

Bylaws
of the
Reykjavík General Membership Branch
of the
Industrial Workers of the World
~ as ratified 14/9/2014 ~

Article I

Name and membership

Section 1.

This organization shall be known as the Reykjavík General Membership Branch (GMB) of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW).

Section 2.

- (a) Any independent IWW members resident in Iceland can join the GMB.
- (b) A copy of these bylaws should be given to any IWW member that asks for it
- (c) Only members in good standing (not more than two months behind on dues) have a vote at any business meeting of the GMB.
- (d) All members of this branch must abide by the current IWW constitution and bylaws

Article II

Meetings

Section 1.

- (a) The Reykjavík GMB has business meetings on a regular day or date at least monthly.
- (b) Five members in good standing are required for quorum (binding votes), unless otherwise stated here. Members receiving a salary from the union (e.g. as organisers) do not have a vote.
- (c) Agendas for each meeting are compiled and published to membership in advance by the Branch Secretary. They can be changed at the start of a meeting. A chair is elected at the start of each meeting to facilitate the agenda and the last meeting's minutes should be briefly summarised.
- (d) The GMB uses a meeting process based on 'Rusty's Rules of Order' or similar that each new member should be introduced to.

- (e) Reykjavík GMB meetings are announced by phone and e-mail at least 4 days before their scheduled date.

Article III

General Officers

Section 1.

- (a) The officers of the Reykjavík GMB consist of a Treasurer, a Secretary (often combined with the Treasurer), Communications Officer, Membership and Recruitment Officer and delegates.

Duties of the Treasurer

Section 2.

- (a) The Treasurer of the Reykjavík GMB is in charge of the finances of the GMB.
- (b) The Treasurer makes a financial report to members monthly, and nominates a member to check the figures quarterly.
- (c) The Treasurer collects delegates' reports of dues collected and sends the appropriate proportion to the Icelandic Regional Organizing Committee (IceROC) and General Headquarters (GHQ).
- (d) The Treasurer maintains the database of members' dues, to ensure a record of members in good standing.

Duties of the Secretary

Section 3.

- (a) The Secretary of the Reykjavík GMB takes charge of all member records, minutes, notes, and property of the GMB.
- (b) The Secretary is generally responsible for writing and reporting to General Headquarters, the Regional Organising Committee and any other IWW organisations and officers.
- (c) The Secretary ensures that internal notices of meetings and events are issued.
- (d) The Secretary ensures that business meetings are minuted and that the minutes are distributed by e-mail within a week.
- (e) The Secretary maintains a list of members contact details. These details shall not be shared, except with the Membership and Recruitment Officer, unless an individual member consents to that.
- (f) The Secretary announces the next meeting at least four days prior to the scheduled date e-mail and telephone where feasible and ensures that an agenda is collated

Duties of the Membership and Recruitment Officer

Section 4.

- (a) The Membership and Recruitment Officer is also be the branch's Organizing Department Liaison and will facilitate communication between branch members and the IWW's Organizing Department, as well as requesting resources and reporting to the latter. Organizing reports should take confidentiality into account.
- (b) The Membership and Recruitment Officer provides assistance and co-ordination to organizing drives in Reykjavík.
- (c) The Membership and Recruitment Officer ensures new members are inducted into the GMB and the international union.
- (d) The Membership and Recruitment Officer helps to organise recruiting drives and events
- (e) The Membership and Recruitment Officer is responsible for encouraging and helping member initiatives and participation and for keeping the values of the IWW strong within the branch.

Duties of the Communications Officer

Section 5.

- (a) The Communications Officer keeps the branch website, Facebook page and external email list maintained and solicits contributions to them
- (b) The Communications Officer co-ordinates with similar Officers in other branches to maintain any IceROC communications.
- (c) The Communications Officer ensures good stocks of all printed materials, and helps with their design and publishing
- (d) The Communications Officer may moderate any branch email list if they consider it necessary

Duties of Delegates

Section 6.

- (a) Delegates are responsible for signing up new members, collecting dues and donations, maintaining regular contact with members and other fellow workers and distributing union publications and literature.
- (b) Delegates submit a delegate report to the GMB Secretary monthly.
- (c) Delegates of the GMB are elected and re-elected by the membership in October each year.
- (d) New delegates may be approved by any business meeting.

Elections and Terms of Office

Section 7

- (a) Terms of Office are twelve months and start on January 1st. A one month apprenticeship to the current officer starts on December 1st.
- (b) The offices of Treasurer and Secretary may be combined in one officer.
- (c) Nominations and elections for offices are held in October each year.
- (d) Any member in good standing with at least three months membership in the GMB may stand for election as an officer. If no qualified person stands for office, this condition may be dropped. Nominees for office must accept their nomination. Officers must be in good standing.
- (e) Officers can be recalled by majority vote. Proposing a vote to recall an officer requires the support of five members and two weeks notice, or alternatively a simple majority of membership.
- (f) Any elected officer may resign at any time. A verbal announcement made by the resigning official at a GMB meeting or a written statement signed by that officer and one other IWW member in good standing are counted as an official resignation. If any officer resigns or is recalled, nominations and elections to replace that officer shall take place at the next scheduled meeting.

Article IV

Committees

Section 1.

- (a) Budgets for committees must be approved by the branch. Committees are accountable for and report on the uses of Union resources.
- (b) Branch members in the same Industrial Union are encouraged to form Industrial Organizing Committees (IOCs) to develop strategy to organise their industry and lay the groundwork for new Industrial Union Branches (IUBs) as defined in the IWW Constitution. IOCs are therefore encouraged to elect a Secretary and Treasurer, to establish separate funds from the Reykjavík GMB and to write their own bylaws, as part of the process of becoming their own branch.

Article V

Finances

Section 1.

- (a) Branch officers may spend branch funds as needed for what they decide to be legitimate branch expenses.
- (b) All expenses must be reported at the next Reykjavík GMB business meeting

- (c) Any single or total expenditure of GMB funds exceeding 15 000 króner shall be approved at the next GMB business meeting or by a simple majority of responses on the listserve if the need is urgent. In the latter case, the Branch Secretary should be informed and attempt to make contact with as many branch members as possible.

Article VI

Organizing Priorities

Section 1.

- (a) In order to maintain the spirit of the IWW Constitution and fulfil its commitment to organizing for the purpose of the abolition of the wage system, the Reykjavík GMB shall prioritise its work in the following way:
1. Reykjavík GMB organizing drives, shops and members' grievances
 2. Reykjavík GMB branch administration
 3. Tabling, outreach, fundraising, and events
 4. Solidarity with other IWW regions' and branches' campaigns
 5. Solidarity with other labour campaigns
 6. Solidarity with other non-labour campaigns
 7. Miscellaneous activities

Article VII

Amendments

Section 1.

- (a) These bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of members in good standing at a branch meeting.
- (b) Members must be given at least two weeks notice prior to any meeting at which bylaws are to be amended.