

# BY-LAWS OF THE VILLAGERS

## Article I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be "The Villagers" a non-profit unincorporated organization.

## Article II. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of The Villagers are to arrange and host dances at periodic intervals during the year and to promote sociability and fellowship among the members.

## Article III. MEMBERSHIP, AND DUES

- Section 1: The Villagers shall consist of couples or single members and guests. The number of couples shall be limited to 85.
- Section 2: Annual Membership dues shall be the amount fixed by the officers covering the program of dance or events for any dance season. Dues shall be paid by the date fixed annually by the officers and, in the case of newly accepted members, shall be payable immediately upon acceptance of membership.
- Section 3: Membership dues for the dance season are not refundable after the required reservation response date for the first event of the dance season except by special action and authorization of the officers.
- Section 4: Membership is not transferable. Member benefits are not transferable.
- Section 5: Officer couples Annual Membership dues will be fifty percent of the regular membership dues after two consecutive years as Officers.

## Article IV. GOVERNING OFFICERS

- Section 1: The Villagers shall be governed by the Officers consisting of five to seven couples. They shall have complete authority over the business affairs of the organization and in carrying out the provisions of these By-Laws and such standing rules as shall be adopted.
- Section 2: The Officers shall be responsible for arranging dates, places, and orchestras for dances. They shall appoint a Host couple for each dance.
- Section 3: The Officers shall appoint an audit committee to examine the fiscal statements of the organization at least annually and to report findings to the officers.
- Section 4: The Officers may appoint other committees as needed.
- Section 5: The Officers shall appoint a replacement couple for an Officer couple/individual departing for whatever reason and shall designate the organizational position of such replacement.
- Section 6: Each Officer couple shall serve in an organizational position for at least one dance season. There shall not be a maximum tenure for officer couple although new Officers couples are encouraged. Past Officers shall be eligible for reelection.

Section 7: Meetings of the Officers shall be called by the President couple or any three Officers. Meetings of the Officers shall be held prior to each dance and such other times as necessary. An annual review and planning meeting will be held at the end of the dance season.

Section 8: Changes in these By-Laws require a majority vote of the Officers.

## Article V. OFFICER COUPLES AND THEIR ELECTION

Section 1: The Officer couples shall be a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership and, Member-at-Large.

Section 2: Officers must be Members of The Villagers.

Section 3: Officers for the next year shall be elected at the meeting preceding the last dance of the season.

Section 4: Officers shall assume their duties at the annual review/planning meeting. Officers will immediately assume their duties when elected during a mid-year election vote.

## Article VI. DUTIES OF OFFICER COUPLES

Section 1: The President couple shall preside at all meetings of the officers. They shall appoint all standing and special committees. They direct the business of the organization and coordinate the work of officers and committee chair couples that the objectives of the organization may be best promoted.

Section 2: The Vice President couple shall assume the duties of the President in event of the latter's inability to act.

Section 3: The Treasurer couple shall receive and disburse funds upon authorization of the President and/or the officers. They shall present financial statements at each meeting and annually a complete statement to the officers and the audit committee. They shall keep records of dues receipts,

Section 4: The Secretary couple shall record minutes of meetings

Section 5: The Membership couples shall maintain an accurate record of names, addresses, telephone numbers and emails of all members. They shall furnish the lists of members in good standing to the Officers. They shall receive names of prospective member couples. They shall promote the expansion of members to the limit specified in these By-Laws. They shall perform all communications to the membership, guests, and prospective members.

## Article VII. DANCES

Section 1: There shall be a minimum of four dances per season for the membership. The Villagers dance season is from July through June.

Section 2: Charges for each event shall be fixed by the officers based upon estimated costs; however, no additional assessments beyond dues and event charges shall be levied upon the membership without prior notice.

Section 3: A guest couple fee shall be set by the officers for each event where guests are authorized.

Section 4: Guests sponsored by members in good standing shall be welcome; however, the Officers shall have the right to restrict the number of guests where necessary.

Section 5: Guests will be assigned to a sponsor couple if a sponsor couple is not identified on the dance reservation form.

## Article VIII. AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws shall be adopted and may be amended by a majority vote of the Officers.

## Article IX.

A copy of these By-Laws will be made available on The Villagers website and to any member upon request.

Adopted unanimously by:

**The Governing Committee of Officers**

September 15, 1977, and amended May 6, 1990, March 27, 1995, June 24, 1998, May 3, 2004, and August 15, 2023.