



RIVER CITY DANCERS

**CLUB
BYLAWS**

River City Dancers
Bylaws
Approved February 16, 2002,
Amended May 19, 2012, November 16, 2013, February 11, 2017, & May 13, 2017

Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be "River City Dancers Incorporated", hereafter referred to as the Club, and formerly known as "The Barn Owls" and "The Rose City Squares".

Article II Affiliation

The Club shall be a member of the "Portland Area Council of Square Dancers," hereafter referred to as "Portland Area Council" or "PAC".

Article III: Purpose

The purpose of the Club shall be to band together as a nonprofit, mutual benefit organization for the purpose of promoting and encouraging square and round dancing with the intent of friendship, fun and recreation among members and guests; and to provide a meeting place where members and guests may gather to dance and engage a caller(s) and round dance cuer(s).

Article IV: Membership

Section 1

River City Dancers follows an equal opportunity membership and employment policy without regard to race, creed, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, physical or mental ability, veteran status, military obligations, and marital status. This policy applies to all *River City Dancers members, employees, volunteers, clients, and contractors.*

Section 2

The membership of the Club shall consist of individuals, each of whom has attained the age of 16 years, who are active square dancers or round dancers at the time of application for membership, or who have completed a class in which the currently accepted number of square dance movements for mainstream level dancing have been taught, or who have completed a round dance class in currently accepted round dance basics.

Section 3 retired by vote of membership. See acceptance and revision history below

Section 4

A regular member shall be one who has been admitted to regular membership and whose dues are currently paid in accordance with Article IV Section 15.

Section 5

An associate member shall be one actively engaged in a Club-sponsored beginner's class. Associate members shall not have voting privileges.

Section 6

The contract Club caller(s) and cuer(s) shall have the same privileges as regular members but shall not pay dues or have voting rights.

Section 7 retired see acceptance and revision history below. Section 8

A majority approval by the Board shall be required for admission to the Club as a regular member, unless otherwise specified.

Section 9

All dancers completing a beginners square dance or round dance class sponsored by the Club may submit written application to the class committee and the Board for consideration of membership.

Section 10

All dancers who are already knowledgeable with square or round dancing as defined in Section 2 above may submit to the Board an application for membership with the sponsorship by one regular, charter or lifetime member of the Club.

Section 14

If a member has been dropped for delinquent dues (c.f. Article IV Section 18), that member may reapply for membership as outlined in Article IV, Section 10.

Section 15

Club dues shall be set forth in the current Club Rules of Order. Dues may be paid quarterly, semi-annually, or annually. Annual dues are due in January. Dues paid quarterly are due in January, April, July and October.

Section 16

Associate member dues shall be the same amount as regular member dues, but will be collected as part of lesson fees. Associate member dues will not provide admission to regular dances or subscription to a monthly newsletter.

Section 17

Lifetime members are exempt from paying dues, but receive the same benefits as outlined in Article IV Section 19.

Section 18

Any member whose dues are not paid after the second dance of the quarter shall be delinquent and the Treasurer shall send a dues reminder. If dues are not paid within fifteen working days following the date of mailing of the dues reminder, the Board will act to drop the member from membership at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

Section 19

The following benefits shall be provided to each member from annual dues: admission to regular dances, annual members insurance, and a monthly newsletter.

Section 20

Membership meetings shall be held at least four times per year at a time and place designated by the President or Board and be as uniformly spaced in time as practical. At each meeting the officers shall report on the activities and financial condition of the Club. The members shall consider and act upon any matters consistent with those specified in the meeting notice or that may arise at the meeting.

Section 21

Special meetings may be called by the President or by the Board, and shall be called upon the written request of six or more regular or lifetime members. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the call. The special meeting shall be held within thirty days after the call is delivered to the Secretary, at a time and place designated by the President or the Board. Only matters within the purpose described in the meeting notice may be conducted at a special meeting.

Section 22

The meeting nearest to but prior to the first dance in June of each year shall be the annual meeting.

Section 23

The Club's financial matters shall be reviewed at the annual meeting, and will include the following: membership dues, admission fee to dances by non-members, Club caller's fee, Club cuer's fee, guest caller's fee, guest cuer's fee, Vice President's fund, Secretary's fund, funds for appointed positions, refreshment fund for dances, funds for special dances, funds for non-dance activities, limit of individual expenditure by the Board without members' approval, newsletter subscription fee, and door prize cost. When considering the caller's and cuer's fee, the amount for dances and the amount for lessons will be specified.

Section 24

At the regular meeting nearest to but preceding the termination date of the Club caller's or cuer's contract, the membership shall review the extension of that contract.

Section 25

A notice to regular and lifetime members shall precede regular meetings by at least seven working days. The notice shall specify the date, time and place of the meeting and specify any matters that need members' approval. The required notice of meetings may be incorporated into the Club newsletter.

Section 26

Twenty percent of regular and lifetime members shall constitute a quorum.

Section 27

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the Club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special Rules of Order the Club has adopted.

Section 28

Each regular and lifetime member is entitled to one vote. Proxy or absentee voting shall not be allowed for general motions. A proxy vote will be allowed for amendments to bylaws and elections of officers when a signed proxy statement is submitted to the President at or before the call for a vote.

Section 29

Unless specified otherwise in the bylaws, a majority vote will decide a motion. When three or more options prevail, such as multiple nominees for an office, then a plurality vote shall carry.

Section 30

All voting on amendments to the bylaws, election of officers, and financial matters, may be by secret ballot.

Section 31

The Treasurer shall certify the number of current voting members to determine the presence of a quorum and the number of voters required to carry a motion. The membership status of those present at a meeting shall be verified by the Treasurer.

Section 32

When a ballot vote is required the President shall appoint an election committee to conduct the balloting. Two members not on the election committee shall be appointed by the President to verify the counting of ballots by the elections committee.

Section 33

A junior member (age 12-15) shall be a minor child or grandchild of a regular member who has completed a club sponsored beginner class and whose dues are currently paid in accordance with Article IV, Section 15. Junior members shall have the same benefits and responsibilities as regular members, in accordance with Article IV, Section 19, but shall not have voting rights. Junior members must be accompanied at dances and club functions by a related adult regular member. Upon attaining the age of 16 a junior member may apply to become a regular member in accordance with article IV, section 2. (5/19/12)

Section 34

An Affiliate Member shall be a former regular club member who is unable to dance due to physical or other issues but desires to remain active in the club as a social member. Membership must be approved by a majority of the board. Benefits include receiving Club newsletter and insurance. If the affiliate member chooses to dance at an RCD event he/she would pay the regular door fee for that dance. The Affiliate member is expected to serve on club event and kitchen and door committees. Dues for this level will be 25% of regular club dues plus any special event fees regular members pay. Club caller and cuer payment equation includes only those members actually dancing at a dance. Affiliate members are not to be included in this equation.

Article V: Officers

Section 1

The officers of the Club shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. Offices may be filled either by couples or single members.

Section 2

A Nominating Committee consisting of three regular and/or lifetime members shall be appointed by the President. This committee shall strive to present a list of at least four nominees, one for each

office. It shall be the duty of this committee to nominate candidates for the offices to be filled at the annual business meeting.

Section 3

Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the annual business meeting.

Section 4

All nominees shall be regular or lifetime members in good standing, have consented to nomination, and be willing to accept and serve the nominated office.

Section 5

Nominees shall be nominated for a specific office.

Section 6

Names of nominees submitted by the Nominating Committee shall be announced and posted by the Nominating Committee at a regular dance prior to the business meeting at which elections will be held.

Section 7

The officers shall be elected at the annual business meeting to serve for one year or until their successors are elected, and their term of office shall begin at the close of the installation during the first available dance following the annual business meeting.

Section 8

No member shall hold more than one office at a time.

Section 9

In the event of a vacancy, the office of President shall be filled by the Vice President.

Section 10

If vacant, the offices of Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be filled by appointment by the remaining members of the Board until an election of the membership can be held at the first business meeting after the members have been notified of such vacancy/s.

Section 11

Replacement officers shall serve the balance of the vacated term.

Section 12

The officers of the Club shall perform the duties as prescribed by these bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Club.

Section 13

Officers shall perform additional duties as prescribed in the Club Rules of Order.

Article VI: The Board

Section 1

The members of the Board shall consist of all elected officers. The past President will serve a period of three months as a non-voting advisor.

Section 2

The directors shall be the same individuals and with the same titles as those of the Club officers.

Section 3

The Board shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Club between its business meetings, fix the hour and place of meetings, make recommendations to the Club, and shall perform other duties as are specified in the bylaws. The Board shall be subject to the orders of the Club, and none of its acts shall conflict with action taken by the Club.

Section 4

Unless otherwise ordered by the Board, regular meetings of the Board shall be held at least once every two months at a date, time and place designated by the President. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President and shall be called upon written request of at least 50% of the Board.

Section 5

Regular meetings of the Board shall have at least a ten day advance notice to all voting members, specifying the date, time and place.

Section 6

Special meetings of the Board shall have at least a two-day advance notice to all Board members specifying the date, time, place and purpose.

Section 7

At least three officers shall be present to form a quorum and conduct a Board meeting.

Section 8

An act of the Board at a meeting will require a majority vote of those voting members present.

Article VII: Committees

Section 1

A special dance or function committee shall be appointed by the President for each event sponsored by the Club. At least one person shall be designated as chair of the committee. It shall be the duty of this committee to prepare a budget for the event and submit it to the Board for approval. The committee's report shall be submitted to the Club for its approval at the next regular meeting following the event.

Section 2

Other committees, standing or special, shall be appointed by the President as the Club or the Board shall from time to time deem necessary to carry on the work of the Club. The President shall be an *ex officio* member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

Article VIII Amendment of Bylaws

Section 1

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Club by a two-thirds vote, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting.

Section 2

A resolution for the dissolution of the Club is in effect a motion to rescind the bylaws, and therefore requires for its adoption the same notice and vote as to amend them.

Acceptance and Revision History

Article IV, Section 1 – wording amended to meet federal non-discrimination law. (2/11/17)

Article IV, Section 2 – amended to replace “adult couples” with “individuals”. The definition of “adult couples” was also deleted. (2/11/17)

Article IV section 3 – retired: This category no longer serves a purpose as there are no charter-lifetime members living. Motion made to retire the Charter-Lifetime Member category.

Article IV section 7- removed: Since the bylaws did not define this category the membership determined that it should be closed to membership and would not be extended to new individuals. Current lifetime members will continue with full benefits until they either request that the benefits cease or they pass away. Remaining lifetime members will receive full benefits including insurance but are not expected to serve on committees. Once the current lifetime members pass away this category will be retired.

Article IV, Section 9 – replaced “couples” with “dancers” (2/11/17)

Article IV, Section 10 – replaced “couples” with “dancers” (2/11/17)

Article IV, Section 11, Section 12, and Section 13 – retired: These sections no longer needed due to change in membership requirements. (2/11/17)

Article IV, Section 14 – deleted “or couple”. (2/11/17)

Article IV, Section 18 – deleted “or couple” (2/11/17)

Article IV, Section 28 – wording amended to allow for proxy votes for bylaw changes and elections of officers. (5/13/17)

Article IV section 33 – added 2012

Article IV section 34 – added Nov 16, 2013