

Montreal Marathi Mandal

Constitution (1982)

MONTREAL MARATHI MANDAL

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By-laws relating to the conduct of the Mandal's Affairs:

1. **Name:**
The name of the association (mandal) shall be "Montreal Marathi Mandal".
2. **Office:**
The office of the Mandal shall be located at the residence of the Secretary of the Mandal.
3. **Objectives:**
The Mandal shall be a non-profit organization having the following objectives:
 - a) advance the Marathi / Indian culture through various activities and cultural programs.
 - b) to expose our children to the Marathi language through educational programs, plays, movies, library and such other activities.
 - c) to provide opportunities to conduct cultural exchanges with other cultural associations.
4. **Officers:**
The Mandal shall be administered by an executive committee consisting of the president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and three supporting members. All seven officers shall be elected at the annual general meeting of the members, and shall hold office for one (1) year from the date of election or until their successors are elected in their stead.
5. **Duties of Officers:**
 - a) The president shall be the chief executive officer. He / she shall preside at all meetings and shall conduct the general and active management of the affairs of the Mandal.
 - b) The vice-president shall, in the absence of the president, perform the duties of the president, and other duties delegated by the president.
 - c) The secretary shall attend all meetings and record all votes and the minutes of all proceedings. He / she will arrange all meetings and conduct all correspondence, as directed.

Marathi Mandal – By-laws – cont'd

5. Duties of Officers – cont'd :

d) The treasurer shall have the custody of all the funds, and shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements.

6. Membership:

Membership of the Mandal shall be limited to persons interested in furthering the objectives of the Mandal. There shall be two (2) categories of membership, as follows:

a) Individual membership;

b) Family membership – each person in a family who is over eighteen (18) years of age shall be a voting member.

7. Withdrawal

Any member may withdraw from the Mandal by informing the executive committee. No monies shall be refunded upon withdrawal.

8. Suspension

A member may be suspended by the executive committee if it feels that the activities of that member are not in the best interests of the Mandal.

An executive member may be suspended by the general membership by a two-third (2/3) majority of the total membership, if the activities of the member are not in the best interests of the Mandal.

An executive member may be suspended by the president for being absent for three consecutive committee meetings.

9. Dues

Membership dues shall be determined by the executive committee from time to time and shall be subject to approval by the general membership by a two-third (2/3) majority. Special assessments may be set by the executive committee when necessary by consulting the membership.

A member in good standing is one who has paid all dues.

Marathi Mandal by-laws – cont’d.

10. Elections

Successors to the executive committee shall be elected for a term of one year by the members at the annual general meeting of members in accordance with the following procedure:

- a) Only those voting members who are in good standing on the day of the elections are eligible to vote at the elections, and to be nominated for any post on the executive committee. There shall be a waiting period of thirty (30) days before new members will be eligible to vote.
- b) The executive committee may nominate the officers prior to the meeting or receive nominations from the floor.
- c) A member of the executive committee shall not hold the same post for more than two (2) consecutive years.

11. Financial Year

The fiscal year-end of the Mandal shall be the 30th April.

12. Expenditures

- a) A yearly budget shall be prepared by the executive committee at the beginning of their term in office in such a way that a reserve of a minimum of \$100.00 shall be maintained at the end of the fiscal year.
- b) All routine expenditures exceeding \$50.00 shall be made by cheque with two (2) signatures – that of the treasurer and one other member of the executive committee. Where payment by cheque is not possible, the executive committee shall decide on the method of payment. In case of cash payment all receipts shall be countersigned by any two (2) members of the executive committee.
- c) Expenditures of less than \$50.00 shall be invoiced and authorized by the president.

Marathi Mandal By-laws – cont'd

13. Meetings

- 13.1 The executive committee shall meet at least four times during the year.
- 13.2 One general meeting of the members shall be held around the 1st of May. At this meeting:
- a) the minutes of the last general meeting shall be read.
 - b) a financial report shall be presented to the membership.
 - c) summaries of past year's events shall be outlined.
 - d) election of the officers shall be held.
 - e) any other appropriate business pertaining to the Mandal shall be conducted.
- 13.3 All motions shall be carried by a simple majority of vote except as defined in the by-laws.
- 13.4 Ten (10%) percent of the membership may call for a general meeting to discuss special reasons.

14. Quorum

- a) At least five (5) out of seven (7) executive members shall be present at any executive meeting.
- b) At least 25% of membership shall be present at the general meeting.

15. Amendment of By-Laws

At a general meeting, the by-laws of the Mandal may be added to, repealed or amended by the executive committee, subject to the approval by a two-third (2/3) majority of the total membership.

16. Dissolution

The Mandal may be dissolved by a two-third (2/3) majority of the total membership. In such a case, the monies shall be distributed among the members in proportion to the dues after all outstanding debts have been paid.

