

# Application Instructions for NLA Indianapolis

Thanks for your interest in NLA. What follows are some answers for FAQ's regarding the application process and instructions on how to apply for membership.

## NLA Indianapolis Membership Type

There are two levels of membership in NLA Indianapolis, Full Members and Supporting Members.

**Full Members** – Are allowed to attend events and meetings, participate in the email lists, vote, serve as committee chairs, and hold office (NLA International Membership is required to run for and to hold office in NLA Indianapolis).

**Supporting Members** – Are allowed to attend events and meetings, participate in the email lists, and serve on committees. They are not allowed to vote, serve as committee chair, or hold elected office.

**NLA International Membership** – Membership in NLA International is not required for membership in NLA Indianapolis. Membership in NLA International is required to run for and hold elected office in NLA Indianapolis. NLA International membership also provides access to resources of NLA International separate from membership in the local chapter. Please see the NLA web site ([www.nla-i.com](http://www.nla-i.com)) for more information.

## Membership Process

To apply for membership in NLA Indianapolis (and/or NLA International) please take the following steps.

1. Read the "Statement of Purpose" that comes with this application packet. Additionally you can download and read the By-laws and Policies and Procedures from the NLA Indianapolis web site ([www.nlaindianapolis.com](http://www.nlaindianapolis.com)).
2. Complete the application for membership in NLA Indianapolis (and NLA International if you are joining both).
3. Refer to the chart on the NLA Indianapolis application to determine what your membership fee will be (based on the month in which you apply).
4. Give your application and fee to an NLA Indianapolis Officer or mail your application and fees to:  
NLA-Indianapolis  
PO Box 971  
Indianapolis, IN 46206-0971
5. Once your application is received an Officer or member of the Membership Committee must verify your Age and Identity by checking a government issued picture ID.
6. After your ID is checked your application will be presented for a vote at the next membership meeting (4<sup>th</sup> Wed of each month).
7. If your application is denied your application fee will be refunded.
8. Sending us your NLA International Membership application at the same time will speed up the process for International membership since the local chapter keeps the membership records and distributes the membership cards, pins and patches.

# Official Statements of NLA: International and NLA: Indianapolis

## NLA : Indianapolis Statement of Purpose

SECTION A: To maintain a communication, information, education, and support network for members of the Leather/BDSM/Fetish community in Indianapolis, Indiana and the surrounding areas.

SECTION B: To promote, with power and pride, the right of all adults to engage in Safe, Sane, and Consensual sexual expression or Risk Aware Consensual Kink activities, including support for the decriminalization of such acts between consenting adults.

SECTION C: To support activism, visibility, and education aimed at the eradication of stereotypical beliefs, misconceptions, and media misrepresentations about the Leather/BDSM/Fetish family in the community at large.

SECTION D: To provide, through our publications, educational material, and events, a forum for the sharing of knowledge, viewpoints, and practices of a diverse network of people. SECTION E: To build, strengthen, and defend individuals, organizations, publications, and businesses within our community against threats to our freedom of expression, freedom of the press, right to free association, and right to equal protection under the law.

SECTION F: To develop an outreach to all women, people of color, transgendered/transsexual/genderqueer individuals, the deaf, the physically challenged, the economically disenfranchised, and others who have traditionally been discriminated against or poorly represented within the Leather/BDSM/Fetish community.

SECTION G: To facilitate fund raising for deserving projects, organizations, defense funds, and/or charities which have given direct service to the Leather/BDSM/Fetish community.

SECTION H: To preserve a record of our history, traditions, and culture. To establish and maintain a communication, information, education, and support network for members of the Leather/SM/Fetish community in Indianapolis, the State of Indiana, and the surrounding territory.

## NLA : International Statement on Domestic Violence

The National Leather Association-International (NLA-I) calls on the Leather/ BDSM/Fetish community to take the lead in reducing domestic violence through education. No group is free of domestic violence, assault or abuse; but fear, denial and lack of knowledge have slowed public response to this serious social problem. The NLA-I is committed to reducing all forms of domestic violence by:

- 1) Showing community action can reduce violence.
- 2) Holding offenders/abusers accountable for choosing to be violent. Using drugs or alcohol as an excuse for domestic violence, assault or abuse is unacceptable.
- 3) Encouraging victims to take legal action against the offender/abuser.
- 4) Encouraging the offender/abuser to seek treatment and the victim to seek support.
- 5) Listening and supporting those who have the courage to tell us and help them end their shame and isolation.
- 6) Educating the legal and social service system about the differences between consensual SM and domestic violence, assault and abuse, and to encourage their appropriate intervention.
- 7) Taking the responsibility of educating the SM community about the forms of domestic violence, assault and abuse as well as its extent and severity. Domestic violence takes many forms: physical violence, assault, isolation, outright or subtle psychological and emotional abuse, economic control, sexual assault and abuse as well as the destruction of personal property. Non-consensual manipulation and assault are not part of SM. The NLA-I advocates relationships based on personal responsibility, honesty and integrity in which power and pleasure is derived from mutual respect.
- 8) Promoting information about where to go for help.

# National Leather Association – Indianapolis Chapter

## Membership Application

New     Renewal     Update

**Personal Information:**

Name on Membership Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ OK to send Postal Mail :  Yes  No

Email : \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

**Optional Demographic Information:**

Age:  18 - 29     30 - 39     40 - 49     50 - 59     60 - 69     70+

Gender:  Female     Male     Transgendered     Other

Orientation:  Gay/Lesbian     Heterosexual     Bisexual     Pansexual

**Membership Information:**

Fee Schedule

Application Date	Supporting Member	Full Member	International Member
July - Sept	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00
Oct - Dec	\$ 7.50	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00
Jan - Mar	\$ 5.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
Apr - May	\$ 2.50	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00

**Indianapolis Supporting Member** – Allowed to attend events, participate in meetings, participate in the email lists. Not allowed to vote or hold office.

**Indianapolis Full Member** - Allowed to attend events and meetings, participate in the email lists, vote and hold office (if additional requirements for the office are met).

List any previous member #'s and select which membership level you are choosing:

Full Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Supporting Member # \_\_\_\_\_

**International Member** – Membership in NLA-International is separate from your NLA-Indianapolis membership. International membership is a requirement to run for or hold office in the NLA-Indianapolis Chapter.

International Member # \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the NLA-Indianapolis Mission Statement and I agree with the goals of NLA-Indianapolis and wish to become a member. I agree to abide by the rules set forth in the By-Laws and Policies and Procedures Manual. I understand that the information on this form will be handled according to the confidentiality rules set forth in the Policies & Procedures. I attest with my signature that I am at least 18 years of age and eligible to be a member.

Legal Signature : \_\_\_\_\_

Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Money Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check or money order payable to NLA-Indianapolis. Mail the completed membership application and payment to:  
 NLA-Indianapolis  
 PO Box 971  
 Indianapolis, IN 46206-0971

After receiving your application and verifying your ID the members will vote to approve or deny your membership at the next business meeting. If your membership is denied your Membership fee will be refunded. Falsification of information on this application can be grounds for expulsion from NLA-Indianapolis and NLA-International.

*For use by NLA-Indianapolis Rev Date 12/2008*

Name and Age verified by EC or MC member Signature : \_\_\_\_\_ Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Application voted on by members at meeting Date : \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED / DENIED

