

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

Name, Slogan and Motto

Section A. The name of this organization shall be the Fontana Big Foot Lions Club, chartered by, and under the jurisdiction of, The International Association of Lions Clubs (hereinafter referred to as “Association”).

Section B. Its Slogan shall be: Liberty, Intelligence, Our Nation’s Safety.

Section C. Its Motto shall be: We Serve.

ARTICLE II

The Objectives of this Club shall be:

- A. To create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.
- B. To promote the principles of good government and good citizenship.
- C. To take an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community.
- D. To unite the members in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding.
- E. To provide a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public interest; provided, however, that partisan politics and sectarian religion shall not be debated by club members.
- F. To encourage service-minded individuals to serve their community without personal financial reward, and to encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works and private endeavors.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section A. Subject to the provisions of Section B hereinafter, any person of legal majority and good moral character and good reputation in this community, may be granted membership in this Lions Club.

Section B. Membership in this Lions Club shall be as follows:

(1) ACTIVE: A member entitled to all rights and privileges and subject to all obligations which membership in a Lions Club confers or implies. Without limiting such rights and obligations, such rights shall include eligibility to seek, if otherwise qualified, an office in this club, District or Association and the right to vote on all matters requiring a vote of the membership; and such obligations shall include regular attendance, prompt payment of dues, participation in club activities and conduct reflecting a favorable image of this Lions Club in the community.

(2) MEMBER-AT LARGE: A member of this club who has moved from the community, or because of health or other legitimate reason, is unable regularly to attend club meetings and desires to retain membership in this club, and upon whom the Board of Directors of this club desires to confer this status. This status shall be reviewed yearly by the Board of Directors of this club. A Member-at-Large shall not be eligible to hold office or to vote.

(3) HONORARY: An individual not a member of this Lions Club, having performed outstanding service for the community or this Lions Club, upon whom this club desires to confer special distinction. This club shall pay entrance fees and

International and District dues on such a member, who may attend meetings, but shall not be entitled to any privileges of Active Membership.

(4) PRIVILEGED: A member of this club who has been a Lion fifteen (15) or more years, who, because of illness, infirmities, advanced age or other legitimate reason, as determined by the Board of Directors of this club, may relinquish their Active status. A Privileged Member shall pay such dues as the local club may charge, which dues shall include District and International dues. They shall have the right to vote and be entitled to all other privileges of membership except the right to hold Club, District or International office.

(5) LIFE MEMBER: Any member of this club who has maintained continuous Active membership as a Lion for 25 or more years and has rendered outstanding service to this club, their community, or this Association; or any member of this club who has maintained such continuous Active membership for twenty (20) or more years and has served as an Officer of this Association may be granted Life Membership in the club upon:

- a. Recommendation of this club to the Association;
- b. Payment to the Association of an amount set by Lions International in lieu of all future dues to the Association; and
- c. Approval by the International Board of Directors.

A Life Member shall have all privileges of Active Membership so long as they fulfill all obligations thereof.

A Life Member who desires to relocate and receives an invitation to join another Lions Club as an Active Member shall not be required, nor shall his new Lions Club be required, to pay his International dues while he remains a Life Member.

Section C. Membership in this Lions Club shall be acquired by invitation only. Nominations shall be made on forms provided by the club, which shall be signed by a member in good standing who shall act as sponsor and be submitted to the membership chairman or the club secretary, who, after investigation, shall submit the same to the Board of Directors. If approved by a majority of said Board, the prospect may then be invited to become a member of this club, a properly filled out membership form and membership fee must be in the hands of the secretary before the member may be officially inducted into the club or be reported to the Association as a club member.

Section D. Reinstatement of Membership: Any member dropped from membership in this club may be reinstated, within six (6) months from the date of termination of his membership by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. In the event more than six (6) months have elapsed between such termination and his reinstatement application, it will be necessary for him to come into the club under the procedure set forth in Section C of this Article III.

Section E. Transfer Membership: This club may grant membership on a transfer basis to one who has terminated or is terminating their membership in another Lions Club, provided that (1) the application for transfer or membership is received by the secretary of this club within six (6) months following the date of termination of membership in their former club; (2) such termination was in good standing; and (3) the applicant provides a statement from the secretary of their current or former club, as the

case may be, showing their record in such former club and (4) such application and statement are approved by the Board of Directors. If more than six (6) months have elapsed between termination of membership in another club and application for transfer, an applicant may acquire membership in this club only under the provisions of Section C of this Article III.

ARTICLE IV

Fees and Dues

Section A. Each new, reinstated and transfer member shall pay an entrance fee as determined by the Board of Directors from time to time, which fee shall include the current Association entrance fee and be collected before such member is enrolled as a member of this club and before the secretary may report such member to Lions International; provided, however, that the Board of Directors may elect to waive all or any part of the club portion of said entrance fee as to any member granted membership by transfer or reinstatement within six (6) months of termination of their prior Lions Club membership.

Section B. Each member of this club shall pay regular dues, which dues shall include an amount to cover current International and District (Single or Sub-and Multiple) dues (to defray the subscription price of The Lion Magazine, administrative and annual convention costs of the Association and similar District costs) and shall be paid in advance at such times as the Board of Directors shall determine from time to time.

ARTICLE V

Resignations

Any member may resign from this club, and said resignation shall become effective upon acceptance thereof by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI

Forfeiture of Membership

Section A. The secretary and/or treasurer shall submit to the Board of Directors the name of any member who fails to pay any indebtedness due this club within sixty (90) days after receipt from the secretary of written notice thereof. The Board shall thereafter decide whether the member shall be dropped from or retained on the roster.

Section B. Any member may be expelled from the club for cause by a two-thirds vote of the entire Board of Directors.

Section C. The name of any active member who habitually absents himself from meetings of the club, without acceptable cause having been given to the Membership Committee or the Board of Directors, shall be submitted to the Membership Committee by the Board for the purpose of determining the reasons for absence. Within a reasonable time thereafter, the Membership Committee shall report its recommendations to the Board of Directors. Thereafter the Board of Directors shall take whatever actions it deems appropriate in accordance with the Bylaws and Constitution of the club.

ARTICLE VII

Officers

Section A. The officers of this club shall be a President, Immediate Past President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Third Vice President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Lion Tamer, Tail Twister and all Directors.

Section B. No person shall be eligible to hold office in this club unless they are an Active Member in good standing.

Section C. No officer shall receive any compensation for any service rendered to this club in his official capacity.

Section D. DUTIES:

(1) **PRESIDENT**: The President shall be the chief Executive Officer of this club; preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and this club; issue the call for regular and special meetings of the Board of Directors and the club; appoint the Standing and Special Committees of this club and cooperate with chairmen thereof to effect regular functioning and reporting of such committees; see that regular elections are duly called, noticed and held; and cooperate with, and be an active member of, the District Governor's Advisory Committee at the Zone in which this club is located. The President shall have the right to donate up to \$250.00 without seeking Club approval prior to such disbursement.

(2) **IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**: He or she and the other Past Presidents shall officially greet members and their guests at club meetings and shall represent this club in welcoming all new service-minded people in the community served by this club.

(3) VICE PRESIDENTS: If the President is unable to perform the duties of this office for any reason, the Vice President next in rank shall occupy this position and perform the duties with the same authority as the President.

Each Vice President shall, under the direction of the President, oversee the functioning of such committees of this club as the President shall designate.

(4) SECRETARY AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY: The Secretary and/or Assistant Secretary shall be under the supervision and direction of the President and the Board of Directors and shall act as the liaison officer between the club and the District (Single or Sub- and Multiple) in which this club is located, and the Association. In fulfillment of this, he or she shall:

- a. Submit regular monthly and other reports to the International Office of the Association on blanks provided by it containing such information as may be called for therein and otherwise by the Board of Directors of the Association ;
- b. Submit to the District Governor's Cabinet such reports as it may require, including copies of regular membership and activities reports;
- c. Cooperate with and be an Active Member of the District Governor's Advisory Committee of the Zone in which this club is located;
- d. Have custody and keep and maintain general records of this club, including records of minutes of club and Board meetings, attendance, committee appointments, elections, classifications (if any), and addresses and telephone numbers of members; and

- e. Give bond for the faithful discharge of this office in such sum and with such surety as determined by the Board of Directors.

(5) TREASURER and ASSISTANT TREASURER: The Treasurer and/or Assistant Treasurer shall: Receive all monies, from the Secretary and otherwise, and deposit the same in a bank or banks recommended by the Finance Committee and approved by the Board of Directors, and keep members' club accounts, and club receipts and disbursements;

- a. Pay out monies in payment of club obligations only on authority given by the Board of Directors. All checks and vouchers shall be signed by the Treasurer or other member, determined by the Board of Directors;
- b. Prepare and submit monthly financial reports to the club membership.
- c. Give bond for the faithful discharge of this office in such sum and with such surety as determined by the Board of Directors; and
- d. Issue quarterly or semi-annual statements to each member for dues and other financial obligations owed to this club.

(6) LION TAMER: The Lion Tamer shall have charge of and be responsible for the property and paraphernalia of the club, including flags, banners, gong and gavel. The Lion Tamer shall put each in its proper place before each meeting and return the same to the proper storage area after each meeting. The Lion Tamer shall act as sergeant-at-arms at meetings. The Lion Tamer shall give special attention to assure that each new member sits with a different group at each meeting so that they can become better acquainted.

(7) TAIL TWISTER: The Tail Twister shall promote harmony, good fellowship, life and enthusiasm in the meetings through appropriate stunts and games and the

judicious imposition of fines on club members. There shall be no ruling from the decision in imposing a fine; provided, however, that no fine shall exceed One and no/100 (\$1.00) Dollar, and no member shall be fined more than twice at any one meeting. The Tail Twister may not be fined except by the unanimous vote of all members present. All monies collected by the Tail Twister shall be immediately turned over to the Treasurer or be designated by the Tail Twister to be given to a charity.

(8) MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN: The duties of the Membership Chairman shall include, but at not limited to, a) promoting membership; b) conducting membership drives and c) contacting members who have been absent from meetings.

ARTICLE VIII

Board of Directors

Section A. The members of the Board of Directors shall be the President, Immediate Past President, the Vice President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Lion Tamer, Tail Twister, Membership Chairman and all elected Directors.

Section B. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held monthly at such time and place as the President shall determine.

Section C. Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held when called by the President, or when requested by five (5) or more members of the Board of Directors, at such time and place as the President shall determine.

Section D. The presence in person of a majority of its members shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board of Directors. Except as otherwise specifically

provided, the act of a majority of the Directors present at any meeting of the Board shall be the act and decision of the entire Board of Directors.

Section E. Duties and Powers: In addition to those duties and powers, express and implied, set forth elsewhere in this Constitution and Bylaws, the Board of Directors shall have the following duties and powers:

- 1) It shall constitute the Executive Board of this club and be responsible for the execution, through the club officers, of the policies approved by the club. All new business and policy of this club shall be considered and shaped, first by the Board of Directors for presentation to and approval by the club members at a regular or special club meeting.
- 2) It shall authorize all expenditures and shall not create any indebtedness beyond the current income of this club, nor authorize disbursement of club funds for purposes inconsistent with the business and policy authorized by the club membership.
- 3) It shall have power to modify, override or rescind the action of any officer of this club.
- 4) It shall appoint, on recommendation of the Finance Committee, a bank or banks for the deposit of the funds of this club.
- 5) It shall appoint the surety for the bonding of any officer of this club.
- 6) It shall not authorize, nor permit, the expenditure, for any administrative purpose, of the net income of projects or activities of this club by which funds are raised from the public.

- 7) It shall submit all matters of new business and policy to the respective Standing or Special club committee for study and recommendation to the Board.
- 8) It shall name and appoint, subject to approval of the club membership, the delegates and alternates of this club to District (single or Sub- and Multiple) and International Conventions.

ARTICLE IX

Elections

The officers of this club, excluding the Immediate Past President, shall be elected as follows:

Section A. A nomination meeting shall be held in March of each year, concurrent with the Board meeting, with the date and place of such meeting to be determined by the Board of Directors and notice thereof given to each member of this club at last five (5) days prior to the time of the holding thereof.

Section B. The President shall appoint a nominating committee in January which shall submit the names and candidates for the various club offices to the club at the nomination meeting. At this meeting nominations for all offices to be filled in the succeeding year may also be made from the floor.

Section C. If in the interim between the nomination meeting and the election meeting any nominee is unable for any reason to serve in the office to which they are nominated and for which office there was no other nominee, the nominating committee shall submit, at the election meeting, names of additional nominees for that office.

Section D. An election meeting shall be held no later than the first meeting of April of each year, at a time and place determined by the President, and at least five (5) days prior notice thereof shall be given to each member of the club by the Secretary, by mail, email, or personal delivery. Such notice shall include the names of all nominees approved at the preceding nomination meeting, and, subject to Section C Above, a statement that these nominees will be voted upon at this election meeting. No nominations may be made from the floor at the election meeting.

Section E. Subject to the provisions of Section H of Article IX, all officers, other than Directors, shall be elected annually and shall take office on September 1st, and shall hold office for one year from that date, or until their successors shall have been elected and qualified.

Section F. One-half (1/2) of the Directors shall be elected annually and shall take office on the September 1st next following their election, and shall hold office for two years from that time, or until successors shall have been elected and qualified, with the exception that at the first election held after the adoption of this Constitution and Bylaws, one-half (1/2) of the Directors shall be elected for two year terms and the other one-half (1/2) of the Directors shall be elected for one year terms.

Section G. The election shall be by ballot by those present and qualified to vote. A plurality vote shall be necessary to elect.

Section H. REMOVAL: Any officer of this club may be removed from office for good cause by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire club membership.

ARTICLE X

Vacancies

Section A. If the office of President or any Vice President shall become vacant for any reason, the Vice Presidents shall advance in office, according to their rank. In the event such provision for advancement shall fail to fill the office of President, or First or Second Vic President, the Board of Directors shall thereon call a special election, giving each member in good standing prior two (2) weeks' notice of the time and place thereof, which time and place shall be determined by said Board, and such office shall be filled at said election meeting.

In the event of a vacancy in the office of Third Vice President, such office shall remain vacant and be filled at the next annual election of officers.

In the event of a vacancy in any other office, the Board of Directors shall appoint a member to fill the unexpired term.

In the event vacancies shall be of such number as to reduce the number of Directors to less than the number required for a quorum, the membership of the Club shall have power to fill such vacancies by an election held at any regular meeting of the Club upon prior notice, and in the manner, specified in Section B hereinafter. Such notice may be given by any remaining officer or Director, but if none, then by any member.

Section B. In the event any officer-elect, before their term of office commences, is unable or refuses for any reason to serve therein, the President may call a special nomination and election meeting to elect a replacement for such officer-elect. Two (2) weeks prior notice of such meeting, setting forth the purpose, time and place thereof,

shall be given to each member, by mail, email or personal delivery. The election shall be held immediately after nominations have been closed and a plurality vote shall be necessary for election.

ARTICLE XI

Meetings

Section A. Regular meetings of this club shall be held at a time and place recommended by the President. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Constitution and Bylaws, notice of regular meetings shall be given in such manner as the Board of Directors deems proper. Summer meetings may be optional.

Section B. Special meetings of this club may be called by the President, in the President's discretion, and shall be called by the President when requested by the Board of Directors, at a time and place determined by the person or body requesting the same. Notice of special meetings setting forth the purpose, time and place hereof shall be given to each member of this club, by mail, email or personal delivery, at least five (5) days prior to the date thereof.

Section C. The presence in person of a majority of the members in good standing shall be necessary for a quorum at any meeting of this club.

Section D. Any member who fails to pay any indebtedness due this club within ninety (90) days after receipt from the Treasurer of written notice thereof shall thereon forfeit his good standing and shall so remain until such indebtedness is paid in full. Only members in good standing may exercise the voting privilege and hold office in this club.

Section E. Except as otherwise specifically provided, the act of a majority of the members present at any meeting shall be the act and decision of the entire club.

Section F. A Charter Night Anniversary meeting of this Club may be held each year with the Williams Bay Lions Club, at which time special attention shall be devoted to the objects and ethics of Lionism, and the history of this Club.

ARTICLE XII

Fiscal Year, Colors, Emblems

Section A. The fiscal year of the club shall be September 1st through August 31st.

Section B. The colors of the club shall be royal blue and silver.

Section C. The emblem of the club shall be depicted as follows:



ARTICLE XIII

Delegates to International and District (Single or Sub- and Multiple) Conventions

Section A. Inasmuch as The International Association of Lions Clubs is governed by Lions Clubs in convention assembled, and in order that this club may have its voice in Association matters, this club shall have power to pay the necessary expenses of its delegates to each annual convention of the Association. This club shall be entitled in any convention of this Association, to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for every twenty-five (25), or major fraction thereof, of its members as shown by the records of the International Office on the first day of the month last preceding that month during which

the convention is held; PROVIDED, however, that this club shall be entitled to at least one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate. The major fraction referred to in this section shall be thirteen or more members. The selection of each such delegate and alternate shall be evidenced by a certificate signed by the President or Secretary or any other duly authorized officer of this club, or, in the event no such club officer is in attendance at the Convention, by the District Governor or District Governor-Elect of the District (Single or Sub-) of which this club is a member.

Section B. Inasmuch as all District matters are presented and adopted at the District (Single, Sub- and Multiple) conventions, this club shall send its full quota of delegates to all such conventions and have power to pay the necessary expenses of such delegates attending such conventions. This club shall be entitled in each annual convention of its District (Single or Sub- and Multiple) to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each ten (10) members, or major fraction thereof, of this club as shown by the records of the International Office of the first day of the month last preceding that month during which the convention is held; PROVIDED, however, that this club shall be entitled to at least one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate. Each certified delegate present in person shall be entitled to cast one vote of his choice for each office to be filled by, or one vote of their choice on each question submitted to, the respective convention. The major fraction referred to in this Section shall be five (5) or more members.

ARTICLE XIV

Parliamentary Practices

Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Constitution and Bylaws, all questions of Order or Procedure with respect to any meeting or action of this club, its

Board of Directors or any committee appointed hereunder shall be determined in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, as revised from time to time.

ARTICLE XV

Amendments

Section A. This Constitution may be amended at any regular or special meeting of this club, at which a quorum is present, by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present in person and voting, provided the Board has previously considered the merits of the amendments.

Section B. No amendment shall be put to vote, unless written notice thereof, stating the proposed amendment, shall have been mailed, emailed or delivered personally to each member of this club at least five (10) days prior to the meeting at which the vote on the proposed amendment is to be taken.

BYLAWS

Number 1: This club shall not endorse or recommend any candidate for public office, nor shall partisan politics or sectarian religion be debated by members in meetings of this club.

Number 2: Except to further their progress in Lionism, no officer or member of this club shall use their membership as a means of furthering any personal, political, or

other aspiration, nor shall the club, as a whole, take part in any movement not in keeping with its purposes and objects.

Number 3: No funds shall be solicited from members of the club during meetings by any individual or individuals who are not members of the club. Any suggestion or proposition made at any meeting of this club calling for the expenditure of money for other than the regular obligations shall be referred to the Board of Directors.

Number 4: Section A.

Standing Committees:

The following Standing Committees may be appointed by the President:

- Club Bylaws
- Convention
- Equipment
- Eyes
- Hometown Hero
- Lobster Boil
- Meat Raffle
- Membership
- Nomination
- Public Relations/Publicity
- Scholarship
- Service Activities
- St. Patrick's Night
- Sunshine

Section B. Special Committees:

From time to time, the President may appoint, with the approval of the Board of Directors, such Special Committees as may be necessary in the President's judgment or the judgment of the Board of Directors.

Section C. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

Section D. All committees shall consist of a chairman and, subject to Section B above, as many members as shall be considered necessary by the President.

Section E. Each committee, through its chairman or representative, shall report, either verbally or in writing, to the Board of Directors as necessary.

Section F. All problems pertaining to either administration or activity matters shall be referred to the corresponding committee for study and recommendation to the Board of Directors.

Number 5: Section A.

These Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed at any regular or special meeting of this club at which a quorum is present, by the vote of a majority of the members present in person and voting.

Section B. No amendment shall be put to vote unless written notice thereof, stating the proposed amendment, shall have been mailed, emailed or delivered personally to each member at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting at which the vote on the amendment is to be taken.

Number 6: Any Bylaw except Bylaw Number 1 and Bylaw Number 2 may be suspended at any meeting of the club at which a quorum is present by the unanimous vote of all members present.

(Revised: 10/4/18)