

# Constitution of Bounders United, Inc.

## Article I. Establishment

### 1. Names and Symbol

- a. The name of the Corporation, as stated in the Articles of Incorporation, is Bounders United Inc., hereinafter referred to as Bounders United.
- b. The official Bounders United logo design and use shall be as stated in the Bylaws.

### 2. Organizational Status

- a. Bounders United is organized as a corporation for an indefinite period under the laws of the State of Maryland.
- b. Bounders United is a tax exempt social club without ownership and having no capital stock.
- c. Bounders United National Headquarters shall be located in a place designated by the President.

### 3. Purpose

- a. The general purpose of Bounders United is to promote camaraderie, pride of ownership, information exchange, travel and use for pleasure of Bounder motor homes.
- b. More specific purposes shall be as stated in the Bylaws.

### 4. Founders

Edward M. and Sally T. Sweetman, founders of Bounders United, are hereby granted continuous family membership as BU#1 for life. They are bestowed with the enduring titles of President Emeritus and Secretary/Treasurer Emeritus respectively, in appreciation of their initial foresight and generous service.

### 5. Honorific

Lifetime membership is bestowed on Wil and Pat Parsons in recognition of their years of outstanding service to Bounders United. Wil served as President for five years and as Editor/Publisher of the Bounder Souder for many years. Their BU number 336 is retired.

## Article II. Membership

### 1. Definitions

- a. The term "family member" is defined as a family unit consisting of one or two adults.
- b. The term "commercial member" is defined as a company or individual(s) that offer(s) goods or services to Bounders United and its members.
- c. Other classes of membership shall be as specified in the Bylaws.

### 2. Eligibility for Membership

Bounder ownership is a requirement for "family" membership. Disposition of a member's Bounder automatically terminates membership at the time of sale or transfer, unless the member concurrently procures a replacement Bounder.

### 3. Application for Membership

Application for membership is voluntary and shall be accepted as received, on forms supplied by Bounders United. Membership shall endure as long as eligibility criteria are met and the member remains in "good standing" as defined in the Bylaws.

### 4. Duties of Members

Each member shall acknowledge, as such, every other member and endeavor to maintain a spirit of helpfulness, friendliness and fellowship toward all.

## **Article II. Membership (continued)**

### **5. Rights of Members**

- a. Membership is a privilege and is not subject to sale, transfer, assignment or inheritance.
- b. All members have the right to attend any meeting, participate in the discussion, and receive all publications.
- c. All members have the right to present proposals to the governing authority, as defined in the Bylaws.
- d. All members shall receive a subscription to the Bounders United publication.
- e. All members have such rights and privileges as specified herein and in the Bylaws.

### **6. Fees, Dues and Assessments**

- a. An initiation fee and annual dues for each class of membership shall be established and levied as specified in the Bylaws.
- b. No additional assessment shall be made to be a member of Bounders United.
- c. No member shall be entitled to any refund of initiation fees.
- d. A member who resigns may receive a full refund of a full years advance paid dues, if requested. No refunds less than one full year will be returned.

## **Article III. Government**

### **1. Sources of Authority**

- a. The governing authority of Bounders United is derived from its members and shall be vested in those officers who serve as the Board of Directors.
- b. All members of the Board of Directors shall be elected from the general membership in accordance with procedures specified in the Bylaws.

### **2. Composition of the Governing Authority**

- a. The Board of Directors is the Governing Authority of Bounders United.
- b. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the National Directors and the Executive Board.
- c. There shall be one National Director from each active Chapter.
- d. The Executive Board shall be composed of the President, the Executive Vice-President, the National Secretary, hereafter referred to as Secretary, the National Treasurer, hereafter referred to as Treasurer, the Regional Vice-Presidents, the Special Interest Vice-President, and the Immediate Past President.
- e. No member receiving financial remuneration for work related to Bounders United, other than authorized expenses from Bounders United or any subsidiary organization, may serve as a member of the Board of Directors.

### **3. Responsibilities of the Board of Directors**

- a. The Board of Directors creates Bylaws, reviews operations, establishes policy, maintains ethics, assures fiscal responsibility and represents the membership.
- b. The Executive Board shall manage the day-to-day operations of Bounders United within the guidelines established by the Board of Directors and shall have the commensurate authority for decisions and policy as further granted by the Bylaws.
- c. The President, with the concurrence of the Executive Board, may establish Committees. He/she shall appoint a Chairperson and as many members as may be required from the membership. A Constitution and Bylaws Committee and a Nominating Committee shall be of those established. Specific responsibilities of the various committees shall be as defined in the Bylaws.

### **4. Meetings of the Board of Directors**

At least one annual meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held as specified in the Bylaws. Other regular or special meetings may be held as the President may direct.

### **Article III. Government (continued)**

#### **5. Voting**

- a. Each member of the Board of Directors, excepting the Immediate Past President, shall have one vote.
- b. Voting shall be conducted as specified in the Bylaws.

### **Article IV. Meetings of the General Membership**

#### **1. Annual Meeting**

An annual meeting of the general membership of Bounders United shall be held during each fiscal year at a time and place approved by the Executive Board.

#### **2. Special Meetings**

Special meetings of the general membership of Bounders United may be convened by the President.

### **Article V. National Officers**

#### **1. National Directors**

- a. Each active Chapter of Bounders United shall be equally represented on the Board of Directors by a National Director.
- b. Each National Director has one vote on the Board of Directors.
- c. A National Director shall be a member in good standing of the Chapter they represent and shall be nominated and elected by ballot according to the procedures specified in the Bylaws.
- d. An Alternate National Director may be appointed or elected to act for the National Director, if required. Such alternate must be sanctioned in writing to the National Secretary by the Chapter President.
- e. National Directors serve at the pleasure of the Chapter represented.

#### **2. Executive Officers**

- a. The Executive Officers of Bounders United are those individuals serving on the Executive Board. Said officers shall be nominated and elected by ballot according to the procedures specified in the Bylaws.
- b. Executive Officers shall take office on the first day of a fiscal year, September 1<sup>st</sup>, and hold office for a term of two (2) years as specified in the Bylaws. An Executive Officer may not hold the same office for more than two terms.

#### **3. Duties of National Directors**

National Directors shall fairly represent the interests of the members in their respective Chapters.

#### **4. Duties of the Executive Officers**

- a. The duties of all members of the Executive Board shall be as specified in the Bylaws.
- b. There shall be a Vice President for each major region of the United States and Special Interest Vice President as specified in the Bylaws. The Vice Presidents, in addition to assisting the President as required, shall represent the interests of all the members in their respective areas.

### **Article VI. Required Records**

#### **1. Minutes of Meetings**

Accurate minutes of the proceedings of each meeting of the Executive Board, the Board of Directors and General Membership shall be recorded by the Secretary, or by a designated alternate. Said minutes shall be signed by the Secretary and countersigned by the President attesting to their accuracy and completeness. The minutes of all meetings shall be sent to all members of the Board of Directors within 60 days of the date meetings were held.

## **Article VI. Required Records (continued)**

### **2. Financial and Membership Records**

- a. Bounders United Officers shall be responsible for keeping accurate books of account and membership rolls as specified in the Bylaws.
- b. The financial records shall be audited annually as specified in the Bylaws.
- c. An annual budget shall be prepared and approved as specified in the Bylaws. At no time shall Bounders United finances be in arrears.
- d. Bounders United assets shall not be commingled with member's personal assets and records shall be kept on the location of all assets.

### **3. Security of Records**

- a. All minute books, tapes, electronic data and membership records are the property of Bounders United and shall be properly filed and safely stored by the Secretary.
- b. All financial records are the property of Bounders United and shall be properly filed and safely stored by the Treasurer.

### **4. Privacy of Membership Records**

No list of members shall be sold or used for other than official Bounders United purposes.

### **5. Fiscal Year**

The fiscal year of Bounders United shall be as specified in the Bylaws.

## **Article VII. Chapters**

### **1. Authorization**

The Bylaws shall provide for the authorization, qualification, and establishment of Chapters of Bounders United. Some Chapters were previously referred to and chartered as "Troops."

### **2. Controls**

- a. The Board of Directors may suspend or revoke the charter of any Chapter found to be violating the provisions of the Constitution or Bylaws.
- b. Chapters which fail to maintain requirements relating to Chapters may be temporarily classified as inactive Chapters with no accreditation in accordance with the Bylaws.

### **3. Representation**

Each active Chapter shall be represented at the national level by a National Director who shall be solely responsible for registering their Chapter's views on any and all matters under consideration.

## **Article VIII. Enforcement of Constitution, Bylaws and Other Governing Documents**

The Board of Directors shall uphold and enforce the Constitution, the Bylaws and other Bounders United governing documents. In doing so, it may censure, discipline, recall, suspend, or expel Chapters, officers or members as specifically authorized in the Bylaws.

## **Article IX. Parliamentary Rules and Procedures**

### **1. Meetings**

All meetings of the Board of Directors, Executive Board, Committees and Chapters shall be conducted in accordance with "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" when its requirements are not inconsistent with the Constitution, Bylaws and any duly adopted governing documents.

## **Article IX. Parliamentary Rules and Procedures (continued)**

### **2. Adoption of Rules**

The Board of Directors may adopt rules prescribing the Order of Business for all regular meetings and for meetings of the general membership.

### **3. Standing Rules**

Standing Rules may be adopted, suspended, modified or rescinded in any meeting by a majority vote of the complete Executive Board, present or not. Such rules shall not be interpreted or used to limit, suspend, or deny any specific rights granted to members under this Constitution.

## **Article X. Amending the Constitution**

### **1. Submitting Proposals**

- a. A family member, Chapter, the Board of Directors, the Executive Board or the Constitution and Bylaws Committee may propose an amendment to the Constitution.
- b. Proposals shall be in writing and clearly set forth the text thereof.
- c. Proposals shall be sent to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, the Secretary and a duplicate to the President.

### **2. Preliminary Considerations**

The text of any proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be referred to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee for appropriate action.

### **3. Submission to the Membership**

The text of the proposed amendment, along with the recommendation of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee shall be sent to each National Director and to the members of the Executive Board. The National Director shall, within 60 days of the postmark date or date of e-mail, return his or her ballot to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee with his, or her, signature, Bounders United membership number and Chapter name.

### **4. Approval Process**

- a. Ninety (90) days from the original mailing date or date of e-mail, the returned ballots shall be validated and counted by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee and the results announced in the Bounders United publication.
- b. An affirmative vote of at least three-fourths of the votes returned shall be required to amend the Constitution.

## **Article XI. Discontinuance of Bounders United**

### **1. Required Vote**

Bounders United shall not be discontinued unless three-fourths (3/4) of the Board of Directors shall vote for such discontinuance in the manner provided for amendments to this constitution.

### **2. Disposition of Property**

All property, which may remain after payment of the just debts due City, State, Nation, or creditors, shall be equally divided and returned to all active members of Bounders United.

## **Article XII. Effective Date**

This constitution is effective July 27, 2008, having been adopted by the membership in accordance with Article X. It supersedes all prior versions.