



**The Council of Seven Royal House /
Pokanoket Tribe / Pokanoket Nation**

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

PREAMBLE: In the course of human events, all Council and Tribal members of Pokanoket Tribe / Pokanoket Nation realize that common brotherhood in ideals and culture can help us to best achieve our aim to forever safeguard our Pokanoket Tribe / Pokanoket Heritage as sovereign people. Through the course of history, it has been recognized that individualism active in American Indian cultures have proven to be both ineffective and dangerous to the interests of their societies. Therefore, Pokanoket has resolved to unite its people spiritually, morally, emotionally, and physically.

The Pokanoket Tribe accepts as tribal members all descendants of Pokanoket Nation / Pokanoket lineage. Adoptive and honorary members who conduct activities for the enhancement of cultural, educational, and economic interests, will be granted special privileges. The Council of Seven Royal House / Pokanoket Tribe / Pokanoket Nation believes in the cycle of life: That coming together is the beginning, keeping together is progress, and working together is success that can only be bonded together by our Creator.

It is Pokanoket Nation duty to act upon these beliefs.

ARTICLE I. NAME

Section 1. The name of this tribe shall be: The Council of Seven Royal House/Pokanoket Tribe/Pokanoket Nation. The Council of Seven is the name of the governing body.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSES

Section 1. The purposes for which the Pokanoket Tribe is organized are:

1. To combine and unite all the descendants of Pokanoket Nation.
2. To cooperate with National, state, and Local governments for the welfare of these people.
3. To preserve our beliefs, culture, and lands so all people of Mother Earth can enjoy and learn our rich heritage and
4. To protect our people and lands from being exploited.

ARTICLE III. THE COUNCIL OF SEVEN AND SACHEM OR SAGAMORE

Section 1. General Powers: The affairs of the Pokanoket Tribe shall be managed by the Council of Seven (the Council) and the Sachem or Sagamore. The Council of Seven and Sachem or Sagamore are always to be descended from the lineage of the Royal House of Pokanoket and shall serve until removed in accordance with these by-laws. The jurisdiction of the Council of Seven and Sachem/Sagamore shall apply to each and every member of the Pokanoket Tribe.

Section 2. Number, Quorum and Tenure of Directors: The number of councilors of the Tribe shall be no less than seven and no more than fifteen, but there shall always be an odd number of councilors.

The initial number on the Council shall be seven. The presence of 2/3 of the council at any meeting shall constitute a quorum. A majority of the remaining Council though less than a quorum may fill any vacancies on the Council or any increase needed in the

council membership. Each council member whenever possible shall hold office until his successor has been elected and qualified. There shall also be at least one alternate member on the council chosen by the Council and Sachem/Sagamore.

Section 3. Positions on The Council: The Council shall be comprised of one Sachem or Sagamore, one PowWas, Council Secretary, Council Treasurer and four councilors.

Section 4. Duties of the Chair, Sachem or Sagamore: The (Chair) shall facilitate at all tribal meetings and have general supervision of the daily affairs of the Tribe. Sachem/Sagamore and Chair shall sign and countersign all certificates, contracts and other instruments of the Tribe only as authorized by the Council. They shall perform all such other duties as are incident to his office or required of him by the Council. The Sagamore and Chair may appoint, subject to approval of the Council, such standing or temporary committees as may be deemed suitable, necessary, or convenient to aid in accomplishing the purposes of the Tribe. The powers and duties of, the length of term of, the members of such committees shall be prescribed by the Council.

Section 5. Duties of the Powwas: In the absence or disability or refusal to act of the SS), the PowWas shall perform all of the duties of the (SS), and when so acting he shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the Sagamore. The PowWas shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as from time to time may be prescribed for them, respectively, by the Council.

Section 6. Duties of the Council Secretary: The Council Secretary shall issue notices for and keep minutes of all meetings, shall have charge of the corporate seal and the corporate books, and shall make such reports and perform such other duties as are incident to his office or required of him by the Council. The 1st councilperson shall be the keeper of tribal records and artifacts, which shall be held only in a location authorized by the Council.

Section 7. Duties of the Council Treasurer: The Council Treasurer shall control, audit and arrange the financial affairs of the Tribe, shall receive and deposit all monies belonging to the Tribe, shall pay out the same in such manner as the Council/(Sagamore may from time to time determine, and shall make such reports and perform such other duties as are incident to his office or required of him by the Sagamore or the Council.

Section 8. Termination of Council Member: An individual shall cease to be a Council member in the Tribe by death, resignation or by majority vote by the Council and Sagamore at a meeting at which a quorum is present.

Section 9. Regulars Meetings of The Tribe & The Council: The tribe shall hold regular meetings on the 3rd Sunday of the month no less than four times a year. The council and Sagamore shall meet at least four times a year at a place and time determined by the Council and Sagamore. Any change in meeting times and dates shall be under the jurisdiction of the Council and Sagamore.

Section 10. Action by Written Consent: Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Council and Sagamore may be taken without a meeting if all members of the Council and Sagamore shall individually or collectively consent in writing to such action. Such written consent or consents shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Council and Sagamore. Such action by written consent shall have the same force and effect as a unanimous vote of such Councilors at a meeting.

ARTICLE IV. APPOINTMENTS TO KEY POSITIONS, COMMITTEES AND AWARDS

In a world so rapidly changing, it is impossible for any person or persons to go back to the boundaries of their ancestors. Therefore, the title of Massasoit is forever retired. Henceforth, the title Massasoit (King, The Great Leader) rests with our Creator, The Almighty. To wear or display three eagle feathers or more with red tips would be deemed unfitting.

(a) **The Ancient Lodge of Sachems** are subject to all Council of Seven Rulings. Their honoring headdresses are as follows:

Sagamore (Grand Sachem) 2 Eagle feathers with red tip

Sachem 1 eagle feather with red tip

Powwas 2 deer spikes with male and female feather centered.

1 red and 1 yellow feather below each spike

Clan Grandmother 1 red and 1 green feather on each side

War Chief 4 white feathers with a red bar across the center of each feather

Pineese Warrior

1 red, 1 yellow, 1 white, and 1 dark brown feather

1 rattle snake centered and 4 copperhead skins hanging down

Clan Mother

1 white, 1 yellow, 1 red, and 1 blue feather

(c) **The Society of Pineese Warriors** is the Spiritual Guardian of Pokanoket Tribe /Pokanoket Nation and is subject to all Council of Seven rulings.

(d) The Ancient Lodge of Sachems and Society of Pineese Warriors are positions for life unless they become incapable of performing their duties properly or dishonorably discharged.

(e) Their replacements will be appointed by the Council of Seven.

The following committees shall be appointed by the Council of Seven:

a. National Scope

b. Legal and Legislative

c. Environmental

d. Historical and Records

e. Human Resources (Support group for all ages)

(f) American Indians perform outstanding service will be given the Rainbow Award of Merit.

ARTICLE V. DUES

Section 1. Dues. Dues or assessments shall not be levied or charged tribal members as it is your birthright to be a member of the Tribe. Donations to the tribe from the membership or otherwise will be gratefully accepted.

ARTICLE VI. INDEMNIFICATION

Section 1. The Tribe shall indemnify every person made a party to a proceeding by reason of such person's being or having been a Councilor, (SS), officer, agent or employee of the Tribe against judgments, penalties, fines, settlements and reasonable expenses actually incurred if a determination shall first be made, in a manner provided by law, that such person conducted himself in good faith, reasonably believed that his conduct in his official capacity was in the best interests of the Tribe, that his conduct in any other capacity was at least not opposed to the best interests of the Tribe and, in any criminal proceeding, that he had no reasonable cause to believe that his conduct was unlawful. If the proceeding was by or in the right of the Tribe, indemnification may be made only against reasonable expenses and shall not be made in respect

of any proceeding in which said person shall have been adjudged liable to the Tribe. In no event shall a person be indemnified in respect of any proceeding charging improper personal benefit to him, whether involving action in his official capacity, in which he shall have been adjudged to be liable on the basis that he improperly received personal benefit. The Tribe may reimburse a (SS), Councilor, director, officer, agent or employee who is a party to a proceeding in advance of the final disposition of the proceeding for reasonable expenses incurred upon said person's written official capacity, in which he shall have been adjudged to be liable on the basis that personal benefit was improperly received by him.

ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Manner of Amending By-Laws. New By-Laws may be adopted, or these By-Laws may be supplemented, amended, or repealed, by a majority vote of the Council and Sagamore at any meeting of the Council.

ARTICLE VIII. POKANOKET TRIBAL MEMBERS

Section 1. All memberships in the Pokanoket Tribe of the Pokanoket Nation are for life.

Qualifications are as follows:

a. Regular membership with voting rights on such matters as determined by the Council will be granted to all persons who are known to be bona-fide descendants of the Native Pokanoket Nation.

b. Adopted membership shall be granted to Native people of all other tribes of the Americas for outstanding services to enhance the aims of the Pokanoket Tribe. Pokanoket Adopted members shall have voting rights on such matters as determined by the Council.

c. Honorary membership (Non-Native people) will be granted to such persons for outstanding services to enhance the aims of the Pokanoket Tribe/Pokanoket Nation. They shall have the right to be heard at council, but not the right to vote.

Section 2. The Council of Seven & Sagamore may from time to time and at any time create different classifications of members and prescribe different rights, privileges, qualifications, or requirements for each class.

Section 3. No member may represent The Council of Seven Royal House/Pokanoket Tribe/Pokanoket Nation without permission of all the members of the Council of Seven & Sagamore. Details of the subject matter must be given to The Council of Seven for consideration.

Section 4. Any member may be removed for cause from the membership by a two-thirds vote of the Council of Seven and Sagamore, provided that such members shall have first been served with written notice, sent by fax, email or regular mail of the accusations against him or her and shall have been given an opportunity to be heard at the meeting at which such vote is taken. Said notice shall be given at least forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting, if delivered personally or sent by fax or e-mail, and shall be given four (4) business days before the meeting if sent by regular mail. If a member has given no address to the Tribe or is no longer at the address on file with the Tribe, notice shall be delivered or sent to him at the principal office of the Tribe. If notice be given by fax or email, it shall be deemed to be delivered when the fax or email is sent, and, if mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail in a sealed envelope with postage thereon prepaid.

Section 5. Members of the Pokanoket Tribe are not members of the Corporation known as the Council of Seven Royal House/Pokanoket Tribe/ Pokanoket Nation. Such members shall vote only on matters brought before them at the discretion of the Council.

ARTICLE IX. FISCAL YEAR

Section 1. Except as from time to time or otherwise provided by the Council of Seven, the fiscal year of the Tribe shall coincide with the 13 moons of the back of the turtle's shell.

ARTICLE X. CHARACTER

Section 1. The stature that the true Pokanoket Citizen strives for had many ingredients. These are some:

- A. Patience** - which is walking with our Creator. When our own agenda takes precedence, we become blinded by our own greed, not walking in balance with our Creator causing a selfish act.
- B. Kindness** - Love in action.
- C. Generosity** - Selfless giving without competition of good deeds for others.
- D. Humility** - Unconditional love that is not puffed-up.
- E. Courtesy** - Action of love in society using proper etiquette; for politeness is a key to love.
- F. Unselfishness** - Love that is not self-motivated but giving endlessly.
- G. Good Temper** - Love always looking for a smoother course.
- H. Guilelessness** - Love not considering any injury by word or deed.
- I. Sincerity** - Love that rejoices in the Truth.

If we endeavor to adopt an attitude of these ingredients, we will be an instrument for our Creator the Almighty, as our ancestors were. The very foundation of Pokanoket is Love. Our ancestors knew that we first had to love our Creator and all that was created, also, that when we loved ourselves, we could love others. Most important was our relationship with the Great Spirit who created us from Love, for our Creator is Love.

The five-pointed star represents Pokanoket (People of First Light). The seven Crescents is the insignia of the Royal House of Pokanoket. The first color, **YELLOW**, represents the Great Spirit. The next is **RED**, the color of all mankind's blood. Now when you mix the Great Spirit, yellow, with mankind's blood, red, you get **ORANGE**, the color of life. Every artist adds a little orange to a portrait to make it life-like. The next color is **BLUE**, the color of earth. Now you add the Great Spirit again, **THE SECOND YELLOW**, to **BLUE**, the color of earth, and you get **GREEN**, the color of vegetation. Last, we mix all the colors and get **PURPLE**, the great mystery, death.

Pokanoket believed seven to be the perfect number of completeness, for we still believe in the Seven Spirits of the Creator.

1. God is the principal source of all good.
2. God is a mind of divine supreme intelligence.
3. God is the constant capacity of understanding.
4. God is spiritual goodness.
5. God is life, the eternal action of goodness.

6. God is truth itself.
7. God is love, the infinite perfection.

Now knowing our character that we strive to be like, our path of life is to be walked in gentleness with respect and dignity for all plant, animal, and human life that begins at the moment of conception.

ARTICLE XII. TRIBAL RECORDS

Section 1. The Tribe shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall keep minutes of the proceedings of the Council & (SS) and committees having any of the authority of the Council of Seven; and shall keep at its registered office or principal office in this State, the records and books of the Tribe. All books and records of the Tribe may be inspected by any regular or adopted member, for any proper purpose at any reasonable time by making such request to the Council of Seven, and such inspection shall take place at the principal office or registered office in the presence of the Council of Seven & Sagamore

EXHIBIT 1 - HISTORY

**The Council of Seven / Royal House of Pokanoket /Pokanoket
Tribe/Pokanoket Nation**

November 1, 1994
Pokanoket Tribe / Pokanoket Nation
By:
Paul A. Weeden, President
Clifford W. Guy, Vice President

Fannie Wheeler, Secretary
Francis E. Glasko, Jr., Treasurer
Shirley Booten, Director
Gloria Gibson, Director
Shirley Tilson, Director

HISTORY OF TRIBAL DOCUMENTS (Revised by the Council of Seven Royal
House/ Pokanoket Tribe/Pokanoket Nation on June 17, 2015.

By:
William O. Guy, Sagamore
Clifford W. Guy, Powwas
Tracey A. Brown, Council (Secretary)
Charles R. Smith, Council (Treasurer)
Herbert Tilson, Council

HISTORY OF TRIBAL DOCUMENTS (Revised by The Council of Seven Royal
House/ Pokanoket Tribe/Pokanoket Nation on October 2,2018

By:
Sagamore William O. Guy - (Winds of Thunder - Po Wauipi Neimpaug)
Powwas, Clifford W. Guy - (Lion Heart)
Chair, Deborah Afdasta - (Running Deer)
Council, Secretary Tracey A. Brown - (Dancing Star)

Council, Treasurer Charles R. Smith - (Straight Arrow)
Council, Herbert Tilson - (Shinning Heart)