

**By-Laws**  
of the  
**Central Division**  
of the  
American Union of  
Swedish Singers

As Amended at the Convention in  
Rockford, Illinois  
June 19, 2010

**By-Laws**

ARTICLE I  
**Name**

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be: "The Central Division of the American Union of Swedish Singers".

ARTICLE II  
**Purpose**

Section 1. The purpose of this Division is to bring about unity and co-operation between all Swedish Choruses and Quartets and in accordance with Article II, Section (b) of the By-Laws of the American Union of Swedish Singers, cultivate and elevate Swedish and American Chorus Singing.

Divisions of the A.U.S.S. are as follows:

- a.) Eastern Division: Choruses in New York, the New England states, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Washington D.C., Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Georgia.
- b.) Central Division: Choruses established between the here-above mentioned Eastern States and the Rocky Mountains, including all Mid-West states and Florida.
- c.) Western Division: Choruses in the states west of the Rocky Mountains.
- d.) Canadian choruses will be accommodated division-wise by extending northward the boundaries of the Central Division.

Section 2. This Division shall hold a Convention and Singing Festival every fourth year at a time and place to be decided and sanctioned by duly elected delegates at the last preceding Convention.

Section 3. Nothing in these By-Laws must be interpreted to conflict with the By-Laws of the American Union of Swedish Singers.

### ARTICLE III Membership

Section 1. In order for a Chorus to be accepted as a member of this Division, it shall be required that:

(a) It shall consist of at least a Quartet.  
(b) The Chorus applying for membership in the American Union of Swedish Singers through this Division at the first Convention of the Union; also that it agrees to abide by all By-Laws, rules and regulations of the Division and the American Union of Swedish Singers.

(c) The Chorus seeking admission has been constitutionally organized and has held regular meetings and rehearsals during a time of not less than 1 year (12 months) prior to the Convention at which admission is sought. The Board of Officers is authorized to accept a new Chorus into the Division.

Section 2. An initiation fee of \$5.00 shall accompany the duly signed application addressed to the Secretary of the Division, who shall present such application to the Board of Officers for approval and recommendation to the Division Convention Delegation.

Section 3. In accordance with Article IV of the By-Laws of the American Union of Swedish Singers, in order to join the Union, each Chorus must have belonged to one of its Divisions for a period of not less than 2 years, and must also be in good standing within its Division and must recommend to the Board of Officers of the Union how many choruses within certain communities are to be authorized for membership in the Union.

### ARTICLE IV **The Executive Board**

Section 1. The Officers of the Central Division shall consist of a President, First and Second Vice President, Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, and a Musical Director-in-Chief, and Assistant Director-in-Chief.

Section 2. A candidate for these positions, except the Director-in-Chief, and Assistant Director-in-Chief, in order to be eligible must be an active member of a singing society in good standing and is elected to serve until the next regular Convention with the Division's Singing Festival.

Section 3. A simple majority of Delegates present is required for election of all of its Officers.

Section 4. In the event of vacancies among the Officers of the Division, they shall be filled through selections by the Officers themselves.

ARTICLE V  
**Duties of the Executive Board**

Section 1. The President is to conduct the meetings of the Division or its Officers.

Section 2. The Vice President shall assist the President in all of his duties and during his absence shall fulfill his obligations.

Section 3. In the absence of the President and First Vice President, the Second Vice President shall assume their duties.

Section 4. The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the Division and of its Officers and shall also carry on all correspondence with the various Choruses.

Section 5. The Financial Secretary shall collect all membership dues, turn them over to the Treasurer against duly signed receipts, and shall keep accurate books of membership dues and other sources of income, and the first month of each year, notify the Choruses as to their obligations.

Section 6. The Treasurer shall receive all funds from the Financial Secretary against duly signed receipts, and carefully keep books of all such transactions, and shall report the financial standing of the Division at each Division Convention of whenever else required by the Executive Board.

The Treasurer is not authorized to pay any funds from the Division Treasury without the signed approval of the President of the Division.

Section 7. Salaries of the Officers shall be set at the regular Convention meeting of delegates, prior to the election of Officers.

ARTICLE VI  
**Duties of Chorus Secretaries**

Section 1. The Secretaries of the various Choruses belonging to the Division, in attendance at a divisional Convention, is required to be present and take an active part in rehearsals, concerts, etc. It is also required that rules as to dress as specified in the By-Laws of the American Union of Swedish Singers, Article 4, Section D, be complied with.

ARTICLE VIII  
**Yearly Dues to Divisions**

Section 1. Yearly dues to the Division are paid by each Chorus at a rate to be decided upon at each previous Festival year meeting for active members as of January first of each year and should be send to the Financial Secretary of the Division not later than February first.

ARTICLE IX  
**Singing Festivals**

Section 1. It shall be a duty of the Officers of the Division to assist the local host Chorus or Choruses in holding Division Singing Festivals.

Section 2. The Chorus holding the Convention shall have the right to make all the necessary arrangements for the Festival Convention.

Section 3. Members of the local Festival Committees need not be members of the local Chorus.

Section 4. The musical program for the Festival shall be arranged between the local Chorus Festival board and the Musical Director-in-Chief.

## ARTICLE X Chorus Delegates to Division Conventions

Section 1. Each Chorus shall, among its active members elect Delegates in proportion to its total number of members. These Delegates shall represent the Chorus at the Convention of the Division. Each Chorus shall elect an alternate for each Delegate.

Section 2. Each Chorus shall have the right if it is unable to send Delegates to a regular meeting to send written suggestions although without vote excepting special meetings when the Chorus shall have the right to vote by mail with as many votes as it will be entitled to Delegates.

Section 3. Delegates are elected in the following proportion to the total membership of the chorus.

From	4 to 10	Singers =	1 Delegate
From	11 to 25	Singers =	2 Delegates
From	26 to 50	Singers =	3 Delegates
From	51 to 100	Singers =	4 Delegates

Section 4. Delegates shall decide all questions by a simple majority of all Delegates present and entitled to a vote except at special meetings when votes by mail are counted as set forth in this Article, Section 2.

Section 5. Members of the Veteran Singers of the Central Division shall have representation by Delegates at Conventions but shall pay no dues or have any vote.

Section 6. Delegates shall have the right to expel from the Division such Choruses as have been shown to work against the purposes of the Division or have not performed their obligations and duties.

Section 7. **In accordance with National AUSS ...The chorus or choruses accepting the responsibility and duties of the Singing Festival, either Divisional or National, are kept fully responsible for all possible loss, but shall divide the net profit 60% for the host chorus or choruses and 40% returned to the AUSS/CHF. The host chorus shall abide by the AUSS/CHF guidelines for all expenditures.**

Section 8. All current Officers and all past Presidents of the Central Division shall have the same privileges and voting rights as the Delegates.

Section 9. A quorum for a Division business meeting shall consist of 9 Delegates.

#### ARTICLE XI **Inspection and Auditing Committees for Festivals**

Section 1. A committee to examine the credentials of the delegates, consisting of three authorized representatives shall be appointed by the President after the arrival in the Convention city as soon as a quorum can be established.

Section 2. An auditing committee consisting of three authorized representatives shall be appointed by the President.

#### ARTICLE XII **Order of Business at Convention Meetings**

- Section 1. Opening of the Meeting.
- Section 2. Roll Call of Officers.
- Section 3. Report of Credential Committee.
- Section 4. Roll Call of Delegates.
- Section 5. Speech of Welcome.
- Section 6. Minutes of Previous Meeting.
- Section 7. Officer Reports
  - (a) President
  - (b) Recording Secretary
  - (c) Auditors
  - (d) Financial Secretary
  - (e) Treasurer
- Section 8. Report from Committees.
- Section 9. Initiation of New Societies
- Section 10. Unfinished Business (tabled motions).
- Section 11. New Business.
- Section 12. Selection of Place for Next Convention.

- Section 13. Salaries for Officers.
- Section 14. Election of Officers.
- Section 15. Installation.
- Section 16. Tribute to Retiring Officers, Well Wishes to Newly Elected.
- Section 17. Adjournment.

ARTICLE XIII  
**Changes to By-Laws**

- Section 1. Any changes to these By-Laws must be carried by two thirds majority of Delegates present at a regularly held meeting in order to be accepted. Such suggestions for changes must be sent to the Secretary of the Division not later than 90 days before the next Convention.
- Section 2. The Secretary shall, at least thirty (30) days before the Singing Festival submit the proposal(s) to the Secretary of each Chorus.