BYLAWS OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA STATE ORGANIZATION
OF THE QUESTERS

ARTICLE I
NAME

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the South Dakota State Organization of
the Questers. It is an affiliate of the Questers which is chartered as an International
Organization.

ARTICLE II
PURPOSES

Section 1. The purposes of the Questers shall be to educate by research and study of
antiques and to donate funds to the preservation and restoration of the artifacts, existing
memorials, historic buildings, landmarks, and educational purposes.

Section 2. The Questers shall exist and operate as a non-profit, non-political corporation
and shall not discriminate as to sex, race, or creed.

ARTICLE III
TAX EXEMPT STATUS AND FUND RAISING

Section 1. In order to maintain The Questers' tax-exempt status, no member or unit of the
organization shall use the name of the Questers or its mailing lists for personal profit. The
Questers shall not promote the private commercial interest of any member except to
acknowledge Quester authorship of published research.

Section 2. The Chapter, State, or International Organization shall not engage in any
money-raising projects in which profits are shared with individual members. All profits from
money-making projects where financial support is solicited outside the chapter membership,
even from other Quester chapters, must be used for preservation and/or restoration projects. A
state Organization may engage in fund raising activities within the membership (not involving
the public) to supplement its treasury or to raise funds to host a scheduled International
Convention.

Section 3. No Chapter or state organization shall (a) own or maintain real or personal
property, (b) apply for a sales tax exemption number in the name of the chapter or The
Questers, or (c) be organized as a corporation.

Section 4. Because one of The Questers purposes is to educate, a Quester member who
shares his or her knowledge with other Questers shall receive no remuneration beyond travel
expenses.

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ARTICLE IV
INSIGNIA AND MOTTO

Section 1. The Insignia shall be the design of a “Q” on which shall be inscribed the words “The Questers” and date of founding, “1944.” The colors shall be royal blue and gold.

Section 2. The motto shall be “Its fun to search and a joy to find.”

ARTICLE V
ORGANIZATION

Section 1. Membership in this organization shall be all Questers chapters in the State of South Dakota.

Section 2. New chapters may be organized with eight (8) or more active members. Affiliation of a new chapter with the South Dakota State Organization of The Questers shall become effective upon the signing of the International Charter and the payment of the Charter fee and the International dues. Chapter bylaws shall not be in conflict with the State of International bylaws.

Section 3. The Executive Board of the South Dakota State Organization of The Questers shall have the power, with International Executive Board approval, to refuse or revoke the membership of any member or chapter for failure to comply with the requirements for membership as stated herein or for engaging in fund-raising activities contrary to the objectives of the organization as stated in ARTICLE II. Should evocation of membership become necessary, the South Dakota State Organization of The Questers shall follow the procedure in ARTICLE XIX of the International Bylaws.

Section 4. Where a Subsidiary Society is affiliated with a State or Provincial organization, the purposes and guidelines of the society shall be incorporated in these bylaws.

ARTICLE VI
OFFICERS

Section 1. The Officers of the organization shall be: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer. Where size or other considerations warrant, there may also be a Third Vice President. The President, First Vice President, and Corresponding Secretary shall be elected on the even years for a term of two (2) years. The Second Vice President, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected on the odd years for a term of (2) years. All of the above shall serve at the pleasure of the State Council.

Section 2. To be eligible for the office of President or First Vice President, a candidate must be an active member of the The Questers. The candidate shall have served a full term as a chapter

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officer and as a member of the Executive Board or as Chairman of a Standing Committee. Any active member shall be eligible for any other office, but no more than two members of a chapter may serve as State Officers at any one time. No State Officer shall simultaneously hold an International Office or International Chairmanship. State Officers shall be elected for a term of two years but shall not serve on the State Board more than two consecutive terms. A member may not be reelected to the same office for a succeeding term, but may be elected to the same office after an interim period of at least two years. An officer having served more than one-half (1/2) of a term shall be deemed to have served a full term.

Section 3. In the event of a vacancy or inability to act in the office of President, the First Vice President shall become President. If the First Vice President is unable to serve as President, the unexpired term of the President shall be completed by a person selected by the State Executive Board. In the event of a vacancy in any State Office other than the President, the unexpired terms of that office shall be completed by a person selected by the State Executive Board. The selection shall be by ballot; a plurality vote is needed for selection.

ARTICLE VII
DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the State Organization. The President shall be an ex officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee. The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer and shall exercise a general supervision over the interest and welfare of the organization. The President shall serve as a liaison officer between the State and International Organizations, and shall be responsible for furthering the purposes of The Questers in the State. The President (or designated alternative) shall present a report of the State Organization at the International Convention. If the President (or designated alternate) is unable to attend, the President will mail such report to the International President prior to the International Convention. A designated alternate shall be approved by the State Executive Board.

Section 2. The First Vice President shall act as the Organization Chairman for the State. As such, the First Vice President shall respond to all inquiries about the Questers and shall receive and process all applications for chapter charters in accordance with the International Bylaws. In the President's absence, the First Vice President shall perform the duties of the President. In the event of a vacancy or the President's inability to act, the First Vice President shall become President for the unexpired term.

Section 3. The Second Vice President shall serve as Program Chairman for the State and shall compile and distribute new program resource information annually to all chapters.

Section 4. The Recording Secretary shall keep the minutes of the State Executive Board, State and Council Meetings. The Recording Secretary shall send a copy of the minutes of each

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Executive Board Meeting to the members of the State Executive Board and shall send a copy of the minutes of each Council Meeting to all members of the South Dakota State Council.

Section 5. The Corresponding Secretary shall send such mailings as the President and the State Executive Board direct and shall assist the President with Official correspondence.

Section 6. The Treasurer shall receive International per capita dues from all State Chapters and shall retain the allocated portion of each member’s annual International dues to be used for the State Organization administrative expenses. The Treasurer shall remit the remainder of the dues to the International Headquarters along with copies of the Chapter Annual Dues and Membership Report. The Treasurer shall send monthly reports of any new members, along with their addresses and dues to the International Headquarters. The Treasurer shall maintain and provide any financial information as requested by the State Executive Board. An itemized account, accompanied by receipts is required for payment of all claims submitted for reimbursement. The Treasurer shall prepare an Annual Financial Report as of May 31 for submission to the International Treasurer, and shall serve with the President, and if appointed, the Financial Chairman in preparing the Annual Budget.

ARTICLE VIII
EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. The State Executive Board shall consist of the elected officers. The Immediate Past President shall be an advisory, non-voting member.

Section 2. The State Executive Board shall have the authority to direct the affairs of the South Dakota State Organization of The Questers and shall meet at the call of the President at least twice per year, to transact the business of the organization. Special meetings may be called by the President or upon written request of four members of the Executive Board.

Section 3. In case of a vacancy in the office of the President, the First Vice President shall become President. A vacancy occurring in any other office shall be filled by the Executive Board for the unexpired term of said office. The election shall be by ballot, a plurality vote needed for election.

Section 4. One over half of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5. Voting by mail or telephone may be employed when action is urgently needed between meetings.

Section 6. The Parliamentarian, appointed by the State President, shall attend meetings of the Executive Board, State Council, and any other meetings when directed by the President. The Parliamentarian shall work closely with the International Parliamentarian and the chapters

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within the state when writing and revising their bylaws so they will conform with the International Bylaws. The Parliamentarian shall maintain a complete file of all chapter bylaws within the State and shall review all chapter bylaws prior to submitting them to the International Parliamentarian for approval and filing.

**ARTICLE IX**
**COMMITTEES**

Section 1. The State President shall appoint as many committees as the needs of the organization demand, subject to the approval of the State Executive Board. The State President is an ex officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee. The Standing Committees include, but are not limited to: Bylaws, Finance, History, Preservation and Restoration, and Newsletter Editor. Special committees may be appointed to serve a specific purpose and cease to exist upon the completion of the committees’ assignments and presentation of final reports.

Section 2. The Nominating Committee shall consist of Nominating Chairman and three (3) members and shall be appointed annually by the State Executive Board. No Chapter shall have more than one member on the committee.

Section 3. The Chairmen of Standing and Special Committees shall submit to the State President yearly reports in advance of the Annual Meeting or prior to the close of the fiscal year. They shall maintain files to be passed on to their successors.

**ARTICLE X**
**COUNCIL**

Section 1. The members of the South Dakota State Council shall be the elected State Officers, Chapter Presidents (or designated alternates), Past State Presidents, and Chairmen of Standing Committees and shall serve as the voting delegates at State Council Meetings.

Section 2. The Council shall meet at least once each year at a time and place to be determined by the State Executive Board. At this time, the Council shall hear reports of the State Officers and State Chairmen, and transact other business as deemed necessary.

Section 3. The Annual State Meeting shall be held in the spring, at a time and place to be determined by the State Executive Board. Such meetings will not be scheduled within the two week period immediately prior to or following the International Convention. Necessary business shall be transacted, annual reports from Officers and State Chairmen will be presented, and newly elected officers installed at this time.

Section 4. Upon written petition, signed by two thirds of the Council members, a special meeting of the Council shall be called with thirty days (30) after receipt of the petition by the

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State Executive Board. Special meetings of the Council may also be called by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE XI
FINANCES

Section 1. International per capita dues shall be sent by each Chapter Treasurer along with the International Chapter Annual Dues and Membership Report Form to the State Treasurer by May 1 of each year. The first year’s per capita allotment for new state organizations shall be determined by date of the charter and pro-rated on a monthly basis for the fiscal year beginning June 1.

Section 2. Chapters whose dues are unpaid by May 1 will be considered delinquent. The State Treasurer shall send a Notice of Delinquency to the Chapter President and also refer the matter to the State Executive Board.

Section 3. The State Board shall present the Annual Budget and the Treasurer’s Financial Report to the State Council for its approval at the Annual State Meeting.

Section 4. The South Dakota State Organization shall not levy any additional dues or assessments and shall submit annually their Financial Report and Annual Budget to the International Executive Board, copies directed to the International Treasurer.

Section 5. The fiscal year of the organization shall be from June 1 to May 31 inclusive.

Section 6. The financial statements of the State organization shall be reviewed by a two (2) member committee or a Certified Public Accountant after the close of the fiscal year at the end of the Treasurer’s term of office.

ARTICLE XII
NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. The Nominating Committee shall solicit suggestions from candidates for State Officers from chapters before January 15 of each year. Each candidate must be endorsed in writing by the candidate’s chapter and a Credentials Sheet reflecting the qualifications of the candidate shall accompany the chapter’s endorsement. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a slate of officers, one for each office, and mail a ballot to each voting State Council Member by February 15 of that year. Ballots must be marked and returned to the Election Teller by March 15. The results of the election shall be announced no later than April 15.

Section 2. The official ballot shall provide for write-in votes for candidates for whom credentials and chapter endorsements are included and from whom consent to serve have been obtained. A plurality vote shall constitute an election.

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Section 3. State Officers shall be elected for a term of two years but shall not serve on the State Executive Board more than two consecutive terms. A member may not be reelected to the same office for a succeeding term, but may be elected to the same office again after an interim period of at least two years. Officers shall be assumed June 1.

Section 4. No more than two members of a chapter shall serve on the State Executive Board at any one time. No State Officer shall simultaneously hold an International office or an International Committee Chairmanship.

Section 5. The President, First Vice President, and Corresponding Secretary shall be elected on the even numbered years and the Second Vice President, Third Vice President (if applicable), Recording Secretary, and the Treasurer on the odd numbered years.

Section 6. A Teller shall be appointed by The Executive Board. The Teller shall appoint two assistant Tellers to help count the ballots and shall notify the newly elected officers and the State President of the election results by March 25. A Teller’s report shall be furnished to the State President.

ARTICLE XIII
OBLIGATIONS OF CHAPTERS

Section 1. Chapters shall at all time maintain the principles and promote the objectives as set forth in ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION and Bylaws of The Questers.

Section 2. It shall be the obligation of each chapter to prepare and revise its bylaws conforming to the State and International Bylaws. Each chapter shall send two copies of its Bylaws to the State Parliamentarian for review. The State Parliamentarian will then submit one copy to the International Parliamentarian for approval and filing, retaining one copy for the State files. Amendments and revision to Chapter Bylaws become effective immediately upon approval by the International Parliamentarian.

Section 3. It shall be the obligation of each chapter to pay International per capita dues before May 1 and to send the required International Chapter Annual Dues and the Membership Report, listing names and addresses of members and officers to the State Treasurer. Any changes in Chapter Officers or Membership must be reported to the State Treasurer within one month.

Section 4. Chapters are encouraged to send study papers in duplicate to International Headquarters.

Section 5. In the event that a chapter disbands, the treasury fund shall be transferred to the International or State Questers fund of it choice, or donate to a local preservation or restoration fund. The chapter shall return the Chapter Charter to the International Headquarters and advise

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of the disposition of treasury funds. The chapter shall also extend written notice to the State President and State Treasurer.

Section 6. Chapters in a Chartered State which solicit financial support from other chapters or from the public for preservation and/or restoration projects must obtain prior approval of the project from the State Executive Board.

Section 7. Each chapter shall at all times follow the provisions set forth in ARTICLE XVI of the International Bylaws.

**ARTICLE XIV**

**PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

Section 1. The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised edition shall govern in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws of The Questers or the Bylaws of the South Dakota Organization of The Questers.

**ARTICLE XV**

**AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. Amendments to these Bylaws may be adopted by an affirmative two thirds vote of the State Council. Notice of the proposed amendments shall be sent to the voting members of the Council, in writing, sixty (60) days in advance of the voting date. The vote shall be by mail.

Section 2. Any Chapter or State Officer may propose an amendment to the Bylaws in writing for consideration by the State Executive Board.

Section 3. All Bylaws and proposed revisions or amendments to Chapter or State Bylaws must be reviewed by the State Parliamentarian and approved by the International Parliamentarian before becoming effective.

Section 4. Any revision or amendments to the International Bylaws affecting the work of the Chapters or State Organization shall become effective automatically without further notice.

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STATE OR PROVINCIAL BYLAWS SIGNATURE PAGE

State or Province

Date Bylaws ______ by the State or Province of ______
      (Insert ADOPTED, AMENDED, REVISED as appropriate) (insert state)

President’s Signature ___________________________ Date __________

Parliamentarian’s Signature ___________________________ Date __________

Parliamentarian’s Address and Telephone Number (Please PRINT)

Approved: ___________________________ Date __________

       International Parliamentarian