



HRVATSKI PLEMIĆKI ZBOR

Collegium Nobilium Croaticum

On the basis of the Law on Associations (Official Gazette NN 88/01),
The Great Nobiliary Council of the Croatian Nobility Association
At its session held on May 11th 2013 adopted amendments of the Statutes from
November 5th 2011, with consolidated text as follows:

STATUTES

OF THE CROATIAN NOBILITY ASSOCIATION

Descendants of Croatian noble ancestry, loyal to our country, faithful to our tradition, establish the Croatian Nobility Association for an unlimited period and adopt these Statutes on the basis of the following principles:

- the right to nobility is based on tribal, state and family continuity of the Croatian people, on Charter of Croatian and European institutions, houses and rulers, as well as on the permanent subjectivity of the Croatian state;
- adhering to nobiliary obligations based on moral principles of the Croatian and all-European code of nobility.

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

The Statutes determine name, seat, field of activity, goals and tasks, representation, membership, managing bodies, funding and dissolution of Croatian Nobility Association.

The Croatian Nobility Association is a nonprofit association founded in conformity with the Law on Associations (Official Gazette NN 70/97, 106/97, 20/00 and 88/01).

Article 2

Croatian Nobility Association (hereinafter: The Association) is a legal entity. The full name of the Association shall be *Hrvatski plemićki zbor*. Its acronym shall be HPZ. Beside its Croatian name, in legal usage the Association may also use the Latin version, i.e. *Collegium Nobilium Croaticum*. The seat of the Association shall be in Zagreb. The decision on the seats' address shall be made by the Nobiliary Board. The Association shall be active on the territory of the Republic of Croatia and may establish branches that are not legal entities. The establishment of branches shall be regulated by special rules.

Article 3

The activity of the Association is open to the public. This shall be achieved through the «*Croatian Nobility Association Herald*» and through its Website.

Article 4

The coat of arms of the Association shall be the historical Croatian coat of arms in the shape of a shield, with a stylized golden crown of Croatian kings above it, decorated with rubies and partly entering the shield.



The seal of the Association shall be of rounded shape with a 35 mm diameter, with the name of the Association inscribed in Croatian and Latin on the edge and the coat of arms of the Association in the middle.

Article 5

The flag of the Association shall be sky blue with the Association's coat of arms on both sides. On one side the coat of arms is surrounded by the Croatian inscription *Hrvatski plemićki zbor* and on the other by the Latin inscription *Collegium Nobilium Croaticum*, on both sides trimmed with the Early Croatian three-strand pattern. On top of the flagpole is a pennant in colours of the Croatian tricolour with the Association's motto »*Što pređi ti namriješe, zasluži da zaista tvoje bude*« (*What you have inherited from your fathers, you must earn in order to possess*).

The flag shall be displayed next to the Croatian flag on the Association's premises, at the Great Nobiliary Council's sessions, public gatherings and other occasions upon the decision of the Nobiliary Board.

Article 6

The Anthem of the Croatian Nobility Association is "*Mi smo uz pređe još svoji na svom*" (Beside our ancestors, we are still masters of our own land). The lyrics and tune of the anthem and the way of usage are determined by the Anthem Rule Book.

Article 7

The badge of the Association shall be the coat of arms of the Association with the inscription *Collegium Nobilium Croaticum* around it.

II. GOALS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 8

- The Association shall be founded in order to connect Croatian noble families for the purpose of fostering Croatian historical values, noble traditions, mutual solidarity and complying with the ethical code of behaviour, as the debt to their ancestors who were given noble titles for their merits.
- The Association's goal is testimony and promotion of historic role of Croatian nobility in identifying Croatian national being.
- Taking into account the fact that Croatian nobility is a non-materialistic historical heritage built into the inheritance foundations of Croatian state the Association shall promote patriotism and all other historical, ethical and cultural values given to us by this very heritage.
- Goals established in Provision 2 of this Article the Association shall promote at lectures, seminars, by publishing Herald and Bulletin and in media appearance.
- In compliance with its goals the Association shall cooperate with individuals, religious, cultural, educational, scientific and other institutions, associations and societies which promote the same above mentioned goals.
- The task of the Association is affiliation with European nobility associations in order to have recognized and evaluated Croatian nobility history at international level.
- Relations between the Association and organizations mentioned in provision 5 of this Article shall be determined, if necessary, by agreements or affiliated membership.

Article 9

For the purpose of achieving goals from the former article the Association shall:

- draw up the activities programme in compliance with the Association's goals and tasks
- work on Croatian heraldic almanac and promotion of genealogy
- promote social activities and help other members
- reach decisions on all issues regarding the activities of the Association
- cooperate with European associations of nobility
- cooperate with similar civil society associations
- issue publications from the field of the activities of the Association
- organize lectures about historical and cultural heritage
- organize vocational seminars, publishing the magazine Glasnik and Bilten and media appearances

III. MEMBERSHIP

Article 10

The terms of membership, method of membership, rights and obligations of the members are defined by Membership Regulations.

Nobles, legal descendants of Croatian noble families in the continuous male line, over the age of 18, and noblemen's wives can be permanent members of the Association. This applies to all citizens of Croatia and Diaspora families.

Permanent members must bear original surnames of noble families.

Permanent members of the Association shall have the right to elect and to be elected to all the bodies and participate in all activities of the Association. Permanent members shall be granted the Membership Charter, membership card and badge of the Association.

Article 11

Along with permanent members, individuals who are not nobles and associations from the Article 8 who actively support goals and program of the Association can also join the Association as associate members. They shall not enjoy the same membership rights as permanent members and cannot elect nor be elected into the bodies of the Association. Publicly announced list of noble members of the Association shall state them as associate members.

Article 12

Historians, heraldists, genealogists and other associates of the Association as well as nobles citizens of foreign countries can become honorary members of the Association. Honorary members shall not have the same right as permanent members. Honorary members cannot elect nor be elected into the bodies of the Association. Associated and honorary members shall have a Charter, Certificate of Appreciation and other rewards stating that they are associated that is honorary members of the Association. Associated and honorary members can participate at the extended meetings of the Nobiliary Board where they can present suggestions and remarks in order to improve the work of the Association.

Affiliation of associated and honorary members of the Association is proposed by the Nobiliary Board and confirmed by the Great Nobiliary Council according to the membership Regulations criteria.

Article 13

Applications for membership in the Association shall be submitted in writing together with all the documents listed in Membership Regulations. The Nobiliary Board, after having processed documentation, shall verify the authenticity of the documents and the candidate's suitability and recommend their acceptance to the Great Nobiliary Council. Both of these bodies shall have unlimited freedom of judgment.

The Great Nobiliary Council shall decide on the membership and grant a Membership Charter, membership card and badge upon the recommendation of the Nobiliary Board. Great Nobiliary Council is responsible for Certificate of Appreciation and rewards upon the recommendation of the Nobiliary Board.

Article 14

The membership in the Association ceases by death, voluntary resignation, change of surname, unpaid membership fees for two years or by expulsion, according to the Membership Regulations. Applications for renewed membership can be submitted again if the conditions from the Membership Regulations are fulfilled.

The list of all the members of the Association shall be kept by the Nobiliary Board's Notary.

IV. FUNDING THE ASSOCIATION'S ACTIVITIES

Article 15

The Association shall be funded through:

- membership fees
- sponsors and donors
- other sources, in accordance with the Law

Article 16

Financial documents shall be signed by persons designated by the Nobiliary Board.

V. THE ASSOCIATION'S MANAGING BODIES

Article 17

The Association's managing bodies shall be:

1. Great Nobiliary Council
2. President
3. Nobiliary Board
4. Supervisory Board
5. Senate
6. Court of Honour

1. GREAT NOBILIARY COUNCIL

Article 18

The Great Nobiliary Council shall be the supreme managing body, consisting of all the members of the Association.

Article 19

The Great Nobiliary Council shall have the duty to:

- adopt the Statutes, their amendments and other enactments of the Association
- elect or relieve of duties: the President of the Association, two Vice Presidents, 17 members of the Nobiliary Board, 3 members of the Supervisory Board, members of the Senate and 3 members of the Court of Honour
- adopt a development strategy of the Association

- establish the programme of activities
- adopt the financial plan
- accept the annual financial report
- adopt the Rules of Procedure of the Great Nobiliary Council, Supervisory Board, Senate, Court of Honour, as well as the nobiliary code of ethics
- decide on statutory matters and the dissolution of the Association
- decide on conferring recognitions and awards

Article 20

The Great Nobiliary Council shall assemble as the need arises, but at least once a year. The Great Nobiliary Council shall be convened by the President. The President is obliged to convene the Great Nobiliary Council upon the request of the Supervisory Board, at least a quarter of all the members of the Nobiliary Board. Should the President fail to convene the Great Nobiliary Council within 15 days, it may be convened by authorized proposers. Invitations to a session of the Great Nobiliary Council shall be sent to each member at least 15 days prior to the session.

Article 21

The Great Nobiliary Council shall make valid decisions on issues of its competence if at least a quarter of all members are present at the session. Should there be less than a quarter of all members at the session 30 minutes after its beginning, all present members shall be declared a quorum. Decisions shall be adopted by the Great Nobiliary Council only if approved by a two-thirds majority of members present at the session, in an open or secret vote.

Article 22

The session of the Great Nobiliary Council shall be conducted by the Presiding Committee, appointed by the Great Nobiliary Council from among all present members. The assembly shall be opened and presided by the President of the Association.

The activities of the Great Noble Council shall be open to the public and minutes shall be kept and published in an abridged version. The proceedings of the Great Nobiliary Council shall be defined by the Rules of Procedure.

2. THE PRESIDENT

Article 23

The President of the Association shall represent the Association in public and shall be responsible for the legality of the work of the Association. Besides the President, the Association, in agreement with the President, can be represented by the First Vice-President, Chancellor and the Secretary of the Association.

The President shall convene and run the sessions of the Great Nobiliary Council. In case the President is prevented from attending the sessions of Great Nobiliary Council they can be replaced by First Vice -President.

The President of the Association shall be elected among permanent members of the Association by clear majority of all present members for the term of three (3) years. The same person can be reelected in the next term.

The President of the Association can be revoked before the end of their term at the regular or special session of the Great Nobiliary Council.

Article 24

Vice Presidents, the First and the Second, are elected for the term of three (3) years and can be reelected. Vice Presidents assume all responsibilities entrusted to them by the President. They are especially responsible for respecting the procedures and provisions arising from normative documents and Code of Ethics at all working bodies that they are present at. Vice Presidents are elected at Great Nobiliary Council, nominated by the President, previously consulting the Nobiliary Board.

3. NOBILIARY BOARD

Article 25

The Nobiliary Board is the executive body of the Great Nobiliary Council and it is elected for the term of three (3) years upon the proposal of the President. The Nobiliary Board shall have 17 members, elected by the Great Nobiliary Council from among the permanent members of the Association. The elected members of the Nobiliary Board shall divide their duties by mutual agreement. Members of the Nobiliary Board shall be: Chancellor, Notary, Editor, Secretary, Herald, Treasurer, Webmaster, Branch Coordinator and Youth Coordinator, presidents of the branches and 3 members without portfolio.

Whenever it is possible the President and the First Vice President shall be present at the sessions of the Nobiliary Board. They, in accordance with their responsibilities from the Article 23 and 24, assist the Nobiliary Board in their activities.

Members of the Nobiliary Board shall be responsible for their activities to the Great Nobiliary Council.

Article 26

The Nobiliary Board shall:

- organize the activities of the Association between two sessions of the Great Nobiliary Council
- make proposals for the programme of activities of the Association
- prepare a working strategy together with the President
- prepare the Statutes and Regulations, confirmed by the President
- together with the President convene the session of the Great Nobiliary Council, propose the agenda and prepare materials for the Great Nobiliary Council to discuss
- implement the decisions of the Great Nobiliary Council
- decide how to dispose of the funds of the Association within the framework of financial plan in agreement with the President of the Association
- propose acceptance of new members

- appoint working groups, expert committees and clubs provided by the Law on Associations
- perform and decide on all other activities not coming within the competence of other bodies by any regulation or basic document of the Association
- propose the amount of admission and membership fees
- propose measures to improve the work of the Association
- propose awards and honors for the members in accordance with the special Rules of Procedure

Article 27

Meetings of the Nobiliary Board shall be as needed, at least once a month. Sessions of the Nobiliary Board shall be called and run by the Chancellor. Extended session of the Nobiliary Board shall be convened once in a trimester with the presence of associated and honorary members besides the permanent members. Associated and honorary members can propose and suggest without the right to vote. Regular and extended sessions of the Nobiliary Board are convened and run by the Chancellor or the Secretary in the absence of the Chancellor. Decisions are taken by clear majority of all members, if it is about the most important issues, or by majority of all present members, but not less than nine (9) of the present, if it is about operative issues.

Chancellor shall be responsible for calling and running the sessions of the Nobiliary Board. He shall run the activities of the Association under the decisions and guidelines of the managing bodies of the Association and shall present the annual report to the Great Nobiliary Council.

Editor is in charge of publishing activities.

Notary is in charge of statutory and normative activities and preparation of normative acts for Great Nobiliary Council and Nobiliary Board.

Secretary is the main administrator of the Association, and shall offer logistic support to all Association's bodies and shall keep the seal of the Association. He shall also take care of and keep current records and archive documentation. He shall also keep the membership register.

Webmaster shall maintain the website of the Association.

Treasurer shall take care of the Association's finances and membership fees and shall present the semi-annual report to the President of the Association and annual report to the Great Nobiliary Council.

Herald shall be responsible for verification of historical and genealogical data on the membership candidates and shall file and keep documents of all the members of the Association.

Branch Coordinator is in charge of the branch, plans the activities and receives reports on the work of the branch.

Youth Coordinator gathers younger members of the Association organizing activities in alliance with guidelines and tasks of the Association.

4. SUPERVISORY BOARD

Article 28

Supervisory Board shall supervise the work of material and financial transactions of the Association and consists of three members. It is appointed by the Great Nobiliary Council for a term of three years. Members of the Supervisory Board shall elect the president among themselves. The Supervisory Board shall make decisions by majority vote of all its members.

The president of the Supervisory Board shall attend the sessions of the Nobiliary Board in case of need, but may not vote.

5. SENATE

Article 29

The Senate is an advisory body of the Association. The Senate shall consist of respectable members with considerable merits, appointed for an indefinite period of time. The Senate shall consider the problem areas of the Association and help it in its work. Members of the Senate shall be appointed by the Great Nobiliary Council. The Senate shall elect the president from among its members. President of the Senate shall attend the sessions of the Nobiliary Board in case of need, but may not vote.

6. COURT OF HONOUR

Article 30

The Great Nobiliary Council shall elect the Court of Honour, consisting of three members, for a term of three years. The Court of Honour shall institute and conduct proceedings, make decisions about violations of the Statutes and a breach of the rules of the Association's code of nobility. The Court of Honour shall elect the president from among its members.

The president of the Court of Honour shall attend the sessions of the Nobiliary Board in case of need, but may not vote.

Article 31

Functions and duties in the Association's bodies shall be on a voluntary basis with the possibility of reelection.

Minutes shall be kept at meetings of the Association's bodies and verified at the next meeting.

VI. HISTORY

Article 32

The Association was founded at the Great Nobiliary Council's session on 16th October 1995 in Zagreb, when the first Statutes were adopted and later amended at the Great Nobiliary Council's session on 29th December 1997 in Zagreb, on 27th October 2001 in Samobor, 9th April 2005 in Zagreb and 5th November 2011 in Zagreb.

VII. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 33

The Association may be dissolved:

- by the decision of the Great Nobiliary Council
- by the decision of the competent administrative body
- in other cases provided for by the Law

The Great Nobiliary Council shall decide on the dissolution of the Association on the demand of at least three quarters (3/4) of the overall number of members of the Great Nobiliary Council. Should the Association be dissolved, the Great Nobiliary Council shall decide on the assets of the Association.

Article 34

These Statutes shall be adopted by the Great Nobiliary Council by a two-thirds majority of members present at the voting.

Amendments to these Statutes shall be adopted in accordance with the Article 19.

Article 35

These Statutes shall come into force on the day of their adoption.

It has been amended on 11th May 2013.

Zagreb, 11th May 2013

Croatian Nobility Association
President



Marko de Mladineo