originally passed 11/24/02
- C. Shall receive and maintain all funds of all committees of the Club.
- D. Shall issue receipts for all monies received and keep copies of receipts for records.
- E. Shall obtain and keep receipts from all vendors to whom monies are given.
- F. Shall, at such times as the Club may direct or the Directors require, present for examination all account books, bank books, certificates of deposit, receipts, and other papers or vouchers which may be necessary for proper auditing.
- G. Shall notify the President and Board of Directors of the balance of all accounts each month. Shall notify the Club members of the balance of all accounts at each regular monthly Membership meeting. Passed 2/26/26
- H. Shall see that the Club manager makes regular cash deposits and that the cash on the premises never exceeds the bond limit.

- I. Shall present a current financial report at each Board and regular Membership meeting, and shall at each regular membership meeting, to the best of his ability, respond accurately to questions from the members.
- J. Shall, in the absence of both the President and Vice President at a meeting, act as chairman, pro tempore.
- K. Shall, on retirement from office or removal for cause, immediately deliver up to his successor all Club books, papers, or other Club property in his possession.
- L. Shall ensure all disbursements of funds are made for proper Club expenditures only. The Treasurer shall review with the President disbursements, of all funds, at least bi-weekly.  
Passed 2/1/26
- M. Shall leave instructions to his heirs (and/or administrators of his Will) that all Club books, papers, and other Club property in his possession shall immediately be delivered up to authorized personnel of the Club.

#### **Section 4. SECRETARY**

- A. Shall be the recording secretary of the regular meetings and special meetings, and custodian of all records, except those specifically assigned to the Treasurer.
- B. Shall keep accurate minutes of all regular and special meetings.
- C. Shall keep on file all committee reports especially those of each Board of Directors meeting.
- D. Shall maintain the official membership roll of the Club and shall supervise the attendance register of members at each regular meeting.
- E. Shall make the minutes of previous meetings available to any member at a reasonable time and place.
- F. Shall officially notify officers, directors, and committee members of their election or appointment, and shall furnish committee members with whatever documents may be essential to the performance of their duties.
- G. Shall have on hand a list of all existing committees and their Chairman.

- H. Shall sign all certified copies of Club acts, unless otherwise specified in the Bylaws.
- I. Shall personally conduct the general correspondence of the Club, shall send out written notices to each member of any and all special meetings.
- J. Shall maintain and have present at every meeting an accurate copy of the Constitution, Bylaws and any special or ad hoc rules, together with any amendments.
- K. Shall personally prepare, prior to each meeting, an agenda for the presiding officer.
- L. Shall, when records are received from committees, record on them the date they were received and what action was taken on them, and file them among his records.
- M. Shall make the minutes of any Board of Director's meetings or other special committee meetings available to any officer, director, or committee member, at a reasonable time and place pertaining to that committee.
- N. Shall receive all membership dues and pay the same to the Treasurer, at the earliest practical time, giving receipts to members for the same and receiving receipts from the Treasurer.
- O. Shall post a list on the bulletin board of all applicants for initiation, reinstatement, and life membership, giving the name and address of the candidate, the names of his proposers and the time when action will be taken on such applications.
- P. Shall file written complaints, at the direction of the Board, against any officer, director, or member for breach of the Bylaws or for other grievous cause.
- Q. Shall, in the absence of the President, Vice President and Treasurer at a meeting, act as chairman pro tempore.
- R. Shall, on retirement from office or removal for cause, immediately deliver up to his/her successor all Club books, papers, or other Club property in his possession.
- S. Shall see that accurate statistics are kept on all matters pertaining to Club business.
- T. Shall leave instructions to his heirs, (and/or to the administrators of his Will) that all Club books, papers, and other Club property in his/her possession shall be immediately delivered up to authorized personnel of the Club.

**Section 5. SERGEANT-AT-ARMS.**

- A. Shall remove from any meeting any person(s) who is either disruptive or unwilling to abide by the Chair's decision.
- B. Shall perform any other duties assigned by the Chair during the meeting.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1.** Shall consist of the four elected officers and the six elected directors.

**Section 2.** Shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Club.

**Section 3.** Shall make recommendations to the Club members and perform such duties as are specified in the Bylaws.

**Section 4.** The Board of Directors are elected agents of the Body and shall be subject to the orders of the Body.

**Section 5.** Shall recommend honorariums and expenses over and above the normal everyday functions of the Club, subject to the approval of the majority present at the next regularly scheduled monthly membership meeting.

**Section 6.** Shall meet once monthly at a time determined by the Board. The President, or a majority of the Board, shall have the power to call special meetings as the need arises. All Board members must be informed of any such meetings. Originally passed 2/23/03

**Section 7.** Shall legally conduct business only when a quorum is present, and a quorum shall be a majority of Board members.

(The names of Board members not attending a regular or special meeting shall be announced at the next regular membership meeting of the Club.)

**Section 8:** Shall exclude from meetings any member or employee unless the member or employee is requested to attend to supply information.

**Section 9:** Shall report their actions and findings to the membership at each regular monthly meeting.

**Section 10:** Shall not enjoy special privileges of any kind involving real or personal property of the Club.

**Section 11:** Shall be removed from office for breach of the Constitution or Bylaws, for personal misconduct, or for neglect to perform the duties of his office. (Duties here include attendance at regularly scheduled or specially called board meetings; a Board member who misses more than four (4) regularly scheduled Board meetings unless excused, during a calendar year, shall be removed from office through procedures specified in these Bylaws.)

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **MEETINGS**

**Section 1.** The regular monthly meetings of the Club shall be held on the Club premises on the last Sunday of every month from September through June and shall begin at 12 o'clock noon.

**Section 2.** The date of the regular monthly meetings may be changed in unusual circumstances by a majority vote of the Club members attending the previous regular monthly meeting.

**Section 3.** A quorum to conduct business at a regular or special meeting shall be a majority of the members present.

**Section 4.** The President may call special meetings when, in his opinion, the need arises. All members must be notified in writing of such a meeting.

**Section 5.** Any 50 members shall, by petitioning the President in writing, cause a special meeting to be called. All members must be notified in writing of such a meeting.

### **ARTICLE IV**

#### **COMMITTEES**

(See Article I, Section I, Paragraph E)

**(The President shall appoint all committees and designate the chairperson whose service will coincide with the President's term).**

**Section 1.** The Rules Committee shall be authorized to formulate rules and regulations for the welfare of the Club, subject to approval by a two-thirds vote of the members present when such rules and regulations are present.

**Section 2.** The Rules Committee shall be authorized to implement the election procedures stipulated in the bylaws and to conduct the nomination procedures as stipulated in the bylaws.

**Section 3.** The Audit Committee shall conduct internal audits of all the Club's finances as it deems necessary, but at a minimum, it shall meet any regulatory requirements to which the Club is subject and it shall include the month and the year ended each December. The scope of the audit work will be determined by the Committee based on its assessment of the nature of the accounting records, any analytical review it performs and on any other work the Committee may have performed during the year. The Committee shall issue its reports based upon its work, and such report shall be completed as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than the due date filing of the Club's Federal income tax return, a draft of which shall be provided to the Committee for. Its review prior to its filing. Passed 6/20/2024

**Section 4.** The Building Committee shall be authorized to study all matters concerned with the expansion of the present premises and/or purchase of large premises and to deal with building maintenance.

**Section 5.** The Membership Committee shall be authorized to receive membership applications from the Board of Directors, to investigate the applicant's references and sponsors, to interview the applicant, and to return the applications to the Board of Directors with recommendations.

**Sections 6.** Ad Hoc committees shall have their specific purpose and length of existence specified by the President when he appoints them. Ad Hoc committee reports shall be submitted to the Board of Directors, along with a financial report, no later than 30 days after the event for which the Committee was formed has taken place. If full reports are not available exceptions shall be noted.

**Section 7.** The Communications Committee shall be responsible for the publication, printing, and delivery of a Club newsletter for any special communications to the membership and will also act as a liaison between the Club and the Media (newspaper, TV, radio). The committee will also act as a liaison between the Club and the Media for overseeing the Club radio program and assuring that the published rules are followed, advertiser bills are paid, and the radio program is serving the best interest of the membership.

**Section 8.** At the regular February membership meeting, the President shall announce to the membership his committee member selections and the Chairperson of each Committee as directed by Article 1, Section 1, Paragraph E.

**Section 9.** Each committee shall account for all admission, entry or use fees for any event where such fees are charged to patrons. All funds received shall be deposited to the treasurer within 10 days of the event. A written profit and loss statement for each event shall be forwarded to the board of directors within 30 days of the event. The treasurer may allow a committee to retain or

receive an advance allowance for necessary expenditures for an upcoming scheduled event.  
Originally passed 6/25/06

## ARTICLE V

### NOTICES

Each Club member shall furnish to the Secretary an up-to-date address in writing. All notices sent to members will be sent to the last address listed in the Membership files.

## ARTICLE VI

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

#### Nomination Procedures and Requirements for Nomination

- A. **Eligibility** – In order to be eligible for nomination, one must have been a member in good standing for 24 months from the date of his induction before the Body of regular membership and be recorded as attending six (6) regular meetings between October 1st and September 30th preceding the Nomination. Nominations shall take place immediately following the regular October monthly meeting.

The candidate's presence is necessary for acceptance. A member shall be eligible to accept the nomination for one office only, and upon accepting the nomination for any office, shall be ineligible from accepting any other nomination for the current election. The Club manager or any full-time employee cannot be eligible for any elected Club office. If a member holding an elected office is appointed as Club manager or full-time employee, he must first resign his office.

#### **Acceptance of Nomination**

Shall be made by stating the words, "I accept", when asked by the Nomination Chairman, "Does the member accept this nomination?"

- B: A member is only allowed to be nominated for one office. Any member wishing to run for office, but unable to be present on the day of nominations, must submit a letter of intent to the Nominating Committee for the office he desires.

The Chairman of Nominations shall be made known at the regular June meeting. Members of the Rules Committee are not barred from becoming nominees for office themselves but are barred from being election tellers, if nominated. Instructions to the Nominations Committee Chairman or election judge will be issued by the Rules Committee Chairman.

**C. Officers and Length of Service**

The Officers shall serve terms of office of one calendar year. The six (6) elected directors of the Board shall serve terms of two calendar year periods, three being elected every year. Any member of the Board of Directors may run for another office of the Club without resigning his present position but may only hold one office at any one time. If a member of the Board of Directors is successful at being elected to a new position, he must assume that position and relinquish the office previously held.

**D. Time and Method of Election**

Election of officers shall be held following the regular November membership meeting until 5:30 p.m. Election shall be by Australian ballot and controlled by a judge and two or more tellers appointed by the Rules Committee. The judge so appointed must be a member of the Rules Committee.

**E. Votes Required to Elect**

Election to office shall be by a plurality vote of those casts. The judge not having exercised his vote, may break a tie vote, thus voiding the necessity for re-election. Write in votes are prohibited.

**F. Procedure for Secret Ballot and Counting**

The secretary shall furnish to the judge and tellers a list of members in good standing who are eligible to vote. The Secretary or his designee, shall also issue to the judge and tellers a like number of preprinted ballot papers containing the names of the candidates for the various offices, listed by lottery, and a rectangular space opposite each name for the voters to indicate his preference by means of an "X". Unopposed candidates shall also be included. When the ballot slips are received from the printer, they shall be sealed by the Secretary, or his designee, and handed to the election judge five (5) minutes before the time allotted for the election to commence.

When a member presents himself to exercise his voting privilege, he shall give to the judge or teller his name and present his membership card or be able to identify himself by the Club's membership list. Failure to comply will make a member ineligible to vote. The judge or teller(s), is to be stamped with a common stamp for all ballots issued by the judge and/or teller(s). The member shall mark his ballot in secrecy, fold it, place it in the ballot box and immediately exit the voting area. At the close of the election, the unused ballot slips shall be separately sealed by the judge and handed over to the Secretary, or his designee, for safekeeping.

The judge and two tellers will, at the close of the election time, collect the ballot slips from the ballot boxes and tabulate the vote. When the tabulation is completed, and accurately checked by each teller, the judge will write up the election results, reseal the used ballot

slips, and hand both to the secretary or his designee. The Secretary will publish the election results and retain the unused and used ballot slips for a period of one calendar year as evidence of an ethical and fair election procedure.

Robert's Rule of Order shall be the basis for all the judge's rulings in connection with the overall supervision of this election.

G. **Records**

Records of the voting results shall be posted for all candidates, successful or unsuccessful, on the bulletin board and such records shall be kept by the Secretary for the purpose of upgrading the top unsuccessful candidates whenever vacancies occur in the six (6) elected directors. In the event of a challenged vote, or recount vote, the judge shall direct the Secretary to open the ballots in the presence of the candidates whose election is at stake and recount them in the presence of the Secretary and the candidate.

In the event of any disputed ballot, the decision of the judge shall be final. Otherwise, the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be the basis of the judge's rulings in connection with the overall supervision of the election.

## ARTICLE VII

### RIGHTS OF MEMBERS

**Section 1.** Members shall enjoy the right to vote on all major Club policy changes.

**Section 2.** Members shall retain the right to resign, in writing, from any elective or appointed office.

**Section 3.** Members shall enjoy all Club privileges.

**Section 4.** Members shall retain the right to question any officer or director on any matter pertaining to his office, providing such questions are properly raised at a regular Membership meeting.

**Section 5.** Members retain the right to refuse to pay additional assessments or annual dues until such are mandated by a majority vote of the membership at a regular meeting.

## ARTICLE VIII

## **ORGANIZATIONAL DISCIPLINE**

**Section 1.** Any member shall or not he be an officer or director, may be penalized for breach of the following section:

**Section 2.** Clear violation of any provision of the Charter, Constitution and Bylaws of the Club.

**Section 3.** Obtaining Club membership through fraudulent means.

**Section 4.** Advocating or attempting to bring about a withdrawal of any member or members from the Club.

**Section 5.** Making known the business of the Club to persons not entitled to such knowledge.

**Section 6.** Fraudulently receiving or misappropriating of any monies or personal property or real estate of the Club.

**Section 7.** It is the duty of all officers and members of the Club to uphold the Constitution and Bylaws of said Club. Disregarding Constitution Bylaws, or other policies set forth by the Board of Directors by an officer or member of the Club will result in the following:

In case of misconduct, members or directors may be brought before the Board of Directors by another member, officer, or director. In the case of a director, he shall exclude himself from the capacity of a director in this matter.

The member must be notified by Certified mail and a date set for his hearing. If, for any reason, he cannot appear, an alternate date mutually agreeable, will be set. Failure to appear will result in a guilty finding.

He will be entitled to one member to speak on his behalf plus witness(s) who must also be members.

The member(s), officer, or Board member bringing charges will also be notified by Certified mail.

He must appear at the hearing. (He may also have an alternate date if unable to appear.)

He may be entitled to one person to speak on his behalf plus witnesses(s) must be members. If a member who brings charges fails to appear at the hearing without good reason, he may be subject to charges.

Either party may appeal the decision in writing by certified mail to the President within seven (7) days. Members involved in fighting will automatically be suspended by the Manager or his designate. The Board will meet within 48 hours for a hearing.

The suspended member only can appeal the action of the Board of Directors, to the Body and only at the next regular meeting. The Board and the accused can make final remarks at the meeting. The Body will be allowed to question both parties through the chair. Before a vote is taken the accused must leave the meeting. If the finding is to be suspended, a majority vote of members present is required.

**Section 8. EXPULSION**

Same procedures as in Section 7 will be followed, except the decision for expulsion shall be made by two-thirds vote of the membership present at the regular meeting.

**ARTICLE IX  
BYLAW**

**Section 1.** These Bylaws and Constitution cannot be changed without a written motion specifying the change(s) made at one regular meeting, posted by the Secretary on the Club's bulletin board, and debated the Body and voted upon at the next following regular meeting.

**Section 2.** A vote by the Body at a regular meeting requires two-thirds of the members voting to legally alter, amend or change in any way, these Bylaws and Constitution.

**Section 3.** The adoption of these Bylaws and Constitution supersedes all other rules of the John Boyle O'Reilly Club of Springfield, Inc., except the Charter granted by the State.

**Section 4.** These Bylaws and Constitution were adopted by the required two-thirds vote of the Body of the John Boyle O'Reilly Club of Springfield, Inc. at a regular meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> of June 1977.

**ARTICLE X  
AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1.** Any proposed amendments to the Constitution and/or Bylaws must be presented orally to the members and a written copy given to the Secretary at one regular meeting, posted on the Club's bulletin board.

It will then be debated by the membership and voted upon at the next following regular membership meeting.

**Section 2.** An amendment requires a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting.

**Section 3.** This Constitution and these Bylaws shall become effective immediately upon their adoption by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting. They shall supersede all other rules and regulations hitherto used by the Club, except the State Charter.

**Section 4.** No provision of this Constitution or these bylaws shall be binding if they are or shall be contrary to the laws of the Commonwealth binding upon the membership.

**-2026-**

### **OFFICERS**

**President – Martin Curley**  
**Vice President – Patricia Devine**  
**Secretary – Maeghan Aberdale Allen**  
**Treasurer – Katie Dooney**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Maureen Christofori**  
**Moira Murphy**  
**Mike Forys**  
**John Aberdale**  
**Sue Forys**  
**George Podmore**