OREGON NURSES ASSOCIATION
SILVERTON HOSPITAL BARGAINING UNIT
BYLAWS
Amended 1/5/94
Amended 1/24/05
Ratified November 29, 2006
December 15, 2009 (Disaffiliated UAN)

**Article 1- Name and Purpose**

1.1 *Name-* The name of this bargaining unit shall be the Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses a Bargaining Unit of the Oregon Nurses Association.

1.2 *Purpose-* The bargaining unit is formed for all legal purposes including:

1.2.1 To unite into one labor organization all workers eligible for membership, regardless of religion, race, creed, color, national origin, age, physical disability, sex or sexual preference;
1.2.2 To secure and maintain improved wages, hours, working conditions, benefits and other advantages through concerted, economic, political, and other lawful methods;
1.2.3 To work for adherence to the American Nurses Association’s (ANA) Code for Nurses and the Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) Bylaws;
1.2.4 To establish and promote high standards of practice for healthcare workers;
1.2.5 To engage in organizing workers to provide the benefit of unionism to all workers;
1.2.6 To provide financial and moral assistance to other labor organizations or other bodies having purposes and objectives in whole or in part similar or related to those of the Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses -ONA;
1.2.7 To protect and preserve the ONA and Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses -ONA as an institution;
1.2.8 To carry out the objectives of the ONA;
1.2.9 To levy and receive dues, manage, invest, expend or otherwise use the funds and property of this organization to carry out the duties and to achieve the objectives set forth in these Bylaws and/or ONA Bylaws;
1.2.10 To provide representation in the ONA House of Delegates in conjunction with the local District(s) Bylaws; and
1.2.11 To promote relationships with nursing students.

1.3 *Relationship to ONA*

1.3.1 Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit is one of ONA’s bargaining units where ONA is the exclusive representative for purposes of collective bargaining.
1.3.2 If applicable, the Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit shall enter into a written agreement with ONA for the
collection and accounting of membership dues and for verification of the membership base.

1.3.3 The Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit shall enter into other written agreements as deemed necessary by ONA.

1.3.4 The Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit ONA shall operate within the policies established by ONA’s Board of Directors and the ONA Cabinet on Economic and General Welfare, hereinafter EGW.

Article 2- Membership

2.1 Membership Eligibility- Any individual covered under the collective bargaining agreement between the ONA and Silverton Hospital is eligible to join and maintain membership subject to the requirements imposed by these Bylaws and the ONA Bylaws.

2.2 Good Standing- To be a member in good standing, the individual must:

2.2.1 Be a member of the ONA;
2.2.2 Pay all dues and assessments in full as established by the ANA, ONA and the Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit
2.2.3 Abide by ANA, ONA, Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit code of conduct, bylaws and/or constitutions;
2.2.4 Not interfere with the elected officers of the Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit in the performance of their duties;
2.2.5 Refrain from engaging in dual unionism which is defined as assistance to one or more labor organizations that compete with the collective bargaining interests of ONA, other constituent State Nurses Associations (SNAs), and/or ANA; and
2.2.6 Not cross a strike picket line at an ONA or SNA represented facility, unless required by the collective bargaining agreement or pursuant to ONA’s emergency procedures.

2.3 Membership Rights- Members in good standing have the following rights and benefits which are not conferred upon non-members or members who are in bad standing except within the discretion of ONA or the Executive Committee:

2.3.1 All rights and benefits provided by ONA and ANA;
2.3.2 Attend and participate Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit meetings;
2.3.3 Nominate or vote for elected officers or committee chairs within Silverton Hospital Association of Registered Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit;
2.3.4 Vote on contract issues, proposals or ratification as proposed by the Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit negotiating committee;
2.3.5 Vote on changes to Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit Bylaws;
2.3.6 Participate in contract bargaining surveys;
2.3.7 Receive regular communications; and
2.3.8 Appointment and/or election to Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit committees.

2.4 Non-Members- non-members include:

2.4.1 A nurse who makes no dues payments to ONA or is three months or more in arrears;
2.4.2 A nurse who pays the fair-share amount in lieu of ONA’s dues; or
2.4.3 A nurse who is a bona-fide religious objector.

Article 3- Discipline

3.1 Fair Treatment and Due Process- Each member of Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit who is alleged to be a member in bad standing shall have the right to fair treatment in the application of union rules and law in accordance with Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit and ONA’s Bylaws. In applying the rules and procedures relating to union discipline, the essential requirements of due process (notice, hearing, and judgment based upon the evidence) shall be observed, without, however, requiring the technical formality followed in courts of law.

3.1.1 Statute of limitations- Any charge based upon alleged misconduct which occurred more than three (3) years prior to the filing of such charge is barred and shall be rejected.
3.1.2 Executive Committee- Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit Executive Committee shall be the receiver of all complaints and will timely convene a hearing to assess the merit of the charges. Those members of the Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit Executive Committee that have a conflict of interest must recuse themselves from the hearing. If the remaining Executive Committee members do not form a quorum then the EGW Cabinet shall be the first body to deal with the complaint.

3.2 Appeal- only the accused member has the right to appeal a decision by the Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit to the ONA EGW Cabinet. The decision of the EGW Cabinet will be final and binding except in circumstances where the alleged violation concerns a violation of the Code of Nurses as established by ANA or other actions which are detrimental to the purposes and functions of ANA. When the alleged violation concerns ANA, the accused shall have the right to appeal the EGW Cabinet’s decision to ONA’s Board of Directors in accordance with its policies and procedures. The Board of Directors’ decision will be final.

Article 4- Dues

4.1 ONA Membership Dues- ONA membership dues will be established annually in accordance with ANA and ONA’s constitution, bylaws, policies and procedures.

4.2 The Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit ONA Dues Assessment & Special Assessment- the Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit may elect to increase the monthly dues by an
amount which will be apportioned to the local treasury from the ONA. The Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit may also levy special assessments for such things such as pre-strike preparation or post-strike recuperation. The following procedures will be followed:

4.2.1 The Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit Executive Committee must receive the EGW Cabinet’s approval for the amount, duration and purpose of any dues and special assessments prior to bringing the issue to a bargaining unit vote.

4.2.2 The Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit Executive Committee will provide reasonable notice to the membership of the proposed dues or special assessment, including the amount, duration, purpose of the assessment and the date, place and manner in which the membership will vote on whether or not to agree to the assessment.

4.2.3 Only members in good standing may vote on the proposed assessment and a cumulative majority vote by secret ballot of the members in good standing shall decide the issue.

4.2.4 The vote can be done by mail, e-mail, absentee ballot or at a membership meeting so long as safeguards for preserving the secrecy of the balloting are ensured.

4.3 Method of Payment- members may elect to pay dues and assessment by direct billing, payroll deduction or electronic deposit.

4.4 Failure to Pay- any member who is three months in arrears in the payment of dues, fines, assessments, or other charges, shall upon written notice stand suspended and shall not be entitled to any rights or privileges of membership in Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit. Any member who has been automatically suspended for failure to pay dues and other charges shall be under a continuing obligation to pay dues during the period of her/his suspension. Upon payment of the delinquent monies, the member shall be restored to good standing status. The ONA shall have the power to waive, on a non-discriminatory basis, the payment of delinquent monies.

Article 5- Nominations and Elections of Unit Representatives.

5.1 Nominations-

5.1.1 At least thirty (30) days prior to an election, members in good standing will submit in writing, names of candidates for unit representatives to the Secretary of the Executive Committee.

5.1.2 The Secretary of the Executive Committee or Membership Chair will verify that all nominees are in good standing.

5.1.3 The Secretary of the Executive Committee will confirm that the nominees have consented to serve.

5.1.4 The Secretary of the Executive Committee will work with ONA staff to construct a ballot reflecting the nominees who are in good standing and otherwise meet all established qualifications.

5.1.5 The Secretary of the Executive Committee will post in conspicuous locations and mail and/or e-mail a list of all candidates to the membership at least fourteen (14) calendar days in advance of the elections.
5.1.6 At the discretion of the Executive Committee, where only one qualified candidate is nominated for a position, an election will not occur for that position, and the single qualified candidate will be awarded the position.

5.2 Elections-

5.2.1 Elections for unit representatives will be held one year prior to the expiration of the successor agreement or when ever a vacancy occurs.

5.2.2 Voting shall be by secret ballots of the members in good standing as verified by the Secretary of the Executive Committee and the Elections Committee.

5.2.3 A cumulative majority vote by secret ballot of the members in good standing in the unit shall decide the issue. There shall be no proxy voting.

5.2.4 Nothing contained herein shall preclude the Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit Executive Committee in the exercise of its discretion, from directing that the election be conducted by mail ballot, e-mail or absentee after appropriate notice and with safeguards for preserving the secrecy of the balloting.

5.2.5 In case of a dispute on voting eligibility, such individuals will be allowed to vote, but their ballots will be set aside and uncounted until membership eligibility can be determined. Under no circumstances will the outcome of the election be delayed for longer than seven (7) days.

5.2.6 A tie in an election of a member of the Executive Committee will be decided by lot.

Article 6- Committees

6.1 Executive Committee-

6.1.1 Duties- the Executive Committee shall be composed of elected unit representatives in good standing and act as a steering committee to conduct the day-to-day business of the Silverton Hospital Association of Registered Nurses Bargaining Unit with respect to the objectives outlined in the Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit and ONA’s Bylaws and in cooperation with ONA and ONA staff. The Executive Committee will also serve as the negotiations team for the successor contract and serve as the officers for the bargaining unit as described further on in these bylaws and advise the grievance chair on any grievances.

6.1.2 Scope- The Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses a Bargaining Unit Executive Committee shall consist of a Chairperson, a Vice-Chair, a Secretary/Treasurer, the Grievance Chair, the Membership Chair and the PNCC Chair. At a minimum, the Executive Committee shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chair and Secretary/Treasurer.

6.1.3 Failure to Have a Minimum- a bargaining unit that is unable to maintain the minimum number of members of the Executive Committee will be placed in trusteeship and the existing members of the Executive Committee, if any, will be required to work with ONA staff to ensure compliance with these Bylaws.

6.1.4 Term- The term of office for the members of the Executive Committee will commence one month following the election and last until the next
election one year prior to the expiration of the collective bargaining agreement with Silverton Hospital. Eligibility to serve as such shall be as prescribed in these Bylaws. No member may hold more than one elected Executive Committee office.

6.1.5 Unit Representatives will be elected from the following areas Emergency Room, Family Birth -- Day Shift, Family Birth -- Night Shift, Intensive Care, PACU/Surgery, Short Stay/Endo, Med./Surg., S.T.E.P.S, and Resource will serve as the Executive Committee. If there is more than one unit representative in a department, the department will have an election to determine which unit representative will serve on the Executive Committee and thus the negotiations team.

6.1.6 Responsibilities

6.1.6.1 CHAIRPERSON-

6.1.6.1.1 Conduct and supervise the affairs of Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit in accordance with these Bylaws;

6.1.6.1.2 Serve as an ex-officio member of all Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit committees;

6.1.6.1.3 Appoint special committees and their members with the approval of the Executive Committee;

6.1.6.1.4 Fill vacancies that occur on committees with the approval of the executive committee until the next regular election;

6.1.6.1.5 In conjunction with the Treasurer, disburse or order the disbursement of all monies necessary to pay the bills, obligations and indebtedness of Silverton Hospital Association of Registered Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit, which have been properly incurred as provided herein;

6.1.6.1.6 Enforce these Bylaws and ensure that all officers perform their respective duties.

6.1.6.2 VICE-CHAIR-

6.1.6.2.1 Assist the Chairperson in the discharge of all duties;

6.1.6.2.2 Perform such other duties and render such assistance as may be directed by the Chairperson;

6.1.6.2.3 In case of the Chairperson’s absence, the Vice-Chair shall perform the duties of the Chairperson; and

6.1.6.2.4 Should the Chairperson’s position be vacated, the Vice-Chair shall serve as the Chairperson until the next election.

6.1.6.3 SECRETARY/TREASURER-

6.1.6.3.1 Collect names of nominees for elected positions and construct a ballot for all the names submitted;
6.1.6.3.2 Confirm that the nominees are willing to serve and when there is no Membership Chair, ensure the nominee is in good standing;
6.1.6.3.3 Verify that amendments to bylaws are properly submitted;
6.1.6.3.4 Record, maintain and archive minutes for all Executive Committee meetings;
6.1.6.3.5 Sit on the Elections Committee; and
6.1.6.3.6 Conduct correspondence as directed by the Executive Committee.
6.1.6.3.7 Make at least a quarterly report to the Executive Committee and EGW that includes the assets and liabilities of the Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit; and
6.1.6.3.8 Keep itemized records, showing the source of all monies received and spent, and keep records, vouchers, work sheets, books and accounts and all resolutions to verify such report and provide a copy of this information to EGW by December 31st of every year.

6.1.6.4 GRIEVANCE CHAIR- coordinate the following activities in cooperation with the ONA staff representative:

6.1.6.4.1 Conduct and supervise the affairs of the Executive Committee with regard to grievances.
6.1.6.4.2 Oversees unit representatives in their processing and investigation of all grievance complaints filed by BU members;
6.1.6.4.3 Responsible for securing representation, if requested, for the grievant when their unit representative is not available.

6.1.6.5 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR-

6.1.6.5.1 Ensures that all new hires are contacted in a timely fashion to discuss membership in the Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit and the ONA, ensures new hires are provided with a copy of the collective bargaining agreement, these Bylaws, a ONA membership application and to ensure that the new hires are introduced to the new hires' unit steward;
6.1.6.5.2 Strive to increase the membership of the bargaining unit;
6.1.6.5.3 Ensure that membership records accurately reflect who are: a) members in good standing; b) members in bad standing; c) fair share members; d) bona fide religious objectors; e) new hires who are potential new members; and f) non-members. The Membership Chair will ensure that the list is updated on an annual basis and before every vote of the bargaining unit.
6.1.6.6 PNCC CHAIR-

6.1.6.6.1 Conduct and supervise the affairs of the PNCC in accordance with these Bylaws;
6.1.6.6.2 With the PNCC, make recommendations for educational and training programs compatible with identified hospital goals;
6.1.6.6.3 Ensure each nursing unit has at least one member in good standing willing to participate on the PNCC Committee or as dictated by the collective bargaining agreement;
6.1.6.6.4 With the PNCC, process and analyze unsafe staffing reports. Take necessary steps to address issues raised in unsafe staffing reports when necessary;
6.1.6.6.5 Make timely reports to the Executive Committee and ONA concerning unsafe staffing reports and educational and training programs;
6.1.6.6.6 With the PNCC, make recommendations to the facility of ways and means to improve patient care; and
6.1.6.6.7 With the PNCC, make reports to outside agencies with the approval of the Executive Committee and ONA.
6.1.6.6.8 The Chair of the PNCC does not have to be a unit representative. If the chair is not a unit representative, such chair does not serve on the negotiations committee.

6.2 Negotiating Committee-

6.2.1 Composition- The members of the Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses Bargaining Unit Executive Committee shall constitute the negotiating committee.

6.2.2 Duties-

6.2.2.1 Development and distribution of negotiations survey(s);
6.2.2.2 Research of negotiations related issues, with the goal of having at least one meeting with the bargaining unit to review outstanding contract issues. This meeting must take place prior to the Committee beginning to meet with the employer;
6.2.2.3 Formulation of contract proposals;
6.2.2.4 Assist in the negotiations of a successor collective bargaining agreement;
6.2.2.5 Make recommendations to the bargaining unit whether to ratify a contract; and
6.2.2.6 Sign the ratified contract.

6.3 Professional Nursing Care Committee-

6.3.1 Composition- The PNCC will be composed of the PNCC Chair and a representative from each nursing unit in the hospital or as otherwise specified by the collective bargaining agreement.
6.3.2 Duties-

6.3.2.1 Make recommendations for educational and training programs compatible with identified hospital goals;
6.3.2.2 Process and analyze unsafe staffing reports. Take necessary steps to address issues raised in unsafe staffing reports when necessary;
6.3.2.3 Make timely reports to the Executive Committee and ONA concerning unsafe staffing reports and educational and training programs;
6.3.2.4 Serve on the hospital's staffing committee or ensure the staffing committee has duly elected representatives.
6.3.2.5 Make recommendations to the facility of ways and means to improve patient care;
6.3.2.6 Make reports to outside agencies with the approval of the Executive Committee and ONA; and
6.3.2.7 Those duties specified with the collective bargaining agreement.

6.4 Elections Committee-

6.4.1 Composition- The Elections Committee will be composed of the Secretary of the Executive Committee and three (3) members in good standing who are not holding office appointed by the Executive Committee.

6.4.2 Duties-

6.4.2.1 Review all nominations to ensure the nominees are eligible and willing to serve;
6.4.2.2 Oversee the election of officers to ensure only members in good standing vote in an election; and
6.4.2.3 Count all ballots and report findings to Executive Committee and ONA.

Article 7- Contract Ratification and Other Votes

7.1 Notification- at least five (5) days prior to contract ratification or other vote, the Secretary shall with assistance from ONA staff post in conspicuous places, mail and/or e-mail to the membership a summary of the issue to be voted on. For contract ratification votes, the Secretary will post a summary of the tentative agreement and the date, time and place of the vote. Upon request, the Secretary shall make available a copy of the tentative agreement.

7.2 Secret Ballot- Voting shall be by secret ballot of the members in good standing as verified by the Secretary of the Executive Committee and/or Membership Chairperson.

7.3 Majority Vote- A cumulative majority vote by secret ballot of the members in good standing shall decide the issue. Only those members present may vote and there shall be no proxy voting.

7.4 Vote By Mail, E-mail or Absentee- Nothing contained herein shall preclude the Silverton Hospital Association of Professional Nurses -ONA Executive Committee in
the exercise of its discretion, from directing that the election be conducted by mail ballot, e-mail or absentee after appropriate notice and with safeguards for preserving the secrecy of the balloting.

7.5 Dispute- In case of a dispute on voting eligibility, such individuals will be allowed to vote, but their ballots will be set aside and uncounted until membership eligibility can be determined. Under no circumstances will the outcome of the ratification vote be delayed for longer than seven (7) days.

7.6 Strike Vote- in cases where the bargaining unit is voting on whether to strike and in other situations identified by the Executive Committee, the entire bargaining unit will have the right to vote on the issue of whether to strike, including non-members.

Article 8- Bylaws

8.1 Timing- These Bylaws may be amended each year in February.

8.2 Member Initiated Amendments- members can propose amendments to these Bylaws by submitting a petition with the signatures of at least seven (7) members in good standing to the Secretary of the Executive Committee. The petition shall include the proposed amendment to the Bylaws and a concise statement as to the reason for the proposed change.

8.3 Executive Committee Initiated Amendments- the Executive Committee can submit a proposed amendment to these Bylaws that includes a concise statement as to the reason for the proposed change.

8.4 Impact on Current Officers- Under no circumstances may these Bylaws be amended during a term of office to modify the powers and duties of the incumbent officers. Such amendments may be made effective only as of the beginning of the next term of office.

8.5 Notification- at least fourteen (14) days prior to a vote on an amendment to these Bylaws, the Secretary shall post in conspicuous places and mail to the membership the proposed change.

8.6 Vote- A majority vote of the members in good standing present at the meeting shall be required for passage of the proposed amendment.

8.7 Subject to Approval- Amendments to these Bylaws are subject to the approval of ONA’s EGW Cabinet and shall not be effective until such approval has been given.

8.8 Vote By Mail, E-mail or Absentee- Nothing contained in these Bylaws shall preclude the Executive Committee in the exercise of its discretion, from directing that a membership vote be conducted by mail referendum, e-mail or absentee after the Executive Committees gives appropriate notice and with safeguards to ensure the integrity of the balloting.

Article 9- Savings Clause

9.1 The provisions of these Bylaws relating to the payment of dues, assessments, fines or penalties, etc., shall not be construed as incorporating into any union-security
contract those requirements for good standing membership which may be in violation of applicable law, nor shall they be construed as requiring any employer to violate any applicable law. However, all such financial obligations imposed by or under ONA and these Bylaws (and in conformity therewith) shall be legal obligations of the members upon whom imposed and enforceable in a court of law.

9.2 If any provision of these Bylaws shall be declared invalid or inoperative by any competent authority of the executive, judicial, or administrative branch of federal or state government, the Executive Committee or ONA shall have the authority to suspend the operation of such provision during the period of its invalidity and to substitute in its place and stead a provision which will meet the objections to its validity and which will be in accord with the intent and purpose of the invalid provision.

9.3 If any section or subsection of these Bylaws should be held invalid by operation or law or by any tribunal of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of these Bylaws or the application of such section or subsection to persons or circumstances other than those to which it has been held invalid, shall not be affected thereby.