

# BYLAWS OF THE CHINOOK RV CLUB

## ARTICLE I - CLUB NAME

The name of this not-for-profit organization shall be the Chinook RV Club, hereinafter referred to as the "Club," or "CRVC".

## ARTICLE II - OBJECT

1. **PURPOSE:** This Club exists to promote social, recreational, and informational exchange activities that provide for the enjoyment and pleasurable use of all member coaches.
2. **AREA:** This Club shall function primarily in the western and central United States, although it is open to qualified Members from anywhere in the United States and Canada.
3. **SCOPE:** This Club will be comprised of members with a mutual interest in Recreational Vehicles built and sold by the former Trail Wagons/Chinook Company of Yakima, Washington. This Club was organized and will operate under IRS Code Section 501(C) 7 as a social recreational organization.

## ARTICLE III - MEMBERS

1. **ELIGIBILITY TO JOIN:** To be eligible for *initial* membership in (to *join*) the Club (to become a "**Member**") a "person," as defined in Paragraph 5 below, must be the current owner of a recreational vehicle built by Trail Wagons/Chinook of Yakima, Washington, and meet the dues requirements and provisions set forth in these Bylaws.
2. **ELIGIBILITY TO RENEW MEMBERSHIP AS A MEMBER:** To be eligible to renew membership in the Club as a **Member**, a person must still be the current owner of a recreational vehicle built by Trail Wagons/Chinook of Yakima, Washington, and meet the dues requirements and provisions set forth in these Bylaws.
3. **ELIGIBILITY TO JOIN AS AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER:** To be eligible to join the Club as an Associate **Member**, a person must have been a Member in good standing of the Chinook RV Club, when they were the current owner of a recreational vehicle built by Trail Wagons/Chinook of Yakima, Washington, but no longer own that, or any other recreational vehicle built by Trail Wagons/Chinook of Yakima, Washington, and meet the dues requirements and provisions set forth in these Bylaws.
4. **ELIGIBILITY TO RENEW AS AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER:** To be eligible to renew membership in the Club as an **Associate Member**, a person must already be an Associate Member of the Club, or have initially joined the Club, or the Chinook RV Club, when they were the current owner of a recreational vehicle built by Trail Wagons/Chinook of Yakima, Washington, but no longer own that, or any other recreational vehicle built by Trail Wagons/Chinook of Yakima, Washington, and meet the dues requirements and provisions set forth in these Bylaws.

### ARTICLE III - MEMBERS - Continued

5. The term "Person," is defined as either a family unit or an individual or individuals. The term "Family Unit," is defined as a person; his or her spouse, or partner; dependents of each, regardless of age; non-dependent grandchildren and great-grandchildren aged 18 and under.
6. The term "**Member**," is defined as each adult who, jointly or individually, constitutes a membership. Each coach, no matter whether owned by one or more Members, is entitled to one vote, however, any Member shall be entitled to hold an office, and more than one Member owning a single coach may hold office.
7. **Associate Members** shall be entitled to vote but not entitled to hold office. They are encouraged to participate in all Club activities and may attend all events, including all meetings.
8. **DUES AND FEES:**
  - a. **ANNUAL DUES:** Timely annual payment of Club dues enables persons to remain active members and entitled to all rights and privileges of the Club. The annual dues for membership in the Club shall be an amount that the membership shall establish.
  - b. **RENEWAL:** Renewal dues from Club Members and Associate Members become due and payable on September 30<sup>th</sup> each year.
  - c. **INITIAL APPLICATION:** Application for new membership shall be accompanied by payment of annual Club dues. If an initial application is accepted after August 1<sup>st</sup> the dues shall be regarded as covering the next membership year.
  - d. **ARREARS:** Any member whose dues remain unpaid for more than three (3) months after becoming due shall be considered delinquent; after being delinquent for two (2) months, their membership will be canceled.

### ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

1. **DUTIES OF OFFICERS:** The duties of elected officers shall be as follows:
  - a. The **President** shall be the chief executive officer of the Club and shall preside over all business meetings at which they are present. If the President is not present or otherwise able to preside at a duly called business meeting, then one of the Club Vice Presidents shall preside.
  - b. The **Vice President - Rallies** shall be responsible for recruiting Club Members to act as Rally Hosts ("Wagon Masters") and shall support and facilitate the efforts of the Rally Hosts in putting on interesting and attractive events for the Club Members. The **Vice President - Rallies** shall be the chairperson of the Rally Committee for which they may select and recruit members to help them in their duties.
  - c. The **Vice President - Membership** shall keep accurate records of the Club membership; including publishing an Annual Membership Directory and such other Addenda to the Directory as may be necessary to keep the membership informed and up to date. The **Vice President - Membership** shall be the chairperson of the Membership Committee for which they may select and recruit members to help them in their duties. They shall also work with and encourage all of the Club Members to increase the Club membership.

## ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS - Continued

- d. The Club **Secretary** shall accurately record the minutes of all properly convened Business and Annual Meetings and provide these minutes to the Board of Directors and the Membership for their approval. Copies of approved Minutes shall be provided to the Editor of the Club Newsletter and the Club's Webmaster for appropriate publication.
  - e. The **Treasurer** shall keep accurate records of the Club's finances. The Treasurer shall present a Treasurer's Report at the Annual Meeting, as well as a Year-end Treasurer's Report within 30 days of the close of the Club's Fiscal Year.
  - f. The **Member(s) at Large** shall be available to carry out those tasks delegated by the President and Board of Directors. Two Members at Large shall be elected to assure appropriate member input at all board meetings and business meetings.
  - g. The primary function of the **Immediate Past President** shall be to provide continuity to the Club's administration by serving as a resource for the President as well as being available to carry out those tasks delegated by the current President and Board of Directors. In addition, should the President step down, or become unable or ineligible to continue serving, the Immediate Past President shall assume the duties of the President once more and serve until the next Annual Meeting at which time they shall be replaced.
2. **TERMS OF OFFICE:** The elected officers of this Club shall serve a three (3) year term, or until their successors are elected. Although there are no "term limits," in order to maintain continuity in the Club administration, and to avoid "burnout" of Club Officers, all of the Club Officers, with the exception of the Treasurer and the Immediate Past President, are encouraged to step down after serving their initial term in office to allow for the orderly, staggered, rotation of new Officers. In keeping with this concept, the terms of office for the President and the two Vice Presidents shall be staggered at all times so that no two (or three) will end at the same time.
- a. **NOMINATIONS:** Any **Member** in good standing may be nominated from the floor for any elective office.
  - b. **ELIGIBILITY:** Only **Members**, have the right to hold office in this Club.
  - c. **OWNERSHIP OF CLUB PROPERTY:** No official or member shall become vested of any right, title to, or interest in any Club property, except as required by law.
3. **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**
- a. The officers of the Club, including the Immediate Past President, shall constitute the **Board of Directors**.
  - b. The **Board of Directors** shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Club between its business meetings. The Board shall be subject to the orders of the Club, and none of its acts shall be in conflict with the Club or these Bylaws.

## ARTICLE V - COMMITTEES

1. **APPOINTMENT:** Committee members (except for the Nominating Committee) may be selected and recruited by the respective Committee Chairs, and/or may be appointed by the President.
2. **DUTIES:** All committees shall function within the policies of the Club and (except the Nominating Committee) under the direction of their respective Committee Chairs and the President. Financial reports, vouchers, and monies due the Club shall be submitted on a timely basis.

## ARTICLE V - COMMITTEES - Continued

3. QUORUM: A Committee quorum shall be a simple majority.

## ARTICLE VI - CLUB ADMINISTRATION

1. AUTHORITY: This Club shall be democratically self-governed, deriving its existence and authority from the consent of its membership assembled in meeting or, in certain instances, by mail vote on stated propositions.
2. ORGANIZATIONAL YEAR: The fiscal and membership year of the Club shall commence on October 1, and end on September 30.
3. CLUB MEETINGS:
  - a. TYPES: The term "meeting" shall include Annual Rallies, Mini-Rallies, dinner meetings, and any other gatherings suitable to the function of the Club.
  - b. BUSINESS MEETINGS: The Club must hold at least one business ("Annual") meeting each membership year at which a quorum is present. Said meetings must be at least 14 days apart and be duly announced in advance to the membership.
  - c. ANNUAL ELECTION: At each Annual Rally, an Annual Meeting shall be held at which an election will be held to fill vacancies created by the expiration of one or more officer's terms.
  - d. QUORUM: A quorum for the transaction of business at any duly-called Club meeting is 25% of the Club Members or 15 Members, whichever is less.
  - e. VOTING: Except as specified elsewhere in these Bylaws, a simple majority vote of Members in good standing and voting shall be required to approve or disapprove any matter. The Club has established that voting will be one vote per Member Coach. Balloting by mail may be `total membership vote is advisable.
  - f. PARLIAMENTARY PROCESS: The rules contained in the current edition of *ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED* shall govern this Club's proceedings to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws of this Club.
4. AUDITS: A regularly scheduled, formal audit of the Club's books is not required. In addition to the two Treasurer's reports, the Treasurer shall make the Club's books available to an Audit Committee appointed by the Board of Directors in their sole discretion.

## ARTICLE VII - ELECTIONS

1. NOMINATING COMMITTEE COMPOSITION:
  - a. The Chairperson of the Nominating Committee shall be the **Immediate Past President**.
  - b. The Nominating Committee shall consist of not less than 2 Club **Members** in addition to the Chairperson, who are not Officers or members of the Board of Directors, in good standing, nominated and elected each year by the Club membership at the Annual Meeting to serve until the next Annual Meeting.
  - c. Election of an individual to the Nominating Committee shall not prohibit that person from being nominated for elected office.

## ARTICLE VII – ELECTIONS - Continued

2. NOMINATING COMMITTEE DUTIES:
  - a. To nominate candidates for the Club Offices whose current terms are due to expire.
  - b. If any incumbent Officer agrees to stand for election to another term, the Nominating Committee shall select and recruit another Member to run for that office, so that no incumbent shall run unopposed.
  - c. To obtain clear acceptance of the nominees to serve the Club should they be elected.
  - d. To make certain that nominated candidates are members in good standing and qualified under applicable Club bylaws.
  - e. To nominate candidates to fill vacancies as they occur in elected Club offices.

## ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

1. AMENDING PROCEDURE: These Bylaws may be amended by a 65% affirmative vote of the members on a mail ballot, or present and voting at a duly-called meeting, providing that prior notice of at least 30 days has been given of the proposition(s) to amend.
  - a. Any **Member** of the Club may propose amendments to the Bylaws.
  - b. Approved amendments to these Bylaws become effective immediately upon their adoption, or at such time as specified in the amendment.

## ARTICLE IX – RALLY GUIDELINES

1. ANNUAL RALLIES: Annual Rallies, in addition to being the venue for the Annual Business Meeting, should be the *primary* recreational and social event on the Chinook RV Club Calendar.
  - a. Annual Rallies are planned “down to the hour” with a reasonably full schedule of events such as sightseeing, museum tours, “tech sessions,” etc., balanced by times for the attendees to rest or explore “or their own.”
  - b. The Rally Hosts, in close cooperation with the V.P. Rallies and the Club Treasurer, carefully compile a proposed budget well in advance, including dates of deposit, final payment and cutoff date for refund upon cancellation.
  - c. Those who attend pay a Rally Fee based upon the number of Members per coach that is as close to “all inclusive” as practical. The fee is payable *in advance* by initial deposit followed by the balance in full before the event.
  - d. Since Chinook owners seldom tow a car, all transportation for events included in an Annual Rally is provided and paid for out of the Rally Fee.
  - e. Because of the magnitude of the work involved in planning and executing the Annual Rally, the Board of Directors voted several years ago to forego charging the Rally Hosts for their participation, thus granting Annual Rally (only) Hosts a “free pass” to the Rally that they plan and host.
  - f. Finally, the location for each new Annual Rally will move from year to year with every effort being made to balance out the driving distances for all Members west of the Mississippi.

## **ARTICLE IX – RALLY GUIDELINES - Continued**

2. MINI-RALLIES: Mini-Rallies are intended to be much more informal and only minimally structured. They are intended for Members with a particular interest in a given locale to gather informally under the Club banner for fun and socialization.
  - a. Any financial involvement by the Club treasury for Mini-Rallies shall be approved in advance by the Board of Directors.
  - b. The Members who are going to attend may be asked to call the destination RV Park and make their own reservations, or the Rally Hosts may make a group reservation, depending upon the RV park's reservation policies. Attendees pay for each of their activities "a la carte" and most Mini-Rallies have no formal schedule.
  - c. Hosts for Mini-Rallies may have their "site" paid if included in the budget.
  - d. Mini-Rallies don't provide any group transportation unless it is paid for in advance by those attending.
  - e. While proposed Mini-Rallies are not usually subject to approval in advance by the Board of Directors, nevertheless their locations and schedules must comply with the Club's policy that no Mini-Rally should "pull" participation away from an upcoming Annual Rally.

**BYLAWS EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 16, 2007 HAVE BEEN AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

ARTICLE III – MEMBERS section 7 amended by membership vote entitling Associate Members to vote. October 2010

ARTICLE II – OBJECT added IRS Code Section 501(C)7 as a social recreation organization, at the request of the IRS. April 1, 2011

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR ANNUAL & MINI-RALLIES – The Board of Directors established Guidelines for the two types of Rallies which will be sponsored by the Club. April 1, 2011

ARTICLE IX – RALLY GUIDELINES – added the Guidelines for the Rallies sponsored by the club as Article IX. April 1, 2011

ARTICLE III – MEMBERS sections 3 and 4 to amended from Chinook Camping Club to Chinook RV Club. April 1, 2011

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS section 1f amended to include two Members at Large. December 7, 2017