

Bylaws of the Virginia Writers Club, Inc.

Article I *Name*

The name of this association is The Virginia Writers Club, Inc.

Article II *Object and Purposes*

Section 1. Object. The object of this Club, which is non-profit, shall be to support and stimulate the art and craft of writing by striving to:

- give writers opportunities for personal and professional association with other writers
- strengthen skills in the art, craft, and business of writing
- advocate the literary arts in the broader community
- serve as a statewide supporting and coordinating body to assist the chapters and members in the Commonwealth.

Section 2. Purposes. The Club is organized exclusively for educational purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Article III *Membership*

Section 1. Eligibility. Membership shall be open to all who support the objectives of this Club regardless of race, gender, national origin, age, religion, or disability.

Section 2. Categories of Membership. Categories of membership in the Club shall be active, honorary, emeritus, associate, and corporate.

Active. Candidates for active membership shall be eligible if they have: (a) written a book, play, movie, or other script which has been published, produced, or broadcast; (b) edited a published anthology or other writings; or (c) written and sold to a magazine, newspaper, book publisher, or other communications medium, two poems, one short story, or an article. Other writings may be considered on their merits at the discretion of the Board of Governors.

Honorary. Honorary members may be elected by the Board of Governors. They should be distinguished for their contributions to writing in Virginia.

Emeritus. Emeritus members shall be former active members whom the Board of Governors, by formal action, has excused from the payment of dues and other obligations.

Associate. Associate members are aspirants who have not yet fulfilled the eligibility requirements for active membership.

Corporate. Corporate members are those business and philanthropic organizations that support the mission and objectives of the Club.

Section 3. Becoming a member. Persons, businesses, and philanthropic organizations desiring to join the Club shall apply for membership by completing a Club membership application form. With guidance from the Board of Governors and Membership Services Committee, the Executive Director will review applications, determine whether the applicants are to be accepted as members, and assign each of those accepted to an appropriate category of membership.

Section 4. Voting Rights. Only members in good standing of the Virginia Writers Club may elect their officers and/or vote on matters brought before the membership.

Section 5. Termination of Membership. A person's membership may be terminated by resignation, non-payment of dues, or expulsion by the Board for just cause. In the latter case, charges must be conveyed in writing to the member concerned. The member has the right to contest the decision and must convey that written request at least 30 days prior to the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. Terminated members forfeit all dues already paid.

Article IV *Meetings of the Membership*

Section 1. Annual Meeting. An annual meeting of the membership of The Virginia Writers Club shall be held at least once each fiscal year on a date and at a time and place determined by the Board of Governors.

Section 2. Other Meetings. Other meetings may be called by the President or at the request of the majority of the Board of Governors.

Section 3. Notice. The membership must be given at least 30 days notice of the annual meeting and 15 days notice of other meetings.

Article V *Voting of the Membership*

Section 1. Advance Notification. Notice of matters to be voted upon at a meeting of the general membership shall be distributed at least 15 days prior to such a meeting, in a manner determined by the President or Board of Governors. The report of the Nominating Committee for Officers and At-Large Members of the Board of Governors shall be published in "The Virginia Writer" at least 15 days prior to the Annual Meeting, at which meeting the elections will be held.

Section 2. Election. Elections shall be determined by a majority of the votes cast.

Section 3. Teller. The President may designate a teller committee made up of persons who are not members of the Nominating Committee.

Article VI *Board of Governors*

Section 1. Membership of Board of Governors. The Board of Governors shall consist of (a) the elected officers of the Club as specified in Article VII, (b) the Governors designated by the Chapters, and (c) a maximum of nine at-large Governors elected by the general membership, and (d) the Executive Director appointed by the Board of Governors.

A. Each chapter may designate two of its members to serve on the Board of Governors. Only those chapter members who belong to The Virginia Writers Club will be eligible.

B. At-large Governors shall be elected to serve terms of three years or until their successors are elected. They shall be elected in such a manner that approximately one third of the at-large Governors are elected each year. Governors may serve no more than two consecutive terms. After a one-year term hiatus, a Governor will again be eligible for another two consecutive terms. A Governor elected to fulfill a vacated seat shall serve until the term of the regularly elected members has expired. The substitute Governor is eligible to serve two full terms.

C. Only members in good standing are eligible to serve on the Board of Governors.

Section 2. Resignation. A Governor may resign at any time by written notification to the Board's Recording Secretary.

Section 3. Dismissal. A Governor who misses three consecutive meetings of the Board may be removed at the discretion of the Board. The Board may by two-thirds vote remove any Governor. The decision may be contested to the Board.

Section 4. Vacancies. (1) If the Board member is a chapter representative, the Board may request the affected chapter to designate a member to complete the term. (2) The Board may fill other vacancies for unexpired Board terms occurring between regular elections.

Section 5. Meetings.

A. Regular meetings of the Board shall be held on such dates and at such times and places as the Board may designate. Board members will receive at least 30 days notice.

B. Special meetings of the Board may be called at the request of the President or any four Governors. Special meetings require at least 10 days notice and a written explanation for the meeting. No other business may be considered at such a meeting.

Section 6. Voting.

A. A quorum at meetings of the Board shall be one-third of the whole, and the act of a majority of the Governors present shall be the act of the Board, unless otherwise specified.

B. Each Governor shall have one vote on each matter before the Board. Proxy voting is not permitted.

C. As deemed necessary by the President, the Executive Committee, or the Board, a vote on specific issue may be cast by mail or electronically and will have the same authority as a vote cast in person at a meeting of the Board.

Section 7. Powers.

A. The affairs of the Club, except as otherwise provided by law, shall be governed by its Board of Governors. The Board has the power to manage the Club's property, determine its fiscal policies, approve its program of activities, and review, approve, and revise annual budgets submitted to the Board of the Finance Committee.

B. The Board may appoint agents and representatives of the Club with such powers and to perform such acts or duties on behalf of the Club as the Board may see fit, consistent with these Bylaws and to the extent authorized or permitted by law.

C. The Board may authorize any governor, officer, or agent to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the Club. Such authority may be general or confined to specific instances. Unless so authorized by the Board or by these Bylaws, no governor, officer, or agent shall have any power or authority to bind the Club by any contract or obligations, or to pledge its credit, or to render it liable pecuniarily for any purpose or in any amount.

Section 8. Compensation. No Governor shall receive any salary or compensation for service as a Governor. Governors may receive reimbursement for documented expenses incurred in conducting business of the Club. The Board shall set reimbursement levels.

Article VII *Officers*

Section 1. Officers. The elected officers of the Club shall be President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recordings Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2. Election and Terms. The officers shall serve for a term of one year or until their successors are elected and have assumed office. The President may serve no more than two consecutive terms. The officers, except for the President, may serve as often as elected. Officers shall be seated on the first day of the fiscal year. An officer elected to fill a vacancy shall serve until completion of the regular term of the officer replaced. Officers elected at the time of the adoption of these Bylaws will serve until the next fiscal year. This partial term is counted as a full term for the purpose of determining the number of consecutive terms an officer may serve.

Section 3. Removal. Any Club officer may be removed at any time by a majority vote of the Board, provided that the affected officer has received written notice of that intention ten days prior to the Board's meeting and has had the opportunity to appear before the Board at that meeting.

Section 4. Vacancies. By majority vote, the Board may fill vacancies for Club offices occurring between regular elections.

Section 5. President. The President shall be the executive head of the Club and, under the general direction of the Board of Governors, manage the Club. The President shall call the meetings of the Board and preside over them and general meetings of the members. With the approval of the Board, the President shall appoint standing and special committees and shall be ex-officio a member of such committees, except the Nominating Committee.

Section 6. First Vice President. The First Vice President shall assume the duties of President in case of absence or vacancy and will chair the Program Committee.

Section 7. Second Vice President. The Second Vice President shall preside over meetings in the absence of both the President and First Vice President and will chair the Finance Committee.

Section 8. Corresponding Secretary. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct such correspondence as may be assigned by the President.

Section 9. Recording Secretary. The Recording Secretary shall keep a record of all regular and special meetings of members and of the Board of Governors and shall have custody, for eventual transfer to the archives, of all records gathered during his or her tenure. The Secretary shall maintain a list of Officers and Governors with their terms of office indicated. The Recording Secretary shall be empowered to sign as corporate officer.

Section 10. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall keep the accounts of the Club and make a summary report at the meetings of the Board of Governors and general membership. As authorized by the President, the Treasurer shall pay all bills. At the last meeting of the year, the Treasurer shall make a full report on

the Club's finances. The Treasurer shall maintain a roster of members and their dues status. The books of the Treasurer shall be readily available for audit as required by these bylaws.

Section 11. Executive Director. The Board of Governors shall have the power to appoint an Executive Director, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. The Executive Director may be compensated as determined by the Board or President, or may serve in a volunteer capacity. The Executive Director shall be a member of the Board of Governors and the Executive Committee and shall have the right to vote. Duties will be as specified in writing by the Board of Governors.

Article VIII Committees

Section 1. Designation. The Board may designate such committees, standing or special, as the Board deems necessary to carry on the work of the Club. Such committees will report to the Board.

Section 2. Appointment and Term. Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, committees shall be selected in such manner as determined by the Board, shall have such duties as may be assigned by the Board, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. One member of each committee shall be appointed chair by the Board or by the President. Vacancies may be filled by the Board or by the President.

Section 3. Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers and will be chaired by the President. The immediate past President may serve in an advisory capacity without vote. The Executive Committee will convene at the call of the President or at the request of any two members of the Executive Committee. It will have full authority to act on behalf of the Board between regularly scheduled Board meetings as necessary to conduct the affairs of the Club. All actions taken by the Executive Committee shall be reported at the next Board meeting.

Section 4. Finance Committee. The Finance Committee shall consist of at least three members, all of whom will be appointed by the Board. The chair will be the Second Vice President. The Finance Committee shall have the following responsibilities: (1) prepare an annual budget for the Club's activities in the coming fiscal year and present it to the Board, (2) conduct an annual audit of the Club's financial records, and (3) make financial reports to the Board.

Section 5. Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall consist of five members nominated by the President, subject to the approval of the Board of Governors. The Nominating Committee shall nominate all officers and at-large members of the Board of Governors, striving for geographical diversity among nominees. The Board will designate a member as its chair. In the fiscal year in which

they serve, members of the Nominating Committee shall be ineligible to run for any office defined under Article VII.

Section 6. Program Committee. The Program Committee shall plan the programs authorized by the Board. The First Vice President shall be the chair of the Program Committee.

Section 7. Young Virginia Writers Club Committee. The Young Virginia Writers Club Committee shall promote and oversee the activity of the Young Virginia Writers Club.

Article IX

Fiscal Year and Dues

Section 1. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Club will be January 1 through December 31.

Section 2. Dues. The amount of annual dues of members shall be determined by the Board of Governors. All dues are payable by the first day of the new fiscal year. For new members joining after the beginning of the fiscal year, the amount of dues to be charged and the period to be covered by these dues will be determined by the Board of Governors.

Section 3. Announcement of Dues. The first announcement of dues will be published in the edition of *The Virginia Writer* distributed nearest the end of the fiscal year. A second notice will be sent at the end of January to delinquents. That will be the final notice and all those who have failed to pay their dues within 30 days of the final notice will be dropped from membership without further notice.

Section 4. Reinstatement. Members may be reinstated upon payment of back dues during the current fiscal year.

Article X

Use and Distribution of Assets

Section 1. Use and Distribution of Assets. No part of the net earnings of the Club shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the Club shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause in Article II hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the Club shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Club shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing and distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the Club shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization,

contributions of which are deductible under section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Section 2. Distribution of Assets upon Dissolution. Upon the dissolution of the Club, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the Club is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Article XI

Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. Robert's Rules of Order. The most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be the parliamentary authority when there is no conflict with these Bylaws or special rules of order.

Section 2. Parliamentarian. The President will appoint a Parliamentarian. If the Parliamentarian is absent, the President may appoint a Board member for that purpose.

Section 3. Severability. If a court of competent jurisdiction at any time holds any portion of these Bylaws invalid, the remainder thereof shall not be affected and shall remain in force.

Article XII

Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular or called meeting of the Club, provided that notice and text of the proposed amendment has been distributed to the membership, in a manner determined by the President and Board of Governors, at least fifteen days prior to the meeting where such amendment is to be considered.

Adopted April 25, 1998.
Amended November 3, 2001,
August 16, 2003, and
November 1, 2003.

Standing Rules of the Virginia Writers Club, Inc.

CHAPTER I *Procedure*

1. Standing rules and special rules of order may be adopted, amended, and repealed by the Board of Governors of The Virginia Writers Club in pursuance of Article VI of the Bylaws of the Club. Standing rules may be adopted, amended, or repealed by a majority of the Board, but special rules of order require a two-thirds vote of the Board.

2. Both standing rules and special rules of order shall supplement the Bylaws of this Club, and neither standing rules nor special rules of order may contravene any provision of the Bylaws. Only bylaws and special rules of order shall supersede Robert's Rules of Order. If any procedure is found to be in conflict with Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, it shall be void, but the Board of Governors, if it so wishes, may enact it as a special rule of order by two-thirds vote of members present and voting at a meeting or by two-thirds vote of the entire Board polled by authority of the President acting upon his or her own or upon written request of five members of the Board.

3. Standing rules or special rules of order may be proposed by any member of the Board of Governors. Other members of the Club wishing to submit proposed standing rules or special rules of order should secure the consent of a member of the Board of Governors to move the proposal.

4. Standing rules, special rules of order, amendments and repeals of rules adopted by the Board of Governors shall become effective immediately unless otherwise provided by the Board.

5. The original codification or body of rules adopted by the Board of Governors shall bear the designation, "Standing Rules of The Virginia Writers Club," followed by the date of adoption. Standing rules subsequently adopted should be followed in parentheses by the date of adoption and, if different, effective date. Special rules of order, if any should be adopted, shall be kept separate, but cross-reference, including date of adoption, shall be made at the appropriate place in the codification of the standing rules. The designation of the entire body of rules should then bear the additional notation, "Revised through _____ [appropriate date]."

6. Standing rules adopted subsequent to the original codification shall be temporarily numbered sequentially as

"Additional Standing Rules" until referred to the parliamentarian or other person designated by the President, which person shall for purposes of easy reference give the rule a number under an appropriate chapter designation and absorb it into the body of the code. Amendment and repeals of rules should be similarly treated.

7. The current bodies of standing rules and special rules of order shall be reviewed periodically (at least biennially) by the Recording Secretary, and updated copies shall be made available to the officer and members of the Board of Governors, to concerned committee chairmen, and to the chairman of the Archives and History Committee for deposit in the Club archives along with a copy of the Club's current Bylaws.

CHAPTER II *Membership, Dues, and Guest Policy*

1. All officers, Board members, and members should seek out and propose qualified writers born or permanently resident in Virginia for membership, to the end that the Club may sustain itself and be representative of the best writers in the Commonwealth.

2. In interpreting the Bylaws provision of Article III, Section 2, which states that "other writings may be considered on their merits at the discretion of the Board of Governors," in determining eligibility for active membership, the Executive Director may:

(a) recognize that certain writers, notably poets and scholars, are paid in awards, promotion, and "fame, not specie" for work of high quality but limited marketability. If an article, poem, or other literary work has received an award or appeared in a prestigious publication which does not pay contributors, that fact may be considered the equivalent of payment for the work.

(b) require that specimens of published work be submitted by candidates for membership whose eligibility depends wholly on writings not paid for by periodical or book publisher, producer, employer (of staff writers and editors), grant or award. The Executive Director may then base his/her action on judgment of the merit of the specimen.

3. The Executive Director shall receive all applications for membership and, in accordance with Article III of the Bylaws, determine eligibility for and category of membership. Upon acceptance, the Executive Director shall notify the President and Treasurer of the correct name, address, telephone number and e-mail address (if any) of the new member. The Executive Director then shall send a welcoming letter, the current "Handbook and Membership Directory," the most recent "Virginia Writer" newsletter, and other such information as the President, Board of Governors, or Executive Director deem appropriate. The Treasurer shall add the name or names,

addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses to the roster of members.

4. The purpose of honorary membership is to honor a few of the most outstanding or deserving Virginia or former Virginia writers and at the same time to add luster to the Club, to make it more representative of the best of Virginia writers and more attractive to the best qualified potential members. Honorary members of this Club, as in most other clubs which confer such membership, should be drawn from two groups:

(a) senior writers presently living in Virginia for five years or more, but with national or international reputations, and

(b) distinguished writers associated with Virginia either as native or for five years or more during formative periods of their lives or careers, but now residing outside Virginia, too far away to be expected to take active part in the Club. Care should be taken to avoid sapping the present and potential active membership, itself an honor, either by

(1) conferring honorary membership on able-bodied writers below normal retirement age presently resident in Virginia, a group which would be expected to make up the bulk of our active membership, or by

(2) creating honorary memberships in excess of approximately a tenth of our membership. Finally, the Board of Governors wishes to continue the stipulations adopted in 1981, when honorary memberships were reinstated, that “no category or style of writing should be ruled out, that membership in the Club should be neither a requisite nor a bar to selection, and that no one should be excluded for reasons of race, religion, or sex” in selecting honorary members.

5. Emeritus membership is also an honor, but one designed primarily to reward long-standing membership in the Club and outstanding service to the Club and/or to literature. It should be conferred only on present or former members who are now unable, through infirmity or distance, to take an active part in the Club.

6. Honorary and emeritus members may be proposed by the Membership Committee, by a special committee appointed by the President, or by the President or any other member of the Board of Governors, but election is the sole prerogative of the Board, acting in pursuance of the Bylaws, and does not require committee approval.

7. Honorary and emeritus members have no obligations such as the payment of dues, but they may become active members in addition if they wish to pay dues. Honorary members have the privilege of attending meetings (and should be notified of them) and speaking on pending questions, and may serve in advisory capacities (on committees and the like), but they cannot, unless they are also active members or were active members fully participating in the Club at the time of their selection, make motions, vote, or be elected to office. Emeritus members, should they regain their capacity to

participate actively in the Club, will be expected to pay dues before exercising the full privileges of active membership. When they cease paying dues, they will revert to emeritus status.

8. Beginning with the 2004 Fiscal Year, annual dues for active members shall be thirty dollars (\$30.00). For new members joining after June 30 of the fiscal year, dues may be prorated for the remainder of the fiscal year.

9. The President is authorized to excuse otherwise qualified prospective new members who serve as current and recent speakers at Club meeting from dues payment during their first year of membership in the Club, or, if they have paid dues for the first year, from dues payment during the second year of membership. Their election to membership, however, shall be in full accordance with the provision of Article III, Sections 2 and 3, or the Bylaws.

10. The wording of dues notices and notices terminating membership due to non-payment of dues shall be agreed upon by the President and Treasurer. In case they cannot agree upon appropriate wording, the matter shall be referred to the Board of Governors for determination.

11. The Board of Governors hereby delegates to the President the authority to act in its behalf in approving reinstatement of members on payment of back dues.

12. Guest and Visitor Policy: General meetings of the membership of the Club are free and open to the public. The Club shall not meet in any venue that restricts attendance by any member or guest based upon race, gender, national origin, age, religion, or disability. Members are encouraged to invite guests with an interest in the objectives of the Club, especially potential new members. Members shall be responsible for payment of any charges incurred by their guests at subscription breakfasts, lunches, and/or dinners.

13. An associate member will be expected to fulfill the requirements for active membership within a reasonable time, defined as three years. Should the associate member not do so, the Board, upon recommendation of the Membership Committee, may revoke the associate’s membership.

CHAPTER III

Chapters

1. A constituent division of the Virginia Writers Club may be organized as a chapter if, in the opinion of the Board of Governors, the following requirements are met:

(a) A chapter shall maintain a minimum of five active members of the Club.

(b) Members of the Virginia Writers Club wishing to form a chapter shall submit proposed bylaws for the chapter to the Board of Governors, which must approve these bylaws

before a charter may be granted. At the request of members proposing to organize a chapter, the Board of Governors will furnish a sample of acceptable bylaws. The proposed bylaws of the chapter shall include a provision describing the geographic area to be served by the chapter, and from which its anticipated membership primarily shall be drawn.

2. To obtain a charter:

(a) Application for a charter shall be made on an official form which will be obtained from the Executive Director. Three copies of the proposed bylaws shall accompany the application which will be sent to the Executive Director. These documents shall be distributed to the President and Recording Secretary (to be deposited eventually in the Archives). The Executive Director shall retain a copy. The application shall include, at a minimum, the following sections:

- (1) Chapter name.
- (2) Jurisdiction.
- (3) Categories of membership.
- (4) Officers and their duties.
- (5) Meetings.
- (6) Amendment procedure.
- (7) Membership roster, by class of membership.

(b) Upon approval of the application, a charter will be issued by the Board of Governors.

3. To revoke a charter:

(a) A charter may be revoked by a two-thirds ballot vote of the Board of Governors upon recommendation of the chairman of the Statewide Activities Committee.

(b) Due notice shall be given to a chapter, and a reasonable time shall be allowed for the chapter to meet the requirements before final action is taken to revoke its charter. Such notice of intent to revoke shall be sent prior to the meeting of the Board of Governors to give the chapter an opportunity to appeal the decision of the Statewide Activities Committee to recommend revocation.

(c) Among the causes that could lead to revocation of a charter shall be failure to

- (1) maintain the minimum membership
- (2) hold regular meetings as prescribed by the chapter's bylaws

(3) conform to purposes stated in Article II of The Virginia Writers Club Bylaws

(4) eliminate any conflict with the Bylaws of The Virginia Writers Club or its standing rules governing chapters.

(d) Revocation or suspension of a chapter may also be considered by the Board of Governors upon petition of a majority of the members of a chapter or upon complaint of another chapter alleging improprieties in their relationship.

(e) If a chapter is dissolved or if its charter is revoked, the chapter shall return its charter to the President of The Virginia Writers Club.

4. Concerning membership in a chapter: No member of The Virginia Writers Club shall be required to join a chapter, nor shall any chapter be required to admit or continue as a member any member of The Virginia Writers Club whom the chapter chooses to reject, expel, or drop from the rolls for failure to pay chapter dues.

5. Chapters must hold at least one meeting a year and must conduct annual election of officers. Chapter presidents and vice presidents shall serve no more than three consecutive terms of office and other chapter officers shall serve no more than five consecutive terms in the same office, excepting for the chapter treasurer, who may serve as often as elected.

6. If circumstances justify, in the opinion of the Statewide Activities committee, two or more chapters may combine, with the consent of the Board of Governors of The Virginia Writers Club. If chapter members in any locality wish to withdraw from a chapter large enough to sustain itself after their separation, and to establish their own chapter, they may be permitted to do so by the Board of Governors upon recommendation of the Statewide Activities Committee.

7. In all matters not regulated by the Bylaws and standing rules of The Virginia Writers Club, chapters shall be self-governing, with particular respect to chapter meetings, programs, activities, resolutions, dues, and fees.

CHAPTER IV *Miscellaneous*

1. The Nominating Committee, in making its recommendations for election of officers and members of the Board of Governors, shall, unless there is a compelling reason to the contrary, include among its nominations for the Board at the first opportunity the retiring President or immediate past President of the Club.

2. The Nominating Committee, in making its recommendations, shall seek to accord fair representation on the Board of Governors to chapters and other non-residents of the Richmond-Petersburg metropolitan area as well as to residents of this area.

3. In addition to the Nominating Committee of five members provided in Article VIII, Section 5, of the Bylaws, the President, with the concurrence of the Board of Governors, may appoint additional consultants to the Nominating Committee in the interest of geographic diversity and chapter representation.

4. When a member objects to or disagrees with editorial content in a Club publication, the member shall be afforded an opportunity to reply in the same or equivalent forum, subject to stipulations of space and civility.

*Adopted June 24, 1989.
Amended September 18, 2004.*