

ORGANIZATION

A 13-member Board of Directors manages IGBO. It is composed of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and nine regional directors. The Executive Committee is composed of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. This committee is responsible for negotiating, approving and fulfilling all financial and legal contracts between IGBO and all other parties. The IGBO President must sign all IGBO contracts.

Directors are elected for a two-year term. The President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Director-At-Large (if applicable) are elected by all the voting members. The regional directors are elected by the voting members of their individual regions. [See section on Board of Directors for specific information about the responsibilities of individual directors.]

IGBO has created several administrative and standing committees to assist the Board of Directors in the day-to-day management of the organization. The exception is the Site Selection Committee, which is composed of the entire voting membership and is responsible for selecting the host cities for the Annual and Mid-Year meetings.

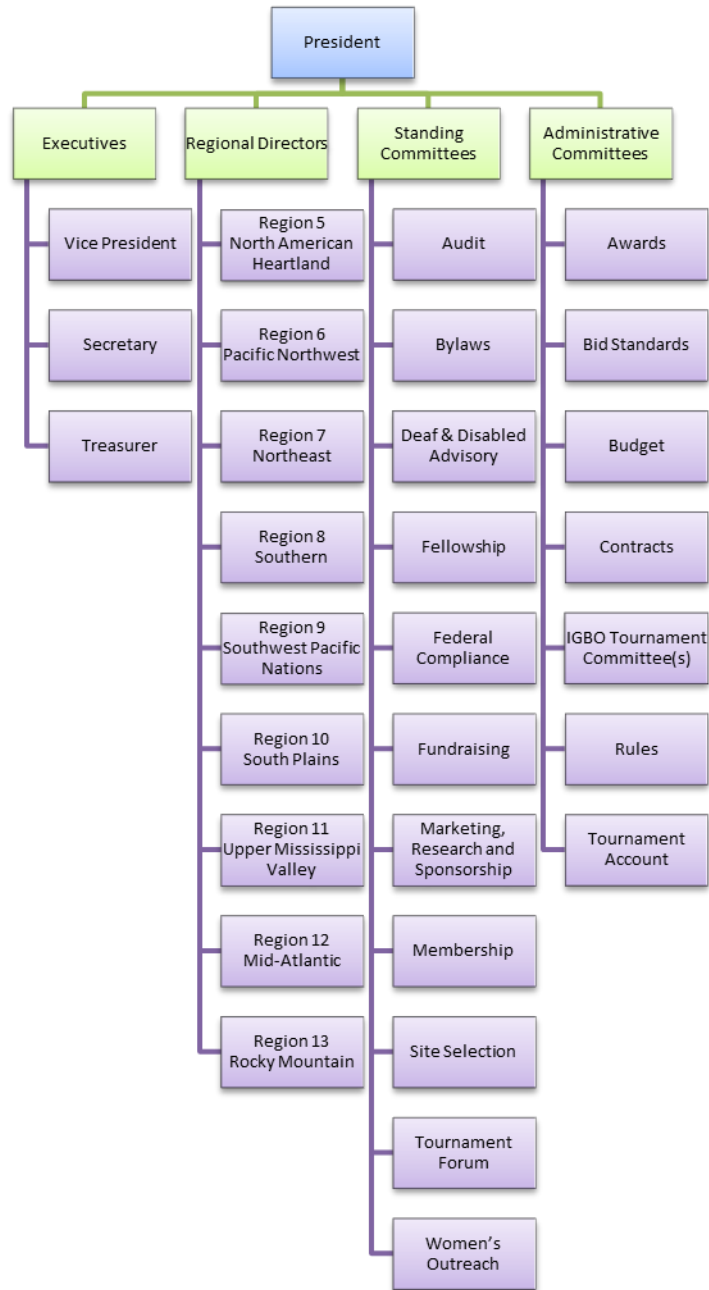
The committees are composed of volunteers from the membership. Any IGBO member may apply to serve on an IGBO committee. Except for the Site Selection Committee and the IGBO Newsletter (which is published and edited by the Vice President), the President makes all committee appointments for a one-year term. All committees serve in an advisory capacity, never a regulatory one. [See section on Committees for information on each committee]

While the Board is elected to manage the day-to-day affairs of the organization, the ultimate decision-making responsibility lies with the voting members who attend (in person or by proxy) the two annual General Membership (business) meetings. The voting membership decides all motions on the floor, elects the Directors, and selects the host cities for the Annual and Mid-Year meetings/tournaments.

This section contains a "job description" of an IGBO Rep that will provide new and old reps insight into what is expected of an effective rep.

An organizational chart for the Board is provided on the following page.

Organizational Chart



The Responsibilities of the IGBO Representative

Congratulations! You have been elected or selected to be the IGBO representative for your bowling league/tournament. While this is a great honor, you also have responsibilities as a representative. We hope that you are enthusiastic, resourceful and knowledgeable about IGBO. With the right attitude, and help from your Regional Director other IGBO Representatives, and the Board, you can become a successful representative contributing to the success of this organization.

As a bowler and a Representative, you are a member of the largest gay and lesbian individual sports organization in the world. This is very impressive in itself. You have been given the privilege and opportunity to represent your league/tournament as one of the leaders and decisions-makers in IGBO. The organizational structure of IGBO gives all final decision-making to the Voting Membership (that is, the Representatives). While we elect the Board of Directors to provide leadership, ensure our financial integrity and represent us in helping to build this organization, **YOU** are the key to making it work.

The most important responsibility of an IGBO Representative is to promote Unity, Fellowship and Communication throughout our bowling community. It takes more than the Board of Directors and a handful of Representatives; it has to have the support, commitment and active participation of everyone.

It is your responsibility to keep the members of your league/tournament and the bowling community fully informed about IGBO's activities. You learn this through correspondence with your Regional Director, the Newsletter and attendance at not only Annual and Mid-Year meetings, but regional meetings as well. You should make sure that your league bowlers are aware of all upcoming tournaments, fundraising events and issues affecting IGBO and its members. Obtain feedback from the league bowlers on agenda items, issues and the bid packages for the Annual and Mid-Year Tournaments. Each year, you should plan to attend the Annual and/or Mid-Year General Membership meetings and at least one of your Regional Director's meetings. If you are unable to attend a meeting, you should arrange to have your Alternate Representative or some other person represent your league/tournament. It is also very important that you keep your Regional Director informed of activities, special events or other items of interest to the region.

It is your responsibility to make sure that your league's annual dues are paid by the October 15 deadline. The IGBO Treasurer and Secretary are responsible for maintaining accurate records of the organizations that have not paid. Delinquent organizations may be removed from IGBO, and it is your responsibility to make sure this does not happen to your's. Failure to pay dues jeopardizes your league/tournament's voting rights and their opportunity to be heard. You also must keep the league/tournament information on file with IGBO updated – advising the IGBO Secretary and your Region Director of address, email and telephone number changes, or of changes in league/tournament officers, numbers of bowlers, and bowling houses.

The two annual IGBO meetings are ideal opportunities for the decision-makers to get together during the year to address issues important to IGBO's future. Several weeks prior to these meetings, the IGBO Secretary will send you an agenda and other important information that will help you prepare for each meeting. You should share the agenda and this information with your league/tournament members and ask for their input. At the meetings, be prepared to listen and to voice your opinion.

As an IGBO representative you have assumed an important responsibility to your league/tournament. Become informed. Communicate. Attend the meetings. Ask questions. Offer ideas. And remember – your vote always counts.

IGBO is made up of all kinds of people who come together with a common interest – bowling. We should not discriminate because of race, creed, color, sexual orientation – or even bowling ability! We are all people with various personalities and ideas with the common interest of bowling. Being a representative enables you to promote the sport of bowling and to be a positive influence in the bowling community.

Briefly, here are more specific duties of a Representative:

1. Promote IGBO's ideals of Unity, Fellowship and Communication.
2. Become educated and knowledgeable about IGBO.
3. Communicate on a regular basis with the bowlers in your league/tournament, other Representatives and your Region Director.
4. Ensure the timely payment of your league's annual dues.
5. Keep the IGBO Secretary, and your Region Director informed of address, email and phone number changes, and changes in officers in your league – Communication is only effective if the message gets to the intended parties.
6. Attend Annual and Mid-Year General Membership meetings.
7. Participate in the discussions and decision-making at meetings – let your voice be heard.
8. Keep your bowlers informed about upcoming tournaments, special events and issues.
9. Be a part OF, not apart FROM, IGBO.