

Bylaws for local affiliates of the National Federation of the Grand Order of Pachyderm Clubs

Article I Name _____

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the _____ ,
a local organization of the _____ State Federation of the Grand
Order of Pachyderm Clubs and the National Federation of the Grand
Order of Pachyderm Clubs, Inc.

Article II Purposes and Objectives

Section 1. *Purpose:* (1) To provide a practical means for broad citizen participation in politics; (2) To promote practical political education and the dissemination of information on our political system; (3) To promote development of potential leaders; (4) To assist in carrying out the principles and purposes of the Republican Party in the following fields:

- A. Providing leadership in government.
- B. Protecting individual rights and freedoms.
- C. Promoting clean government with local emphasis.
- D. Keeping the public informed on the status of their government.

Section 2. *Objectives:* (1) To promote the art of politics, recognizing that free government cannot exist without political leaders and politicians; (2) To engage in non-profit political educational activities through club programs and other means; (3) To cooperate with the Republican Party. (4) To promote understanding and harmony within the Republican Party as it deals with divisive issues.

Article III Policies

Section 1. *General Policy:* It is the policy of this organization to offer a non-profit association of citizens who can “break bread” together regardless of their political leanings within the Republican Party, free from factional entanglements.

- Section 2. *Fairness Policy:*** The club has a policy of fairness and equal treatment toward Republican Party candidates.
- Section 3. *Non-endorsement Policy:*** This organization will not endorse candidates in non-partisan elections, primary elections nor otherwise take sides in the Republican Party's selection of candidates. The club shall not adopt any resolutions, policies or endorsements of any kind which take a stand on issues, except as otherwise provided in these bylaws. Nothing herein prohibits the organization, however, from supporting fully the Republican candidates in uncontested primaries or in any general election.
- Section 4. *Public and Republican Party Officials:*** Elected public or party officials may constitute no more than fifty percent (50%) of a Pachyderm Club's elected officers and directors at any time.
- Section 5. *Disqualification during Elections:*** Any Club officer or director who is a candidate in a contested primary or nonpartisan election campaign shall vacate their office temporarily until the election results are determined.
- Section 6. *Endorsement of candidates by club officers:*** The officers of this organization in their official capacity, shall not permit the use of their name by any person seeking the nomination for an elective office before the filing deadline or in the event of a contested Republican primary. Any officer who violates this rule may be removed by the Board of Directors pursuant to Article VI Section 3(h)

Article IV Membership

- Section 1. *Membership requirements:*** (a) Membership is open to all Republicans. All members of this local organization are required to be members of the National Pachyderm Federation and their local state Pachyderm Federation if one exists. Members are not entitled to vote or hold office unless they are deemed to be in good standing. Membership in good standing is defined as current with all dues, National, State and local as well as having been a member for 30 days.
- (b) Honorary membership. Honorary membership may be granted by the Board of Directors provided the club treasurer shall forward the names and address of such honorary members to the National Federation secretary with the subscription fees (due January 1) for the National Pachyderm Federation periodic publication and to the

State Federation Secretary with the appropriate State Federation dues.

(c) Special membership category. Special membership categories may be approved by a two-thirds vote of the total membership of the Board of Directors provided that all requirements of Article IV Section 1(a) are met.

Section 2. *Expulsion of members:*

(a) A member may be expelled from the club for cause by a two-thirds vote of the total membership of the Board of Directors at a meeting convened for the sole purpose of hearing cause or causes for expulsion of such a member. Cause for expulsion may include, but is not limited to, repudiation of the Republican Party or the principles, bylaws and philosophy of this club or the National Federation of Pachyderm Clubs. Upon initiation of such action by the Board of Directors, the Secretary shall notify the member in writing of the possible expulsion.

(b) Not less than two weeks prior thereto the Club Secretary shall notify the member in question and every member of the board as to the alleged cause or causes pertaining to a member's possible expulsion as well as the date, time and place at which the motion for expulsion will be heard. At such meeting the President, or his designee, shall present the case for expulsion. The member proposed for expulsion may then present a defense. The vote on expulsion shall be by secret ballot.

Section 3. *Notification of National and State Federation In the case of resignation or expulsion of any member.* The club Secretary shall immediately notify the State and National Federations and all members of the club of such action.

Section 4. *Forfeiture of membership rights:* Any member whose membership in the club has been terminated for any reason whatsoever, shall forfeit all interest in any funds or property of the club and all rights to the use of the Pachyderm name, emblem or other insignia.

Article V Member Dues

- Section 1. Annual Dues:** The annual dues shall be all-inclusive for membership in the National and State Federations and the local club. Dues are due January 1 and delinquent March 1 of each year. All new members shall pay the entire annual dues, however, those who join after September 30 shall be credited as paid for the next calendar year.
- Section 2. Dues for Honorary members:** Honorary membership carries no obligation whatever to the member. These members are not assessed dues and have no rights such as voting or holding office. The sponsoring club is responsible for the fees described in Article IV Section 1(b).
- Section 3. Dues for “Special Membership Categories”:** Members holding membership under the Special Membership Category granted in Article IV, Section 1(c) shall pay dues as determined by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Regardless of the amount assessed the member, the club is responsible for payment of National and State Federation dues.
- Section 4. Dues Reporting:** National and State federation dues shall be forwarded along with a membership report to the state Federation and National Federation Treasurers no less than once each month.

Article VI Board of Directors

- Section 1. Membership of the Board:** The management of this club shall be vested in a Board of Directors consisting of no less than five and no more than nine At- large Directors elected from the membership. Additionally, the President, Vice Presidents, Immediate Past President, Secretary and Treasurer of the club shall also become voting members of the Board if they are not already At-large Directors. The County Chairman of the local Republican Party is also invited to serve as a non-voting member of the board.
- Section 2. Duties of the Board:** (a) The Board shall determine the policies and activities of this club, approve the annual budget, approve all expenditures, except that the President may approve expenditures of \$50.00 or less. The club may not be financially obligated beyond the balance on hand in the treasury without a majority vote of the membership at a regular or special meeting of the club

(b) The Board of Directors shall meet at least once every two months for the purpose of reviewing, planning and directing the policies and activities of the Club. Minutes of the Board meetings shall be recorded and reports presented at regular meetings of the Club.

(c) Following the election of the Board of Directors in November, the president shall convene a special meeting of the Board including both the existing board and the newly elected members. The purpose of this meeting shall be the election of a President and one or more Vice Presidents for the following year. The President and Vice Presidents shall be elected by the board and shall serve for one year. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors and shall serve for one year or until their successors are appointed. The newly elected and appointed officers and directors shall begin their official duties on January 1 following their election.

(d) Representation of the Club at conventions, caucuses or other meetings, shall consist of the President, Vice-Presidents and such other delegates as the Board may designate.

(e) One-third of the Board members shall constitute a quorum, except for hearings involving expulsion of a member, in which case 75% of the voting members shall constitute a quorum.

(f) Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President or one third of the members of the Board with at least 48 hours notice to all Board members

(g) The use of proxies in actions of the board is prohibited.

Section 3. *Election, Vacancy and Removal :*

(a) Each year, except for the first year of a club's operations, one third of the At-Large Directors positions shall be elected from the membership to serve for a term of three years. No Director shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive three year terms.

During the first year of operation, the membership shall elect no less than five, nor more than nine At-large Directors. One third of these shall be elected to one year terms, one third elected to two year terms and one third to three year terms.

(b) A nominating Committee consisting of three members shall be

appointed by the Board of Directors by July 1 of each year. This Committee shall submit a report to the Club no later than the last regular Club meeting in September. Any member may submit nominations for Directors provided that such nominations are given in writing to the club secretary no later than two weeks prior to the November election. Nominations from the floor are prohibited.

(c) Three Directors shall be elected at the first regular meeting in November. Election shall be by ballot except when the number of nominees is equal to the number of vacancies, a voice vote may be taken. The three candidates receiving the greatest number of votes for Director will be declared elected.

(d) The annual meeting with installation of officers and newly elected directors, shall be held in December, the date to be determined by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

(e) In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the vacancy shall be filled by the Vice-President. Vacancies occurring in other offices will be filled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, provided that notice thereof is given at a regular club meeting prior to the Board meeting when such vacancy shall be filled.

(f) Elected or appointed members of the Board of Directors who miss more than two consecutive regular meetings of the Board of Directors may be removed from the Board of Directors by a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors present at a meeting. The motion to remove a director must have been announced in advance of the meeting as a part of the agenda.

(g) Elected or appointed Officers of the club who miss more than two consecutive regular meetings of the Board of Directors may be removed from the Board of Directors by a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors present at a meeting. The motion to remove an officer must have been announced in advance of the meeting as a part of the agenda.

(h) Members of the Board or Officers may be removed for causes other than the lack of attendance. These include but are not limited to nonfeasance, malfeasance, violation Article III section 6, repudiation of the Republican Party or the principles of the Pachyderm Federation. Should such charges be leveled, the rules for member expulsion detailed in Article IV Section 2 shall govern the process.

Article VII *Qualifications and Duties of Officers:*

- Section 1. *Eligibility:*** Except in the first year of a new club a person must have been a member of the Pachyderm Club for four months or longer to be eligible to serve as a director or officers. No officer may assume the position to which they have been elected, nor be installed to that position until such time as their local, state and national dues are paid for the year that they are to serve as an officer.
- Section 2. *President:*** The President serves as the chief executive officer of the Club; appoints all committees except as otherwise provided in these bylaws; is an ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating committee; presides at all meetings of the club and Board of Directors; exercises general supervision over affairs of the club, and performs such other duties as are ordinarily incumbent upon a President.
- Section 3. *Vice-Presidents:*** The 1st Vice-President shall assist the President and preside over meetings of the club or Board in the President's absence. The 1st Vice-President shall serve as the Chairman of the Program Committee. Additional Vice-Presidents (if applicable) shall perform such duties as assigned by the Board.
- Section 4. *Secretary:*** The Secretary shall keep all records and minutes of meetings of the club and Board of Directors and perform such other duties as may be delegated by the Board of Directors.
- Section 5. *Treasurer:*** The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all funds subject to the approval of the Board of Directors for amounts over the authority of the President; shall keep a record of all receipts and disbursements; provide monthly financial statements at Board meetings and give a written report at the annual meeting in December. The financial records shall be examined annually as of December 31 and an examiner's report made to the Board of Directors.
- Section 6. *Bylaws Compliance:*** All officers must become familiar with the provisions of these Bylaws, the State Federation Bylaws and the National Federation Bylaws to assure that they are in compliance.

Article VIII *Standing Committees*

- Section 1. *Political Education:*** The purpose of the Political Education Committee is to promote programs designed to keep the club membership informed on the political processes and issues; to

promote political education generally in the schools and community for youth and adults, and to make recommendations for improvements in laws regulating political parties and the political processes.

Section 2. *Program Committee:* The Program Committee shall be composed of the 1st Vice-President who shall serve as the Chairman and no less than two other members who shall be appointed by the President to serve for a term of one year. This committee is responsible for providing speakers for the Club's regular meetings.

Section 3. *Other Committees:* The President with the concurrence of the Board of Directors may appoint other committees which may include but are not limited to Membership, Awards, Club Extension, Youth and Special Events Committees.

Article IX Meetings

Section 1. *Meeting Times:* Regular meetings of this club shall be held _____ . The Board of Directors is empowered to make temporary changes in the meeting time, date and place for special occasions. Any permanent change of the regular meeting date, time or place must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular meeting after two weeks written notice has been mailed to all members.

Section 2. *Special Meetings:* Special meetings may be called by the President or the Board of Directors. No special meeting shall be called where club business will be transacted unless a notice thereof is mailed to each member five days prior to the meeting, stating the time, place and subject of the meeting. Fifteen percent (15%) of the membership shall constitute a quorum at a regular or special meeting . No proxies are permitted.

Article X Dissolution

Section 1. Upon dissolution of the club, or revocation of the charter, all monies remaining in the club treasury, after all outstanding debts of the club have been paid, shall be forwarded to the Treasurer of the State Federation. If a State Federation does not exist, the monies shall be forwarded to the Treasurer of the National Federation of the Grand Order of Pachyderm Club's, Inc.

Article XI Amendments

Section 1. These Bylaws may not be amended by the local club. Only the National Federation Board of Directors is empowered to modify the bylaws of any of its local affiliates.

Article XII Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. Robert's Rule of Order Newly Revised shall govern this Club in all cases to which they are applicable and which are not inconsistent with these bylaws.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 20__

President

Secretary