

Buffalo Farmers Market Bylaws

Article I Name

The name of the association shall be the Buffalo Farmers Market, hereafter referred to as the “market.”

Article II Purpose and Objective

The purpose of the market is to organize and promote local farmers markets that will feature locally grown plants, fruits and vegetables, locally raised animal products, and locally made home-crafted items. The objective of the market is to introduce the community to local growers and crafters, and to facilitate direct buying from those local growers and crafters. The market will be non-profit.

Article III Membership and Fees – Section 1 Membership

Membership is open to any person, family, or partnership that desires to join up to the number of vendors established at the first market meeting of a new calendar year. A member has a right to participate in market meeting and vote during those meetings. Each member will have one vote. A member has the right to vote in organized mail-in ballots that are mailed to all current members. A member is allowed to sell at a farmers market organized or managed by the market, provided those products meet the guidelines listed in Article V.

Article III Membership and Fees – Section 2 Becoming a Member

A person, family, or partnership engaged in cooperative growing or production that desire to become a member must pay at least one market fee for the current calendar year to become a member. A member who has not yet paid the market fee for the calendar year will not be allowed to sell products at a farmers market organized by the market. Anyone wishing to sell products at the market organized or managed by the market simply needs to pay the market fee and become a member.

Article III Membership and Fees – Section 3 Market Fee

A market member is allowed to sell at the farmers market organized or managed by the market for which the fee was paid. If the member wishes to sell at any additional farmers markets organized or managed by the market, the member will pay the fee for each additional market. The amount of the individual market fees for the calendar year will be determined by a 2/3 vote of all members attending the first market meeting of the new calendar year.

Article III Membership and Fees – Section 4 Supplemental Fees

The members may authorize one-time supplemental fees payable by all members for added funding to be used for additional advertising, promotions, or other market costs. The timing and amount of a one-time supplemental fee will be determined by a 2/3 vote of all current members. A member who has not yet paid an approved one-time supplemental fee will not be allowed to sell products at a farmers market organized or managed by the market.

Article III Membership and Fees – Section 5 Fee Modifications

The amounts of any market fees, including individual market fees and various supplemental fees can be modified anytime by a 2/3 vote of all current members. Any modifications will apply to fees charged from that day forward. At no time can any modification be made to apply retroactively to fees.

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Article III Membership and Fees – Section 6 Loss of Membership

Members who do not pay at least one market fee for the calendar year before June 1 of that calendar year will be dropped from the membership rolls.

Article IV Meetings and Officers – Section 1 Meetings

At least one market meeting will be held each year. All current members will be invited by written notice prior to the meeting. Each member will have one vote. Additional meetings will be held as needed.

Article IV Meetings and Officers – Section 2 Officers

The following officers will be elected by a majority vote at the first market meeting of the year:

- Manager – responsible for managing the market, recruiting vendors, handling vendor questions and issues,
- Co-manager – responsible for market promotions and advertising
- Treasurer – responsible for collecting market fees and managing market funds

If an officer resigns, a new one will be elected at the next market meeting.

Article V Product Guidelines Section 1 Local Only

Products sold at a farmers market must be local. Local is defined as being grown, raised, or made within a 25-mile radius of the farmers market location. The market manager can make exceptions after consulting with other members.

Article V Product Guidelines Section 2 No Resale or Commercial Products

Members will be allowed to sell plants, fruits, vegetables, and animal products produced by the member (and partners/families). Members will be allowed to sell home-crafted items made by the member (and partners/families). Home-crafted items include baked goods, canned goods, soaps, and other arts and crafts. Reselling of products produced by others, or selling of commercial products is not allowed. The market managers can make exceptions.

Article V Product Guidelines Section 3 Regulation Compliance and Taxes

Each member is responsible for making sure that any product they sell is handled and sold in compliance with all government health, safety, and tax revenue laws.

Article VI Amendment Process

These bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of all members. The bylaws may also be amended by a 2/3 vote of all members attending the first market meeting of a new calendar year.
