

**PLAST,
Ukrainian Scouting Organization – USA**

**BYLAWS (*Statut*)
Accepted October 20, 2013
Amended September 19, 2019**

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These Bylaws were accepted by the Plast National Convention on October 20, 2013. Amendments to the 2013 Bylaws were accepted by the Plast National Conventions on October 22, 2017 and September 29, 2019.

These Bylaws supersede the Bylaws dated 2005, as amended, and all other previous versions.

ARTICLE I
Name, Headquarters, and Territory of Operations

1. The name of this organization is “Plast, Ukrainian Scouting Organization – USA,” or in common usage, “Plast.”
2. Plast is incorporated in the State of Michigan; the territory in which activities of the corporation are conducted is the United States of America.
3. The corporation operates under Articles of Incorporation filed with the State of Michigan on July 25, 1950, as amended on August 8, 1967, and May 30, 2002, which Articles are incorporated by reference herein.

ARTICLE II
Mission and Method of Activities

1. Plast has the following purposes:
 - a. To develop the physical, mental, and moral strengths of youth residing in the United States (USA), and to train such youth for good citizenship and self-sufficiency, using the training methods and the fundamental guidelines of Plast, which are based on the Three Fundamental Principles set forth in the Plast Oath and the Plast Code, as developed by Dr. Oleksander Tysovsky;
 - b. To foster in such youth the traditions of their forefathers and to develop their knowledge and understanding of their history, culture, endeavors, and ideals.
2. Plast will achieve its Mission:
 - a. By organizing youth, scoutmasters (*vykhovnyky*), leaders, and adult members in Branches/Groups, and authorizing each Branch/Group;
 - b. By affirming the principles, methods, and direction of Plast activities, approving its regulations relating to internal organization and guidelines for the Plast uniform, and ratifying the decisions of Conference of Ukrainian Plast Organizations (KUPO), in which this Organization participates;
 - c. By conducting meetings, lectures, cultural and artistic events, sporting events and competitions, recreational activities, hikes, camps; publishing books and periodicals; and managing its real estate holdings;
 - d. By organizing the resources necessary to conduct these activities.
 - e. Plast is a non-political and interdenominational organization, and its activities are not directed towards profit.
3. Plast is organized and shall be operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, consistent with the requirements of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. No part of the net earnings shall ever inure to the benefit of any private individual and no substantial part of its activities shall be devoted to carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation. This corporation shall not participate in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for political office.

ARTICLE III Insignia

The insignia of Plast is a fleur-de-lis interwoven into the Ukrainian trident.

ARTICLE IV Members

A. Member Categories:

1. Members of this corporation fall into three categories:
 - a. Ordinary Members (*Zvychayni Chleny*);
 - b. Benefactors (*Dobrodiyi*); and
 - c. Honorary Members (*Pochesni Chleny*).
2. An Ordinary Member is called a *plastun* (male) or *plastunka* (female). Any citizen or legal resident of the USA may become an Ordinary Member, provided he/she is:
 - a. At least six years of age; and
 - b. Prepared to undergo development and training within the Plast organization according to Plast methods and principles of good citizenship and self-sufficiency.
3. Ordinary Members are divided into the following Age Groups:
 - a. Cub Scouts (*Novatstvo*) boys and girls age 6 to 11 years;
 - b. Scouts (*Yunatstvo*) boys and girls age 12 to 17 years;
 - c. Older Scouts (*Starshi Plastuny*) men and women age 18 to 35 years, who commit to abide by Plast principles in their private and civic life and wish to further volunteer their time and efforts towards the fulfillment of the Mission of Plast;
 - d. Senior Scouts (*Seniory*) men and women at least 28 years of age, who commit to abide by Plast principles in their private and civic life and wish to further volunteer their time and efforts towards the fulfillment of the Mission of Plast.
4. The title of "Benefactor" is given by the Plast National Board of Directors to any person or entity that has, in an exceptional manner, contributed to the growth of the Plast movement. The Plast National Board of Directors may revoke this title for behavior inconsistent with good citizenship.
5. The title of "Honorary Member" is given by the Plast National Convention upon the proposal of the Plast National Board of Directors to a person who has, through exceptional service, contributed to the growth of Plast, fulfillment of its Mission, and advancement of its ideals. The Plast National Convention may revoke this title for behavior inconsistent with good citizenship.

B. Rights and Responsibilities:

1. Ordinary Members have the following rights and responsibilities:
 - a. To abide by the fundamental principles of Plast, as set forth in Article II, Paragraph 1, and strive to be exemplary members of their community;

- b. To cooperate in achieving the goals of Plast and take active part in all activities prescribed for their given Age Group and rank;
- c. To pay their annual membership dues;
- d. To formalize their transfer to the next Age Group within one year of discharge from the previous Age Group;
- e. To participate in Plast programs and activities consistent with internal regulations;
- f. To wear the prescribed uniform and insignia according to regulations.

Older Scouts and Senior Scouts, who are current in paying their annual dues, as required by Article IV, Section B, Paragraph 1(c), shall also have the following rights:

- g. To participate in the National Plast Convention (see Article VI, Section E, Paragraph 2) and General Branch Meeting (see Article IX, Section B, Paragraph 2[a]), to elect and be elected to the governing bodies of Plast, consistent with the limitations set forth in Article VI, Section C and Article IX, Section B;
- h. To make observations through regular organizational channels regarding the activities of Plast and its bodies, and raise concerns and offer proposals for improvements.

C. Admission and Discharge of Members:

1. The admission and discharge of Ordinary Members shall be conducted as follows:
 - a. Admission and discharge from membership in the Cub Scout and Scout Age Groups is carried out by the leadership of the appropriate educational unit within a Plast Branch. Admission requires the prior written consent of the child's parents or guardians;
 - b. Admission and discharge from membership in the Older Scout and Senior Scout Age Groups is carried out by the Plast National Board of Directors, either on its own initiative or upon the request of the appropriate Branch Executive Board. The Plast National Board of Directors may discharge Older Scouts and Senior Scouts from membership by way of:
 - i. Voluntary discharge at a member's request;
 - ii. Involuntary discharge due to a member's failure to fulfill his/her membership responsibilities (see Article IV, Section B, Paragraph 1); or
 - iii. Expulsion, for engaging in activities detrimental to Plast or otherwise inconsistent with good citizenship.

ARTICLE V Governance

1. Plast is governed by the following bodies:
 - a. Plast National Convention (*Krayovyi Plastovyi Zizd*) (see Article VI)
The Plast National Convention makes decisions with respect to all matters relating to the fundamental issues of the organization.
 - b. Plast National Board of Directors (*Krayova Plastova Starshyna*) (see Article VII)
The Plast National Board of Directors is the Board of Directors pursuant to the Michigan Nonprofit Corporation Act, in particular MCL 450.2105(5) and 450.2501.

- c. Plast National Council (*Krayova Plastova Rada*) (see Article VIII)

The Plast National Council serves as an advisory body to the National Board of Directors.

- 2. All members of the Plast National Board of Directors and any Councils and Committees formed by the Plast National Convention or Plast National Board of Directors, as well as all members of the Branch/Group (*Stanytsi/Hrupy*) Boards and Branch/Group Councils (see Article IX and X), serve on an uncompensated basis.

ARTICLE VI

Plast National Convention

A. General:

- 1. The Plast National Convention is convened on an annual basis by the Plast National Board of Directors. Members are notified of the date, location, and agenda through the Branches and publication in the press at least one month in advance of the Convention.
- 2. The Plast National Board of Directors may convene an Extraordinary Plast National Convention on its own initiative under exceptional or emergency circumstances. Notice of the date, venue and agenda of such an Extraordinary Plast National Convention must be given to members at least 20 days in advance.
- 3. The Plast National Board of Directors must convene an Extraordinary Plast National Convention upon the written petition of one-third of all ex officio delegates eligible to take part in a Plast National Convention. Such written request must contain a proposed agenda and the Extraordinary Plast National Convention must be convened within 40 days of receipt of such written request. Notice of the proposed date and venue must be given to delegates at least 20 days in advance.
- 4. The scope of authority of the Plast National Convention includes:
 - a. Reviewing the activity of the Plast leadership on the basis of their reports;
 - b. Electing the Plast National Board of Directors and the Plast National Council (every two years);
 - i. A Nominating Committee shall present a slate of nominees for each of the Plast National Board of Directors and the Plast National Council at the Plast National Convention at which National Board of Directors and National Council members are due to be elected.
 - ii. The Nominating Committee is a standing committee composed of each Branch Chair (*stanychniy*). The chair of the Nominating Committee shall be elected by and from among the members of the Nominating Committee.
 - iii. The Nominating Committee shall be called to action by the Chief Corporate Officer and begins its work no later than 9 months prior to the convening of the convention at which National Board of Directors and National Council members are due to be elected and reports monthly status to the 1st Vice President of the Plast National Board of Directors.

- iv. In the event there is no candidate for Chief Corporate Officer by the end of the Plast National Convention at which National Board of Directors are due to be elected, the outgoing Chief Corporate Officer continues to fill that role for up to 6 months (referred to herein as the “Extended Term”), during which time the Nominating Committee shall continue its search for a candidate for Chief Corporate Officer. If no candidate for Chief Corporate officer is found within the first three months of the Extended Term, an Extraordinary Plast National Convention will be called within the subsequent three months.
 - c. Releasing members of the Plast National Board of Directors and Plast National Council from the obligations of their positions at the end of their terms;
 - d. Establishing principles, methods, and guidelines relating to the activities and internal structure of Plast;
 - e. Approving the budget and membership dues;
 - f. Amending the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws (only during meetings when elections of the National Board of Directors take place);
 - g. Inducting Honorary Members.
5. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Plast National Board of Directors calls the Convention to order and presides over the election of a three-member presidium (Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary) which, in turn, presides over the Convention.

B. Quorum:

1. If fewer than 80 percent of the Accredited Delegates of the Plast National Convention are present at the scheduled start time, the Convention will be adjourned and will commence one hour later, regardless of the number of delegates present. However, in such an event, the Convention may only make decisions with respect to matters included on the originally announced agenda.
2. A Quorum shall be recognized if more than 50% of all Accredited Delegates are present in the voting hall at the time of voting, subject to the requirements on participation for specific decisions set forth in Article XVIII. Decisions of the Plast National Convention are adopted by a majority vote of the Accredited Delegates constituting a Quorum, with the exception of amendments to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws and decisions regarding the dissolution of Plast (see Article XVIII).

C. Voting:

1. Definitions:
 - a. Potential Delegates- shall mean all Ex Officio Delegates and Elected Delegates as defined below.
 - b. Accredited Delegates- shall mean all Potential Delegates, whether present in person or by written proxy in accordance with the provisions for voting by proxy in Paragraph 2 of this Section, who have registered for the Plast National Convention and have been vetted by the Plast National Board of Directors.
2. Voting and participation rights in the Plast National Convention are granted to:

- a. Ex officio delegates:
 - i. Chair (*Stanychnyj[a]*) or Vice-Chair of each Branch and Group Board; the Chair of each Branch Council (*Holova Stanychnoyi Rady*); all Branch Scoutmasters, namely Branch Division Leaders (*Koshovi* and *Referenty Vykhovnoyi Diy*), Troopmasters (*Zviazkovi*), and Cubmasters (*Hnizdovi*);
 - ii. Members of the Plast National Board of Directors and the Plast National Council, including those whose term expires at the given Plast National Convention;
 - iii. Senior Scouts at the rank of Scout Leader (*Senior Kerivnytstva*), provided they are regularly engaged in Plast work at the time of the Convention, at the discretion of the Plast National Board of Directors.
 - b. Elected delegates:
 - i. From each Branch and Group, one delegate shall be elected for every 20 Senior Scout and Older Scout members, plus one additional delegate if there are 10 members above the last multiple of 20;
 - ii. Branches with fewer than 20 Older Scouts or Senior Scout members and Plast Groups have the right to elect one delegate;
 - iii. One representative from each Older Scout and Senior Scout Fraternal Group (*Starsho plastunskyi Seniorskyi Kureni*) that has its leadership (consisting of at least 4 officers) or at least 15 members residing in the USA;
 - iv. One voting delegate (a member of the Regional Camping Committee) from each active Regional Camping Committee (*Okryzhna Taborova Komisiya*). An active Regional Camping Committee is one which has, since the previous Convention, conducted at least one regional educational Plast camp approved by the Plast National Board of Directors and has presented its annual report of activities;
3. Ex officio delegates to the Convention listed under Article VI, Section C, Paragraph 2(a) shall have only one vote, even if the person meets various qualifications.

D. Proxy Voting:

1. Proxy votes of Branches and Groups
 - a. The vote of a Branch Chair may be transferred only to a Vice-Chair of the same Branch, if the Branch Chair cannot attend in person, irrespective of distance limitations herein further provided.
 - b. The vote of a Branch Council Head (*Holova Stanychnoyi Rady*) may be transferred only to another member of the same Council, irrespective of distance limitations, if the Branch Council Head cannot attend in person.
 - c. The vote of a Branch Scoutmaster may be transferred by proxy to any other Delegate from that Branch, who is permitted to be a proxy holder, subject to distance limitations.
 - d. The vote of a Branch's Elected Delegate may be transferred by proxy to another Delegate, whether elected or ex-officio, from the same Branch, who is permitted to be a proxy holder, subject to distance limitations.
 - e. Subparagraphs a. through d. above shall be construed to apply equally to Groups as they do to Branches.

2. Distance limitations on proxy votes – Delegates from Branches and Groups whose location is, relative to the venue of the Plast National Convention:
 - a. greater than 500 miles away – may be proxy holders of up to two (2) proxy votes;
 - b. from 250 to less than 500 miles away – may be proxy holders of up to one (1) proxy vote;
 - c. less than 250 miles away – may neither transfer their vote by proxy nor be proxy holders.
 - d. The Plast National Board of Directors may, when unclear or disputed, determine the 'location' of any Branch or Group.
3. Other limitations on proxy votes –
 - a. Members of the Plast National Board of Directors and Plast National Council may neither transfer their vote by proxy nor be a proxy holder, irrespective of any other proxy rule herein;
 - b. The vote of a Senior Scout at the rank of Scout Leader (*Senior Kerivnystvva*), when held in and of itself, may not be transferred by proxy; and such Delegate may be a holder of at most one proxy vote from a Regional Camp Council (*OTK*) or Fraternal Group (*UPS Kurin*), irrespective of distance limitations in §2.
 - c. The vote of a Fraternal Group Head may be transferred by proxy to another member of the same Fraternal Group otherwise meeting qualifications for being a delegate and who is not already an elected or ex-officio delegate. Such Fraternal Group Delegates may not be holders of any other proxy.
 - d. The vote of a Regional Camp Council Head (*Holova OTK*) may be transferred by proxy to another member of the said RCC who otherwise meets qualifications for being a delegate and who is not already an elected or ex-officio delegate. Such Regional Camp Council Delegates may not be holders of any other proxy.
 - e. All proxies must be in writing, signed and dated, stating the name of issuing delegate and that of the proxy holder, in such form and manner as the Plast National Board of Directors may from time to time provide. Proxies shall be General Proxies, and there shall be no Right of Substitution by the proxy holder. The proxy shall expire with the conclusion of the Plast National Convention, and may further be revoked by the arrival of the issuing delegate at the Plast National Convention.

E. Other:

1. Participants in the Plast National Convention who have rendered exceptional services to Plast may be granted one vote by the Convention and may not hold any proxy votes.
2. All Older Scouts and Senior Scouts, Benefactors, and Honorary Members may participate in the Plast National Convention as non-voting guests.

ARTICLE VII
Plast National Board of Directors

A. Structure:

1. The Plast National Board of Directors, composed of only Senior and Older Scouts, includes the following Board Members:
 - a. Chair/Chief Corporate Officer
 - b. First Vice-Chair/Corporate Liaison Officer and Corporate Secretary
 - c. Second Vice-Chair/Corporate Officer responsible for Educational Activities
 - d. Third Vice-Chair/Corporate Officer/Treasurer and Administrator
 - e. Director of Cub Scouts
 - Shall be a qualified Cubmaster elected by Scoutmasters for the cub scout age group during the Convention of Cub Scoutmasters.
 - f. Director of Boy/Girl Scouts
 - Shall be a qualified Troopmaster elected by Scoutmasters for the scout age group during the Convention of Scoutmasters.
 - g. Director of Older Scouts
 - Shall be elected only from among Older Scouts by the National Convention of Older Scouts.
 - h. Director of Senior Scouts
 - Shall be elected only from among Senior Scouts by the National Convention of Senior Scouts.
 - i. Director of Training (Troopmasters and lesser ranked Scoutmasters)
 - j. Director of Training (Cubmasters and lesser ranked Cub Scoutmasters)
 - k. Director of Camps
 - l. Director of Physical Fitness
 - m. Director of Communications
 - n. Director for Press and Publications
 - o. Recording Secretary

In case of the resignation or inability to serve of the Chair, the duties are assumed by the Vice-chairs able to take over the duties of the Chair in this order: First Vice-Chair, Second Vice-Chair, Third Vice-Chair.

2. In case of the resignation or inability to serve of any other member of the Plast National Board of Directors, the Plast National Board of Directors may appoint a replacement, provided, however, that at least half of the elected membership remains in office. If more than half of the members of the Plast National Board of Directors resign, then the Plast National Council will elect new Directors, who will serve until the next Plast National Convention.

In case of inactivity or inability to serve of a member of the Plast National Board of Directors, the other members of the Board may replace the inactive Director by majority vote.

B. Responsibilities:

1. The Plast National Board of Directors:
 - a. Plans, leads, and supervises the activities of Plast;
 - b. Prepares an annual report of its activities for the Plast National Council to review prior to the Plast National Convention;
 - c. Reports its activities to the Plast National Convention;
 - d. Creates internal regulations on the basis of these Bylaws;
 - e. Submits proposals for resolutions to the Plast National Convention, and carries out adopted resolutions;
 - f. Publicly represents Plast, in particular, before legal authorities;
 - g. Adds new members to its ranks to fulfill specific areas of responsibility;
 - h. Has the right to form committees as appropriate. However, no committee has the power or authority to do any of the following:
 - i. Amend the articles of incorporation;
 - ii. Adopt an agreement of merger or consolidation;
 - iii. Recommend to members the sale, lease, or exchange of all or substantially all of the corporation's property and assets;
 - iv. Recommend to members a dissolution of the corporation or a revocation of a dissolution;
 - v. Amend the Bylaws of the corporation;
 - vi. Fill vacancies on the Board;
 - vii. Terminate membership in Plast;
 - viii. Vote during Plast National Board of Directors meetings.
2. The Plast National Board of Directors reviews all operational matters of the organization during its meetings. Binding action by the Plast National Board of Directors may be taken only if at least half the members are present. All decisions are reached by a majority vote of the quorum. In exceptional circumstances, the Chair of the Plast National Board of Directors may, in consultation with appropriate Director or Directors, make decisions with respect to urgent matters. Such decisions must be submitted to the Plast National Board of Directors for approval at the next meeting.
3. In emergencies between Plast National Conventions, the Plast National Board of Directors has the right to decide on matters otherwise reserved for the Plast National Convention. Such decisions are binding until the following Plast National Convention and must be reported at that time.

4. The Plast National Board of Directors adjudicates appeals of decisions made by Branch Councils in cases of internal Branch disputes and, at the request of interested parties, seeks to resolve any misunderstandings within Plast.
5. The Chair of the Plast National Board of Directors heads and coordinates activities of the National Board of Directors and represents it publicly. Board members report their activities to the Chair and, together with the Chair, to the Plast National Convention.
6. Meetings of the Plast National Board of Directors are called by the Chair or a Vice-Chair at least once every two months; notice of the meeting time, place, and agenda must be given at least one week in advance of the meeting.
7. The Treasurer shall be responsible for ensuring that Plast is in compliance with filing requirements, if any, of all state and federal authorities, including ensuring that Plast annually files an informational return with the Internal Revenue Service in all years when such a return is required.
8. A newly elected Plast National Board of Directors should assume its duties no later than one month after its election. Until that time, the outgoing Plast National Board of Directors continues to act and is responsible for the activities of the corporation.
9. Term of office:
Each Director will be elected by a majority vote of the Plast National Convention and will serve a term of two years and until his/her successor has been elected and qualified.

ARTICLE VIII

Plast National Council

A. Structure:

1. The Plast National Council, composed only of Senior and Older Scouts, includes the following:
 - a. Chair;
 - b. 4 additional members;
 - c. 2 alternates, not activated until a member resigns.
2. The Chair of the Plast National Council is elected biennially by the Plast National Convention. Members and alternates of the Plast National Council are elected by the Plast National Convention for four-year terms; half of the members are replaced at the Plast National Convention every two years.
3. The Plast National Council elects, from among its members, a Vice-Chair and a Secretary.
4. In the event of the resignation or inability to serve of any member, a replacement is chosen from the alternates. Unless replacing a departing member, alternates do not participate in National Council meetings.
5. All candidates to the Plast National Council are selected on the basis of their experience in Plast leadership.

B. Responsibilities:

1. The Plast National Council:
 - a. Reviews the activity of the Plast National Board of Directors and the entire Plast corporation, and reports its findings to the Plast National Convention;
 - b. Serves as an advisory body to the Plast National Board of Directors;
 - c. Adjudicates appeals brought by any unit or member of Plast on an advisory basis to the Plast National Board of Directors.
2. Meetings of the Plast National Council shall be called at least every three months by the Chair or Vice-Chair. Notice of the meeting date, venue, and agenda must be given to members of the Plast National Council at least two weeks in advance of the meeting.
3. All decisions of the Plast National Council are reached by majority vote of the entire council, i.e. by at least three of the five members. Alternates do not vote.

ARTICLE IX Plast Branches

Plast is organized territorially in Branches made up of members living in a particular locality. A Branch is confirmed by the Plast National Board of Directors.

A. Structure:

1. Each Branch conducts its educational activities within separate units divided by age and gender, as appropriate – namely:
 - a. Cub Scouts:
 - i. Cub Scouts are organized by age and gender into groups called Cub Dens (*Royi*);
 - ii. Two or more Cub Dens of one gender form a Cub Pack (*Hnizdo*). Cub Packs are led by Cubmasters (*Hnizdovi*);
 - iii. The female Cub Pack along with the male Cub Pack form a Cub Scout Division (*Novatskyi Kish*) led by a Division Leader (*Koshova/Koshovyi*).
 - b. Scouts:
 - i. Scouts are organized by age and gender into groups called Patrols (*Hurtky*);
 - ii. Two or more patrols of one gender form a Scout Troop (*Kurin*). Scout Troops are led by Troopmasters (*Zviazkovi*);
 - iii. The female Scout Troop along with the male Scout Troop form a Scout Division (*Yunatskyi Kish*), led by a Division Leader (*Koshova/Koshovyi*).
 - c. All Older Scouts in a Plast Branch form a Working Unit (*Oseredok Pratsi*), led by a Unit Leader (*Oseredkova/Oseredkovyi Starshykh Plastuniv*);
 - d. All Senior Scouts in a Plast Branch Working Unit (*Oseredok Pratsi*), led by a Unit Leader (*Oseredkova/Oseredkovyi Senioriv*);

- e. Network of Parents and Friends of Plast (*Lanka Batkiv i Pryiateliv Plastu*) The network includes:
 - i. Parents of current scouts who may or may not be Plast members themselves;
 - ii. Older Scouts and Senior Scouts who wish to assist the Plast leadership;
 - iii. Friends of Plast, at least 18 years of age, who are not members of Plast, but acknowledge the value of Plast ideals and agree with the methods of Plast education. Friends of Plast must be approved by the Branch Board.
- 2. In Branches that have an insufficient number of members for full Divisions and Working Units, the Branches may be composed of individual Cub Packs or Cub Dens, Scout Troops or Scout Patrols, or even individual Older Scouts or Senior Scouts. Mixed gender groups among Cub Scouts and Scouts are permitted where there is an insufficient number of boys or girls to form separate or age-appropriate Dens/Packs or Patrols/Troops.

Detailed regulations for the operation of Cub, Scout, Older Scout and Senior Scout units, as well as for the Network of Parents and Friends of Plast are to be found in corresponding Manuals of these Divisions (*Pravylnyky*).

B. Governance:

- 1. A Branch is governed by the following:
 - a. Branch General Meeting (*Zahalni Zbory Stanytsi*):

The Branch General Meeting makes decisions with respect to all matters relating to the fundamental issues of the Branch. However, it cannot override or conflict with any decisions made during the Plast National Convention or by the Plast National Board of Directors.
 - b. Branch Board (*Stanychna Starshyna*):

The Branch Board is responsible for the operations of the Plast Branch in accordance with the Plast Purpose and Mission and directives from the Plast National Convention and Plast National Board of Directors.
 - c. The Branch Council (*Stanychna Rada*):

The Branch Council serves as an advisory body to the Branch Board.
- 2. Branch General Meeting
 - a. The General Meeting takes place annually or biennially, depending on the circumstances. The Branch General Meeting designates the term of office of the Branch Board and Branch Council, notifying the Plast National Board of Directors of its decision. Participating and voting rights are granted to all Senior Scouts and Older Scouts who live within the regional jurisdiction of the Branch and are duly registered as Branch Members, as well as the elected leader of the Branch's Network of Parents and Friends of Plast.
 - b. The scope of authority of the Branch General Meeting includes:
 - i. Reviewing the activity of the Branch Board and Branch Council, based on their annual reports, evaluating their work, and releasing them from the obligations of their posts;
 - ii. Electing a new Branch Board and Branch Council;

- iii. Establishing guidelines for the activity of the new Branch Board;
- iv. Approving recommendations and electing delegates for the Plast National Convention. Branch delegates to the Plast National Convention can also be elected during special pre-convention General Meetings of each Branch.

3. Branch Board

- a. The Branch Board is composed of the following:
 - i. Branch Chair (*Stanychna/Stanychnyi*);
 - ii. Leader of Cub Scout Division* (*Koshova/Koshovyi Novatstva*), oversees activities of:
 - Cubmasters (*Hnizdovi*)
 - iii. Leader of Scout Division* (*Koshova/Koshoviy Yunatstva*), oversees activities of:
 - Troopmasters (*Zviazkovi*)
 - iv. Treasurer and Administrator (*Skarbnyk/Dilovod Hospodarky*);
 - v. Recording Secretary (*Protokoliarnyi Pysar*);
 - vi. Leader of the Older Scouts Working Unit (*Oseredkova/Oseredkovyi Pratsi Starshykh Plastuniv*) – selected only from and by Older Scouts;
 - vii. Leader of the Senior Scouts Working Unit (*Oseredkova/Oseredkovyi Pratsi Senioriv*) – selected only from and by Senior Scouts;
 - viii. Leader of the Network of Parents and Friends of Plast;
 - ix. One or more Branch Vice-Chairs and an appropriate number of other officers, analogous to those serving on the Plast National Board of Directors, as may be necessary and appropriate.

* Branches lacking full Divisions may elect one Leader of Educational Programs in lieu of Division Leaders.

- b. Only Senior Scouts and Older Scouts have the right to be elected as members of a Branch Board, subject to the limitations set forth in Article IX, Section B, Paragraphs 3(a)(vi) and 3(a)(vii). An exception is the Leader of the Network of Parents and Friends of Plast.
- c. Branches that lack a full array of constituent units, as described in Article IX, Section A and B, or lack a sufficient number of Older Scouts and Senior Scouts to fill all necessary posts, may adjust the composition of the Branch Board as necessary and appropriate for the Branch.
- d. The election of a Branch Board must be approved by the Plast National Board of Directors. If the Plast National Board of Directors fails to approve such an election, or if the Branch Board is suspended due to improper activities, the Branch Council must convene a Branch General Meeting within two weeks to elect a new Branch Board.
- e. The Branch Board:
 - i. Publicly represents all Plast units of the particular locality (including the Network of Parents and Friends of Plast);

- ii. Supervises and coordinates the work of the educational units and organizes their public activities;
 - iii. Provides moral and financial support to establish and maintain the work of all educational units;
 - iv. Makes decisions on all matters pertaining to the Branch at its regular meetings.
- f. The Branch Chair heads and coordinates all educational, administrative and financial activities of the Branch, and is its official public representative. The Branch Board Members report their activities to the Branch Chair, and together with the Branch Chair report to the Branch General Meeting and the Plast National Board of Directors. In case of inactive Branch Board Members, the Branch Board may, on its own initiative or upon the recommendation of the Branch Council, replace the inactive members, or oversee their replacement by special election.
4. Branch Council
- a. The Branch Council is composed of a President and two to four members. For a Branch with a small number of members, which cannot elect its own Branch Council, a Council is appointed by the Plast National Board of Directors.
 - b. The duties of the Branch Council include:
 - i. Serving as an advisory body to the Branch Board;
 - ii. Reviewing the activity, including financials, of the Branch and reports to Branch General Meeting;
 - iii. Adjudicating appeals brought by any unit or member of the Plast Branch on an advisory basis to the Branch Board.
5. The Network of Parents and Friends of Plast in a Branch is organized with its own elected leadership. The financial reports of the Network are included in the reports of the entire Branch.

ARTICLE X Plast Groups

- 1. Plast members who live in a particular locality may form a Plast Group. A Group is defined as having fewer than 6 Cub Scouts and fewer than 6 Boy/Girl Scouts, unless it is formed due to a change in status of a Plast Branch (Article XI.2).
- 2. A Group must be capable of conducting regular Plast activities and following the established Plast program.
- 3. All articles of the Bylaws that apply to Branches are applicable to Groups, insofar as possible, with the following exceptions:
 - a. The leadership of a Group consists of one person, but may be expanded as needed;
 - b. The Group Council may consist of one person;
 - c. A Group must report its formation to the Plast National Board of Directors and provide all required financial and organizational reports.

- d. In the event of dissolution of a Group, all property it administers (see Article XVI) is transferred to the Plast National Board of Directors. If reactivated, a Plast Group may request financial assistance or capital from the Plast National Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XI

Formation, Change of Status, and Dissolution of Branches and Groups

1. Branch Formation

When a Group has at least 6 Cub Scouts and 6 Boy/Girl Scouts, and this membership number is deemed to be sustainable, it becomes a Plast Branch. A newly formed Branch is authorized by the Plast National Board of Directors.

2. Branch Change of Status

When a Branch has fewer than 12 members of the Cub and Scout Age Groups combined over a period of three consecutive years, it becomes a Group.

3. The Plast National Board of Directors has the right to dissolve a Branch/Group if it is inactive.

- a. The Branch or Group has the right to appeal such action to the Plast National Council. If the decision of the Plast National Council differs from that of the Plast National Board of Directors, the matter is presented at the Plast National Convention. Until a final decision is issued, all activity of the particular Branch or Group is suspended.
- b. In the event of dissolution of a Branch, unless it becomes a Group, or the dissolution of a Group, all property it administers (see Article XVI) is transferred to the Plast National Board of Directors. If reactivated within six years, a Plast Branch or Group will receive, upon request, financial assistance or capital, in the amount originally transferred to the Plast National Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII

Removal of Branch/Group Boards

The Plast National Board of Directors has the right to remove Branch/Group Board Members under any of the following circumstances:

1. The Branch's/Group's activity is contrary to Plast principles, particularly the Three Fundamental Principles of a Plast Member;
2. Its activity is contrary to the Plast Oath;
3. Its activity is in some other way damaging to the Plast organization;

ARTICLE XIII

Regional Camp Committees (*OTK*)

Regional Camp Committees report to the Director of Camps. These Committees organize and manage all activities involving camps on the locations that they oversee.

ARTICLE XIV
Fraternal Groups (*Starsho Plastunski abo Seniorski Kureni*)

Besides working within Plast Branches, Older and Senior Scouts are also organized into Fraternal Groups, which include members from various localities. The task of these Fraternal Groups is to use the unique common interests and strengths of their members to carry out specific tasks for Plast.

ARTICLE XV
Lone Members (*Samitnyky*)

Cub Scouts or Boy/Girl Scouts, who live at least 75 miles from the usual meeting place of the nearest Plast Branch/Group (*domivka*) and cannot take part in regular Branch/Group activities, are considered Lone Members. They participate in the Plast program through regular correspondence with the Director of Cub Scouts or Director of Boy/Girl Scouts on the Plast National Board or with someone assigned by the respective Directors specifically for this role.

Older and Senior Scouts, who do not belong to a Fraternal Group or Branch/Group, are also considered Lone Members. They fall under the responsibilities of the Directors of Older Scouts or Senior Scouts.

ARTICLE XVI
Property, Fiscal Year

1. The property of Plast is composed of:
 - a. Membership dues and voluntary member contributions;
 - b. Income from Plast-sponsored social events and other member enterprises;
 - c. Real estate owned by Plast, Ukrainian Scouting Organization-USA or titled in any previous name attributed to that organization;
 - d. Gifts, bequests, and subsidies from persons or entities;
 - e. All cash accounts, securities, bonds, or any other personal property of value.
2. No Plast entity may donate, gift, or bequest any property belonging to Plast [see Article XVI, section 1], in any amount, within or outside of Plast, without the approval of the National Board of Directors.
3. Only the Plast National Board of Directors can approve the formation or organization of a new legal entity of any type for the purpose of transferring or holding existing real estate, personal property, or any other Plast assets.
4. The fiscal year is the calendar year.

ARTICLE XVII
Indemnification

The corporation (Plast) shall indemnify its National officers and directors against losses actually and reasonably incurred in connection with the defense of any action, suit, or proceeding relating to the performance of their duties to the extent permitted by law.

ARTICLE XVIII
Amendments to Bylaws and Articles; Dissolution of Organization

1. Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation, amendments to these Bylaws, or the dissolution of the organization may be effected by the vote of two-thirds of the Plast National Convention, provided that any vote with respect to dissolution shall be effective only if at least half of all Potential Delegates participate in the Convention. Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation, amendments to these Bylaws, or the dissolution of the organization may be effected provided that:
 - a. The matters to be voted upon were included on the agenda, as set forth in the notice of the Convention; and
 - b. Any proposals for amendment, with grounds therefore, were presented in writing to the Plast National Board of Directors no later than three months prior to the Plast National Convention; and the Plast National Board of Directors circulated such proposals, together with its own comments thereto, to Branches no later than one month prior to the Plast National Convention.
2. In the event of the dissolution, merger, consolidation, or the sale of all or substantially all the corporation's assets, Plast shall comply with the relevant sections of the Michigan Nonprofit Corporation Act and shall obtain the consent of the Michigan Attorney General, if required. In addition, the Plast National Convention that effected the dissolution, merger, consolidation, or sale of Plast, shall oversee the disposal of Plast's property and assets, provided, however, that all property remaining after payment of corporate obligations may be distributed only to a charity or educational institution that satisfies the criteria of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or federal, state, or local public charity laws.