

**CONSTITUTION OF THE
CLAN MACNEIL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
(REVISED 1994)**

PREAMBLE

Whereas an association known as the Clan Macneil Association of America was formed in New York City in 1921 under a constitution suited to its then time, and has been amended in 1972, 1976, 1979, 1988, 1990 and 2014, and has served the Association as a focal point for its activities since that time, it is now deemed necessary to update said Constitution of the Association to meet its present needs.

Now, therefore, members of the Clan Macneil Association of America assembled at the call of the President of the Association at Grandfather Mountain, North Carolina, on July 8, 1988, will hereby continue the Clan Macneil Association of America, founded in 1921, adopt this new version of its Constitution.

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of the Association is THE CLAN MACNEIL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, hereafter referred to as THE ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The purpose of the Association is to enjoy Scottish traditions in friendly association of the Family of Neil; to inform its members and the public of the history, traditions, and present day life of Macneils and of the Island of Barra, in Scotland, and to restore and maintain Kisimul Castle as the Clan Seat, and to foster Highland and Gaelic culture, language and traditions.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

1. The following shall be eligible for membership in the Association:
 - A. Any person or spouse of any person named or descended from a person name Macneil, in any of its spellings, forms or recognized septs of the Clan Macneil.
 - B. Upon approval of the Council, or the Macneil of Barra, The Chief of Clan Macneil, any other person with an interest in the purposes of the Association, as Associate or Honorary members.
2. Membership shall be conferred upon approval of the application and payment of dues as required.
3. Members are considered in good standing when dues are paid up to date.
4. Honorary and Associate members are non-voting members. Honorary members are exempt from dues payment.

ARTICLE IV – COUNCIL

1. The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Council, acting as a board of directors, consisting of six elected members, plus the President of the Association acting as Chairman.

2. Ex-officio members of the Council, (non-voting) include The Macneil of Barra, and past presidents who are willing to serve.
3. Council members are elected for overlapping terms of four (4) years to provide for continuing advice to leadership. The first group of three (3) to receive a two-year term and thereafter all will receive four-year terms with election every two years, as the current officer election takes place.
4. Business of the Council may be transacted at meetings, by correspondence, or by telephone with written confirmation if by telephone, and electronically.
5. The Council shall provide for annual review of the Constitution and bylaws.
6. The Council will provide an annual report of its activities and plans to the membership of the Association.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS

1. The current officers of the Association will be listed in the official publication of the Association, THE GALLEY.
2. A. Elected Officers: Serving two year terms subject to election or re-election at the Annual Meeting are as follows:
 - President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Council Member (6)
- B. President Emeritus (elected for life).
3. Appointed Officers: All other officers including vice presidents, and other titles as required, are recommended by the President and approved by the Council for appointment, such officers serving at the pleasure of the Council.
4. All officers and Council Members are subject to removal for cause, through due process which includes an opportunity for a hearing and majority vote of the Council. At the request of the individual involved, the removal may be reviewed by the membership at an annual meeting, before final action is taken.
5. All officers will have job descriptions on file with the Secretary.
6. Elected Officer Vacancies: Should any elected office fall vacant due to resignation, illness or failure to perform the duties to the satisfaction of the Council; the Council shall appoint a replacement to serve out the remainder of the term. First consideration shall be given to current officers, or members of Council, and thereafter, any Association member in good standing.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS AND QUORUMS

1. The Annual meeting, time and place, are designated by the Council and announced by the President, with reasonable notice published in the GALLEY.
2. Special meetings may be called by the President or the Council, reasonable notice being given and the subject for consideration announced.
3. Voting members are members over 18 years of age, in good standing.
4. A quorum consists of a majority of voting members at a meeting. A Council quorum consists of a majority of voting members present or otherwise polled.

ARTICLE VII – BRANCHES OF THE ASSOCIATION

Branches of the Association may be formed or changed upon recommendation of the President and approval of the Council, and a majority vote of the membership at an annual meeting.

ARTICLE VIII – COMMITTEES

Standing committees will be established upon the recommendation of the President and approval of the Council. Special committees are established by the President as required.

ARTICLE IX – RULES OF ORDER

The procedures of the Association will be guided by the revised edition of the ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER. The Secretary of the Association is the Parliamentarian.

ARTICLE X – DISSOLUTION

1. Should it be found necessary to dissolve the Association, a resolution should be passed by 2/3 vote of voting members at the annual meeting, or special meeting for that purpose, with reasonable notice being given prior to such meeting.
2. Following such meeting, after paying all lawful debts, instructions will be given for the disposal of any assets of the Association.
 - A. Tangible property will not be given or sold to Association members or their families, rather it shall be given or transferred to the Macneil Exhibit at the Museum of Cape Fear, Fayetteville, North Carolina. Items not accepted by the Museum will be awarded to The Macneil of Barra, Chief of Clan Macneil, to be used for purposes consistent with the purposes of the Association in Article II of the Constitution.
 - B. Any remaining funds or monies shall be set up in a trust, the income from which will be devoted annually to the maintenance of Kisimul Castle, the Clan Seat.

ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENT

1. This Constitution may be amended by 2/3 vote of those present at an Annual Meeting, or special meeting, provided that a copy of the proposed amendment has been made available to the membership and reasonable notice of the proposal being given prior to the meeting.
2. If, in the opinion of the President of Council, constitutional changes are urgently needed, the ballot may be taken by mail, with a 2/3 vote of ballots returned being required for approval.