By-Laws of the Pilgrim Edward Doty Society

(as amended July 3, 2025)

ARTICLE I: Name, Tax Status, and Office

Section 1. Name
The name of the society shall be Pilgrim Edward Doty Society.

Section 2. Tax Status
The Society is a qualified non-taxable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as amended.

Section 3. Office
There shall be no national office of the Society. The official corresponding address of the Society for general correspondence and membership matters shall be that of the current Secretary. The official address for all financial matters and tax filings shall be that of the current Treasurer.

ARTICLE II: Objectives

a. To perpetuate the memory of Edward Doty, passenger on the Mayflower and signer of the Mayflower Compact.
b. To encourage continued research into the origins of Pilgrim Edward Doty.
c. To encourage continued research into the descendants of Edward Doty through all generations.
d. To assist descendants of Edward Doty in acquiring acceptable proof of eligibility for membership in the General Society of Mayflower Descendants and encourage membership therein.

ARTICLE III: Membership

Section 1. Qualification
Individuals who are descendants of Edward Doty or who have an interest in Edward Doty may apply for membership.

Section 2. Classes of Membership
The Society has two classes of membership:

- **General Membership:** General members pay annual dues of $10 and hold voting rights on issues presented to the membership.

- **Junior Membership:** Available to individuals under the age of 18 with a one-time dues payment of $10. Junior membership ends on the member's 18th birthday, at which time the individual shall apply for General Membership.

Section 3. Printed Correspondence
Members of either class who wish to receive printed correspondence, including newsletters, shall pay an additional fee of $25 annually.

ARTICLE IV: Meetings of the Membership

Section 1. Triennial Meeting and Notices
A meeting of the members shall be held every three years, called the Triennial Meeting, typically in Plymouth, Massachusetts, or another city designated by the Board. Notice shall be published via newsletter, website, and social media platforms as early as possible.

Section 2. Quorum and Action
Ten members present and entitled to vote constitute a quorum. Actions shall be decided by a majority vote of members present.

ARTICLE V: Board of Trustees

Section 1. Powers and Duties
The Board governs the Society and may:

a. Amend or repeal the By-Laws.
b. Elect its own officers.
c. Establish and oversee programs.
d. Set dues and fees.
e. Approve any expenditure exceeding $500 prior to commitment or payment to ensure proper financial oversight and fiduciary responsibility.

Section 2. Number, Qualification, and Election
The Board shall consist of eight elected members: Governor, Deputy Governor, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Webmaster, Assistant Webmaster, and Membership Chair. Up to three Officers at Large may be appointed by the Governor as needed. Committees shall be formed by the Governor with assistance from the Board. *(do we want to make the newsletter editor a board member, and does the Assistant Webmaster need to be a board member?)*

Section 3. Term
Trustees serve three-year terms, or until earlier resignation, death, incapacity, or removal.

Section 4. Resignation and Removal
Trustees may resign in writing to the Governor. Trustees may be removed by a majority Board vote for cause.

Section 5. Vacancies
Vacancies other than Governor are filled by appointment of the Governor with approval by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees until the next Triennial Meeting. A vacancy in the Governor's position shall be filled by the Deputy Governor.

ARTICLE VI: Meetings of the Board

Section 1. Regular Meetings
Regular Board meetings occur during the Triennial Meeting.

Section 2. Special Meetings
The Governor may call special meetings as needed.

Section 3. Quorum and Board Action
A quorum consists of four Officers. Board actions require a majority vote. *(Will depend on how many board members there are)*

Section 4. Reports
Reports from the Board shall be presented at the Triennial Meeting. Meeting minutes shall be read and approved by members present.

ARTICLE VII: Officers and Duties

- **Governor:** Presides over meetings and presents a Governor's report at the Triennial Meeting.
- **Deputy Governor:** Acts in absence of the Governor.
- **Secretary:** Responsible for Society records, minutes, and correspondence.
- **Treasurer:** Responsible for the Society's funds, securities, disbursements (authorized by Board), tax filings, and annual financial reports posted in the May Newsletter.
- **Webmaster:** Maintains the Society's website and domain name.
- **Assistant Webmaster:** Assists and backs up the Webmaster as needed.*(Change to Newsletter Editor?)*
- **Historian:** Conducts genealogical research and maintains records.

- **Membership Chair:** Manages membership requests, paperwork, member numbers, welcome packets, membership certificates signed by the Governor, and maintains the membership roster.

ARTICLE VIII: Fiscal Year
The fiscal year runs from January 1 to December 31.

ARTICLE IX: Dissolution
Upon dissolution, assets remaining after all obligations are satisfied shall be distributed as determined by the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE X: Amendments
The Board of Trustees exclusively holds the power to amend these By-Laws. Proposed changes shall be distributed to all Board members with sufficient notice prior to voting and shall require approval by a majority vote of the Board.

ARTICLE XI: Multiple Positions Held by Board Members

Section 1. Multiple Positions
Board members may hold more than one position simultaneously if necessary for the effective operation of the Society.

Section 2. Voting by Members Holding Multiple Positions
Any board member holding more than one position shall be entitled to only one vote on any Board decision, ensuring transparency and avoiding potential conflicts of interest.

These bylaws were approved and adopted by the Board of Trustees of Pilgrim Edward Doty Society on [Date], as recorded in the official minutes