**Bylaws of the Rotary Club of**

**TEHACHAPI**

**July 1, 2024**

**Article 1 Definitions**

1. Board: The Board of Directors of this club.

2. Director: A member of this club's Board of Directors.

3. Member: A member, other than an honorary member, of this club.

4. RI: Rotary International.

5. Year: The twelve-month period that begins on 1 July.

**Article 2 Board**

**The governing body of this club shall be the board consisting of 8-12** members of this club, namely, the president, past-president, president-elect, secretary/treasurer, and the Directors of Community Service, Club Service, Youth Service, Membership, PR/Marketing and the Rotary Foundation. At the discretion of the board, also added can be other significant positions elected in accordance with Article 3, Section 1 of these bylaws.

**Article 3 Election of Club President**

**Section 1a** – Presidential Order – Each Club president should be nominated and approved by the Board and follow the Presidential order: Each step is one year leading to the next as training opportunities are met.

Club President Elect Nominee: A Nomination Committee made up the current Club President and two or the most recent Past Club Presidents who are members of the club will identify candidates for the position of Club President Elect in time for Board approval and their attendance at Mid-terms (January)

President Elect – will take the PE position July 1 (one year before becoming Club President) and will attend District Assembly and Mid Terms as well as the President’s Retreat and PETS in preparation for their year as Club President

President – will take the position of President on July 1 and continue in that capacity until June 30 of the following year.

**Section 1b** – Club Officers and Directors: The Club President shall select the various Club Officers and Directors to serve during his/her term of office.

**Section 2 –** The officers and directors, so selected, shall constitute the board. **Section 3 –** A vacancy in the board or any office shall be filled by action of the remaining directors.

**Section 4 –** A vacancy in the position of any officer-elect or director-elect shall be filled by action of the remaining directors-elect.

**Article 4 Duties of Officers**

**Section 1 –** *President*. It shall be the duty of the president to preside at meetings of the club and the board and to perform other duties as ordinarily pertain to the office of president.

**Section 2 –** *President-elect*. It shall be the duty of the president-elect to serve as a director and to perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the president or the board. Attendance at both the President’s Retreat and PETS is mandatory.

**Section 3 –** *Past-President*. It shall be the duty of the past-president to preside at meetings of the club and the board in the absence of the president and to perform other duties as ordinarily pertain to the office of past-president.

**Section 4 –** *Secretary*. It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep membership records; record attendance at meetings; send out notices of club, board, and committee meetings; record and preserve the minutes of such meetings; report as required to RI, including the semiannual reports of membership on 1 January and 1 July of each year, which shall include per capita dues for all members and prorated dues for active members who have been elected to membership in the club since the start of the July or January semiannual reporting period; report changes in membership; collect and remit RI official magazine subscriptions; and perform other duties as usually pertain to the office of secretary.

**Section 5 –** *Treasurer*. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to have custody of all funds, accounting for it to the club annually and at any other time upon demand by the board, and to perform other duties as pertains to the office of treasurer. Upon retirement from office, the treasurer shall turn over to the incoming treasurer or to the president all funds, books of accounts, or any other club property.

**Section 6 –** *Directors.* The duties of the Directors shall be to act as head of their functions, to lead their committee as appropriate and to perform such duties as are usually prescribed for their office and other duties as may be prescribed by the president or the board.

**Article 5 Meetings**

**Section 1 –** The regular weekly meetings of this club shall be held on **Thursday** at **noon.**

Due notice of any changes in or canceling of the regular meeting shall be given to all members of the club.

**Section 2 –** One-third of the membership shall constitute a quorum at the annual and regular meetings of this club.

**Section 3 –** Regular meetings of the board shall be held on each month as designated by the president. Special meetings of the board shall be called by the president, whenever deemed necessary, or upon the request of two (2) directors, due notice having been given.

**Section 4 –** A majority of the directors shall constitute a quorum of the board.

**Article 6 Membership Classifications, Fees and Dues**

**Section 1 –** The admission fee for all membership classifications shall be $ **25** to be paid before the applicant can qualify as a member, except as provided for in the standard Rotary club constitution, Article 11.

**Section 2a –** The membership dues for a full membership shall be $ **840** per annum, payable semiannually on the first day of July and of January, or monthly

**Section 2b –** A full membership includes 4 lunches per month, all club socials, District and RI dues, subscription to the RI official magazine, and reimbursement of registration fees for the annual District conference, annual RI convention and District training classes.

**Section 3a –** The membership dues for an associate membership shall be $ **420** per annum, payable semiannually on the first day of July and of January, or monthly.

**Section 3b –** An Associate membership includes 2 lunches per month, District and RI dues, and a subscription to the RI official magazine.

**Section 4a –** The membership dues for a corporate membership shall be $ **1200** per annum, payable semiannually on the first day of July and of January, or monthly.

**Section 4b –** A corporate membership includes the following items for one corporate designee; 4 lunches per month, all club socials, District and RI dues, subscription to the RI official magazine, and reimbursement of registration fees for the annual District conference, annual RI convention, and District training classes.

**Article 7 Method of Voting**

The business of this club shall be transacted by *viva voce\** vote except the election of Club President and Club President elect, which may be by ballot if called for by a majority of members present. The board may determine that a specific resolution be considered by ballot rather than by *viva voce* vote.

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*(Note:* Viva voce *vote is defined as when club voting is conducted by vocal assent.*

**Article 8 FIVE Avenues of Service**

The five Avenues of Service are the philosophical and practical framework for the work of this Rotary club. They are **CLUB** Service, **YOUTH** Service, **COMMUNITY** Service, **MEMBERSHIP SERVICE,** and **INTERNATIONAL** Service. This club will be active in each of the five Avenues of Service.

**Article 9 Committees**

Club committees are charged with carrying out the annual and long-range goals of the club based on the five Avenues of Service. The president-elect, president, and immediate past president should work together to ensure continuity of leadership and succession planning. When feasible, committee members should be appointed to the same committee for three years to ensure consistency. The president-elect is responsible for appointing committee members to fill vacancies, appointing committee chairs, and conducting planning meetings prior to the start of the year in office. It is recommended that the chair have previous experience as a member of the committee. Standing committees should be appointed as follows:

* Community and International Service

This committee is responsible for planning and implementing club community and international projects. Committee Chair will select subcommittee heads to lead each major project administration

* Club Public Relations

This committee should develop and implement plans to provide the public with information about Rotary and to promote the club’s service projects and activities.

* Club Administration

This Committee shall be conducted under the Club Service Director. This committee is responsible for preparing effective meeting environments and for planning and conducting club social events.

* The Rotary Foundation

This committee should develop and implement plans to support The Rotary Foundation through both financial contributions and program participation. This committee shall be conducted under the Foundation Director.

Additional ad hoc committees may be appointed as needed.

(a) The president shall be ex officio a member of all committees and, as such, shall have all the privileges of membership thereon.

(b) Each committee shall transact its business as is delegated to it in these bylaws and such additional business as may be referred to it by the president or the board. Except where special authority is given by the board, such committees shall not take action until a report has been made and approved by the board.

(c) Each chair shall be responsible for regular meetings and activities of the committee, shall supervise and coordinate the work of the committee, and shall report to the board on all committee activities.

**Article 10 Duties of Committees**

The duties of all committees shall be established and reviewed by the president for his or her year. In declaring the duties of each, the president shall reference to appropriate RI materials.

Each committee shall have a specific mandate, clearly defined goals, and action plans established by the beginning of each year for implementation during the course of the year. It shall be the primary responsibility of the president-elect to provide the necessary leadership to prepare a recommendation for club committees, mandates, goals, and plans for presentation to the board in advance of the commencement of the year as noted above.

**Article 11 Leave of Absence**

Upon written application to the board, setting forth good and sufficient cause, leave of absence may be granted excusing a member from attending the meetings of the club for a specified length of time.

**Article 12 Finances**

**Section 1 –** Prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, the board shall prepare a budget of estimated income and expenditures for the year, which shall stand as the limit of expenditures for these purposes, unless otherwise ordered by action of the board. The budget shall be broken into two separate parts: one in respect of club operations and one in respect of charitable/service operations.

**Section 2 –** The treasurer shall deposit all club funds in a bank, named by the board. The club funds shall be divided into two separate parts: club operations account and charitable service projects account - The Rotary Club of Tehachapi Foundation.

**Section 3 –** All bills shall be paid by the treasurer or other authorized officer only when approved by two other officers or directors.

**Section 4 –** A thorough review of all financial transactions by a qualified person shall be made once each year.

**Section 5 –** The fiscal year of this club shall extend from 1 July to 30 June, and for the collection of members' dues shall be divided into two (2) semiannual periods extending from 1 July to 31 December, and from 1 January to 30 June. The payment of per capita dues and RI official magazine subscriptions shall be made on 1 July and 1 January of each year on the basis of the membership of the club on those dates.

**Article 13 Method of Electing Members**

**Section 1 –** The name of a prospective member, proposed by an active member of the club, shall be submitted to the board in writing, through the club secretary. A transferring or former member of another club may be proposed to active membership by the former club. The proposal shall be kept confidential except as otherwise provided in this procedure.

**Section 2 –** The board shall ensure that the proposal meets all the classification and membership requirements of the standard Rotary club constitution.

**Section 3 –** The board shall approve or disapprove the proposal within 30 days of its submission and shall notify the proposer, through the club secretary, of its decision.

**Section 4 –** If the decision of the board is favorable, the prospective member shall be informed of the purposes of Rotary and of the privileges and responsibilities of membership, following which the prospective member shall be requested to sign the membership proposal form and to permit his or her name and proposed classification to be published to the club.

**Section 5 –** If no written objection to the proposal, stating reasons, is received by the board from any member (other than honorary) of the club within seven (7) days following publication of information about the prospective member, that person, upon payment of the admission fee (if not honorary membership), as prescribed in these bylaws, shall be considered to be elected to membership.

If any such objection has been filed with the board, it shall vote on this matter at its next meeting. If approved despite the objection, the proposed member, upon payment of the admission fee (if not honorary membership), shall be considered to be elected to membership.

**Section 6 –** Following the election, the president shall arrange for the new member's induction, membership card, and new member Rotary literature. In addition, the president or secretary will report the new member information to RI and the president will assign a member to assist with the new member's assimilation to the club as well as assign the new member to a club project or function.

**Section 7 –** The club may elect, in accordance with the standard Rotary club constitution, honorary members proposed by the board. Only individuals who have made significant contributions to the Club will be considered as possible honorary members.

**Article 14 Resolutions**

The club shall not consider any resolution or motion to commit the club on any matter until the board has considered it. Such resolutions or motions, if offered at a club meeting, shall be referred to the board without discussion

**Article 15 Order of Business**

Meeting called to order.

Introduction of visitors.

Correspondence, announcements, and Rotary information.

Committee reports if any.

Any unfinished business.

Any new business.

Address or other program features.

Adjournment.

**Article 16 Amendments**

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting, a quorum being present, by a two-thirds vote of all members present, provided that notice of such proposed amendment shall have been mailed to each member at least ten (10) days before such meeting. No amendment or addition to these bylaws can be made which is not in harmony with the standard Rotary club constitution and with the constitution and bylaws of RI.