

# **NEBRASKA GOOD SAM “CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

## **ARTICLE I – NAME**

This organization shall be known as the Nebraska organization of the International Good Sam Recreational Vehicle Club. The aforementioned shall recognize the International Good Sam Club’s Constitution and By-Laws as their ultimate body of law.

Nebraska Good Sam will always use the terminology, “State Organization “, when referring to its organization. The term Club always means the International Good Sam Recreational Vehicle Club.

The State Organization will only use the Good Sam name and logo in good taste, and to promote the Good Sam Pledge and State activities in a manner consistent with the Club Constitution, By-Laws, and General Policies.

## **ARTICLE II – PURPOSE**

It is the purpose of this State Organization to promote the use and enjoyment of recreational vehicles and outdoor fellowship among its members through trips and group activities. This State Organization Shall maintain an attitude which is strictly non-sectarian, non-partisan, non-sectional, and non-racial and shall be dedicated to bringing together people interested in the ideals and principles of the International Good Sam Recreational Vehicle Club.

## **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Membership in this State Organization is limited to those individuals who are members in good standing with both the International Good Sam Club and the State Organization. i.e. have paid Club and State Membership dues, when applicable.

Section 2. Each membership includes one couple or single and any dependent children living with them.

## **ARTICLE IV – STATE OFFICERS/BOARD**

Section 1. Officers of this State Organization shall be the State Director, Assistant State Directors, Secretary, Treasurer, Wagonmaster, Legislative Representative, and such additional officers as deemed necessary by the state organization. The State Board is comprised of the State Officers listed above.

Section 2. The State Director is appointed to a two year term, as specified in the Constitution and By-laws of the International Good Sam Club.

Section 3. The Treasurer will be elected to a two year term by the State Committee.

Section 4. All other State Officers will be appointed by the State Director and will hold office for a period designated by the State Director, but not to exceed the State Director's term of office.

Section 5. No State officer or his/her spouse may hold any other post or position within the Club, Region, State, or Chapter unless special approval is given by the Executive Director.

## **ARTICLE V - STATE COMMITTEE**

Each State is authorized to form a State Committee composed of one Chapter President or his/her appointed delegate, from each Chapter within the State, as specified in the Constitution and By-Laws of the International Good Sam Club. When formed, each Chapter should fully participate in the State Committee and meet all obligations thereof.

## **ARTICLE VI - AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to the Constitution shall be made only with the approval of a three quarters (3/4) vote by the members of the State Committee present.

## **BY – LAWS**

### **ARTICLE I – MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. All members of the State Organization must be members in good standing with both the International Good Sam Club and the State organization. i.e. Have paid both Club and State membership dues, when applicable.

Section 2. Each membership includes one couple or single, and any dependent children living with them.

Section 3. Members of the State Organization will be classified as either Chapter members or State members-at-large.

Section 4. State members-at-large will be defined as those members of the International Good Sam Club who do not belong to a Chapter, but who have voluntarily decided to be members of the State organization, and to meet all the necessary membership requirements thereof.

### **ARTICLE II DUES**

Section 1. Dues for State Membership will be levied by the State Committee as described in the Standing Rules and Policies section. This fee is to be paid by all Chapter members, per rig, and will be placed in the State Treasury.

Section 2. Chapter members should submit their State dues to the Chapter Treasurer, who will remit payment of the State dues for all Chapter members to the State Treasurer, on or before January 1 of each year. Members-at-Large shall submit dues directly to the State Treasurer on or before January 1 each year.

Section 3. Only a dues paying member of the State Organization shall be eligible to participate in its business meeting, or to serve in any of its elective or appointed positions. This includes any State-at-Large member who pays annual State dues.

### **ARTICLE III – DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

**STATE DIRECTOR** The State Director is appointed to a two year term as specified in the Constitution and By – Laws of the International Good Sam Club.

The State Director is the highest Club Officer in the State.

His or her functions are:

1. To represent his/her State membership to the Club.
2. To represent and uphold the Club Constitution, By-Laws, and General Policies of the Club to the membership.
3. To act as the advisor in the administration of State and Chapter business.
4. To administer the formation of new Good Sam Chapters.
5. To officiate at State Samborees.
6. To advise the State Committee composed of Chapter delegates in his State, to officiate at its meeting, and to vote only in the event of a tie.
7. Upon request, to assist Club Headquarters staff with the planning and hosting of International Samborees and special events in his/her State and region.
8. To perform such other functions as specified by the Club.
9. If a vacancy occurs during the State Directors term, the Sponsoring Corporation may appoint a replacement for the duration of the term, or request that the State present another candidate for the position.

**ASSISTANT STATE DIRECTORS.** The Assistant State Directors will be assigned responsibility for a particular geographical section of the State, and will serve as the representative of the State Director for this area.

The functions of the Assistant State Directors are:

1. To assist in organizing local Chapters.
2. To supervise State functions in their assigned areas under the direction of the State Director.
3. To act as advisor to local Chapters when requested.
4. Other duties as designated by the State Director.

**STATE SECRETARY.** The functions of the State Secretary are:

1. To handle all correspondence as assigned by the State Director.
2. To attend all regular and special meetings of the State Board and State Committee, with responsibilities for: recording the minutes of meetings with the time and place, how called or authorized, the notice given thereof, names of those present, and proceedings; reading minutes from previous meeting; duplicating and distributing minutes to members of the State Board and State Committee when requested to do so; recording roll call.
3. To prepare an agenda for the presiding officer, showing what is to come before the meeting.
4. To have a list of all standing committees, and to file the reports of these committees when presented.
5. To have a copy of the State organization's By-Laws available for ready reference.
6. To send out notices of all Regional and special meetings of the State Board and State Committee.
7. To maintain records of all members of the State organization, including Chapter members and State Members-at-Large.

**STATE TREASURER.** The State Treasurer will be elected for two years by a simple majority of all members of the State Committee. The Treasurer shall be elected before January 1 and shall take office on January 1. The Treasurer may not be a member of the State Director's family.

The functions of the State Treasurer are:

1. To have custody of all funds, securities, and assets of the State organization.
2. To be responsible for keeping full and accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements and to make a report of such at all regular scheduled State Committee meetings.
3. To pay only those expenses which have been approved by the State committee. All disbursements will be made by check, approved by the State Director and by the State Treasurer.
4. To prepare a quarterly itemized financial report to be distributed to the State Board and the State Committee.
5. To serve as State Election Chairman.
6. An Audit Committee will be appointed by the State Committee to audit the accounts of the State Treasurer at least once annually, and will submit the report of their findings to the membership. See By-Laws, Article V, Section 4.
7. Upon the vacancy of the State Treasurer, the State Director will conduct a vote of the State Committee as soon as possible, for the purpose of electing another State Treasurer to fill this position.

**STATE WAGONMASTER.** At the direction of the State Director, the State Wagonmaster is -to serve as the chairman of the parking committee, and other such duties as designated by the State Director.

**LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE.** The Legislative Representative is responsible for keeping track of all potential laws affecting RV owners within the State, and for notifying the State Board and International Headquarters of such, and other duties as required.

#### **ARTICLE IV - STATE COMMITTEE**

Section 1. Each State is authorized to form a State Committee composed of all Chapter Presidents within the State, or their appointed delegates, as specified in the International Good Sam Constitution and By-Laws. When formed, a State Committee has the voting power to reconcile serious disputes within the State and in any Chapter within the State.

Section 2. The State Committee shall meet at least twice a year, or often as necessary to conduct the business of this Committee. The State Director, with the approval of the State Committee, shall determine the time and place of all State Committee meetings.

Section 3 A simple majority of the State Committee members, or their appointed delegates, will constitute a quorum.

Section 4 Roberts Rules of Order shall govern all business meetings which will be conducted as follows:

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call
3. Introduction of guests
4. Reading of minutes of previous meeting
5. Treasurer's report – presentation of bills
6. Reading of correspondence
7. Reports of committees
8. Unfinished business
9. New business
10. Announcements
11. Adjournment

Section 5. The State Board shall be allowed to sit in and participate in the State Committee meetings as a recommending body, but has no voting power. The State Director will only vote on those issues that come before the State Committee in the event of a tie.

Section 6. The State Committee has the authority to establish, regulate, and control the State Treasury, and to levy a reasonable fee to be paid by all Chapter members within the State, to be placed in the State Treasury. Such levy will only be recognized by the Club if made by a three-fourths vote of the Chapter delegates attending a meeting of the State Committee held after thirty (30) days written notice of the purpose of the meeting to the Chapter delegates within the State. The vote to levy a fee may be made by mail. If there is no designated Chapter delegate for a Chapter, such written notice shall be sent to the Chapter President. All such funds shall be the sole property of the State Committee.

Section 7. It is the responsibility of the members of the State Committee:

1. To attend State Committee meetings as the representative of his/her Chapter and to report the proceedings of such meetings to the Chapter members. If the Chapter President is

unable to attend, he/she shall notify the State Director before the start of a scheduled State Committee meeting who the delegate for the Chapter will be.

2. To vote on such items as come before the State Committee on behalf of the Chapter.
3. To make a written request of the State Director on or before ten (10) days prior to the State Committee meeting, on behalf of the Chapter, that items be placed on the State Committee meeting agenda.
4. To present to the State Committee any proposed amendments to the State Constitution and By-Laws deemed necessary by the Chapter.
5. To serve on committees voluntarily or by appointment for the good of the State Committee.
6. To obtain written support of 25% of the State Committee membership to petition the State Director to call a special meeting.

## **ARTICLE V - STATE TREASURY**

Section 1. All monies received by the State organization from dues, State Samborees, or any other source shall be placed in the State Treasury.

Section 2. All expenditures of monies from the State Treasury shall be ratified by the State Committee at a State Committee meeting.

Section 3. All disbursements from the State Treasury, shall be by check, approved by the State Director, and signed by the Treasurer. Exception may be made at the discretion of the State Director in cases where the expenditure is less than ten dollars. These disbursements may be made from available cash on hand, but will be duly recorded in the financial records of the State organization.

Secton 4. The State Committee shall appoint three members of the State Committee to act as an audit committee, with the State Director acting as chairman. An audit will be conducted annually in conjunction with the election of the State Treasurer. It will be carried out regardless of whether the Treasurer is re-elected. The outgoing and incoming Treasurer (if applicable) will participate in this annual audit to attest to their Satisfaction as to the validity of the audit. Special audits shall be initiated by the State Committee whenever a change in the State Treasurer occurs.

## **ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES**

The State Committee shall be empowered to appoint such committees as it deems necessary, and to direct the activities of said committees. \_

## **ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. Proposed amendments to these By-Laws must be submitted to the State Director by a State Committee member, in writing, to be included in the agenda of the next meeting.

Section 2. The proposed amendment (s) in its final form shall be sent to each member ten days prior to the meeting at which the amendment (s) is to be voted upon.

Section 3. Such proposed amendment (s) shall automatically be an item on subsequent agendas until properly disposed of by a vote of the membership.

Section 4. The amendment (s) may be passed with an affirmative vote of three-fourths of the eligible voting members present.

Section 5. The amendment (s) in final form, will be submitted to Good Sam Headquarters for approval.

## **ARTICLE VIII - STANDING RULES AND POLICIES**

Section 1. Standing Rules and Policies are to be used to help accomplish the objectives of the Nebraska Good Sam organization. These rules and policies are not all inclusive.

Section 2. Standing Rules can be adopted at any State Committee meeting by a majority vote at any meeting. Previous notice is not required for Standing Rules.

#####

### **NEBRASKA GOOD SAM'S STANDING RULES AND POLICIES**

1. Standing Rules can be adopted at any State Committee meeting by a majority vote at any meeting. Previous notice is not required for Standing Rules.
2. No Standing Rule can be adopted which conflicts with the Constitution, By-Laws or Rules of Order.
3. Assistant Directors are to keep track of their expenses, including postage and telephone calls involving Nebraska Good Sam business, and present the bill to the State Director for payment.
4. Staff members are to wear their staff shirts and vests, for easy identification at State and International functions.



5. Chapter elections are to be held before the fall meeting. Chapters are to send a copy of the election results to the State Director, and State Treasurer and keep one copy for Chapter files.
6. A member must have attended ten (10) Samboree's, one of which MUST BE IN REGION 3 to earn and be able to purchase a CENTURY PATCH. The form must be verified by the State Director or their designated assistant. A STAR may be earned and purchased for each additional ten (10) Samboree's thereafter.
7. To earn and be able to purchase a REGION 3 Patch, a member must attend and have a verified signature, signed by each State Director in Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Manitoba/NW Ontario. A Star may be earned and purchased, after completing each subsequent round of Region 3 States, thereafter.
8. In the event of the death of a member in a Chapter, notify the State Chaplain.
9. All past Nebraska State Directors are to be given a complimentary pass to all Nebraska Samboree's.
10. The State Director will be reimbursed for mileage expense to attend Region 3 Samboree's, not to exceed the budgeted amount each year.
11. The Sunday morning offering is to be donated to a charity of the State Committee's choice or to the speaker (s) for services rendered or both.
12. Annual State dues of \$3.00 per year must be paid to the State Treasurer as described in Article II of the By-Laws.

#####

The above recommendations were approved at the September 10, 2011 meeting of the Nebraska Good Sam State Committee. Respectfully submitted: James Novotny, Fremont and Roy Stohler, Concord with the council of Don Woodard, Sambassador Ft. Worth, Texas.

Approved by Carla Gries, Nebraska State Director, September 10, 2011

