

BYLAWS

G.M.C. DIXIELANDERS CHAPTER Family Motor Coach Association, Inc. Effective January 2004

ARTICLE I - CHAPTER NAME

The Name of this non-profit organization shall be the GMC Dixielanders Chapter of the Family Motor Coach Association, Inc., hereinafter referred to as "Chapter" and "FMCA".

ARTICLE II - OBJECT

1. **PURPOSE:** This chapter exists to promote social, recreational, and informational exchange activities which provide for the enjoyment and pleasurable use of family member coaches.
2. **AREA/SCOPE:** This chapter shall be authorized to function as a regional group, primarily from the southeastern U.S., with a special interest in the care and preservation of the 23' and 26' TZE motorhomes manufactured by General Motors from 1973 to 1978.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERS

1. **ELIGIBILITY:** To be eligible for and to maintain full membership in this Chapter, a person must own a GMC TZE motorhome, be in good standing with FMCA, and meet the dues requirement and provisions set forth in the Bylaws of this Chapter. Membership in the Chapter shall not be denied any person because of race, sex, religion, color, marital or family status, age, nationality, or disability.
2. The term "Family Unit", is defined as a person; his or her spouse, or partner; dependents of each, regardless of age; non-dependent grandchildren and great grandchildren aged 18 and under.
3. The term "Membership", is defined as either a family unit or an

individual or individuals owning a Qualifying Motor Coach who share a membership number.

4. The term "member" is defined as each adult who, jointly or individually, constitutes a membership. The voting rights of each member are defined in the description of each category.

5. FAMILY ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP:

A. In order to perpetuate long-standing friendship, good fellowship and cooperation among members of this Chapter, this classification is available on request by a member in good standing that can no longer own a qualifying coach because of age, health or death of a spouse or personal reasons unique to that individual. To be eligible for this type Chapter membership, a FMCA membership must be maintained.

B. A Family Associate shall not be eligible to hold office and has no Chapter voting privileges.

C. No benefits other than receiving the Chapter newsletter and attending Chapter rallies will be available to a Family Associate.

D. Annual dues shall be the same as a full membership.

E. A Family Associate membership shall not be used to circumvent membership requirements or intent of Chapter Bylaws, and may be revoked if qualifying conditions change.

6..HONORARY MEMBERSHIP:

This membership may be bestowed on those members who have provided outstanding service to the chapter while holding full membership in the chapter. These memberships must be nominated by the Executive Board and presented to the chapter at the next scheduled business meeting. Voting rights and dues will be the same as for Family Associate Members.

7. DUES AND FEES:

A. **ANNUAL DUES:** Annual payment of Chapter and National dues enables persons to become active members and entitled to all rights and privileges of this Chapter and FMCA. The annual dues for membership in this Chapter shall be an amount the membership shall establish from year to year by resolution at a general meeting. In no event shall dues be less than ten dollars (\$10.00) per year. (See Standing Rules).

B. **RENEWAL:** Renewal dues from Chapter members become due and payable at the beginning of the fiscal year, 1 January.

C. **INITIAL APPLICATION:** Application for new membership shall be accompanied by payment of annual Chapter and National dues (unless already a FMCA member). If an initial application is accepted during the last (3) months of a fiscal year, the dues shall be regarded as covering the next membership year.

D. **INITIATION FEE:** New and reinstated members are required to pay an initiation fee in an amount to be established by the Chapter membership. (See Standing Rules).

E. **ARREARS:** Any member whose dues remain unpaid for more than 2 months after becoming due shall be deemed to have forfeited membership and will have no further right, title, or interest in the affairs, conduct or property of this Chapter.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. **CHAPTER OFFICERS:** Chapter officers shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, National Director and Alternate National Director. The same person may hold the office of Secretary and Treasurer, but the two offices shall not be combined. Duties of elected officers shall not conflict with the National FMCA Bylaws.

A. Duties of the President:

(1) The President is the principal executive officer of the GMC

Dixielanders and exercises supervision and control of its affairs.

(2) Promotes the welfare and progress of the GMC Dixielanders.

(3) Presides at all meetings of the general membership.

(4) Appoints, subject to the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, members of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

(5) Is ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

B. Duties of the Vice President:

(1) The Vice President assists the President and performs duties assigned by the President.

(2) Shall preside in the absence of the President at any meeting, or in his inability, fulfills the duties of the President.

(3) Is responsible for lining up rallies for the next fiscal year.

C. Duties of the Secretary:

(1) The Secretary shall perform the statutory duties of the Chapter and is responsible for maintaining the Chapter records.

(2) The Secretary shall record the minutes of all Chapter business meetings and report the same at the next Chapter meeting.

(3) The Secretary shall make all required reports to FMCA. Reports to be made by 31 December of each year include a list of incumbent officers, a current list of the Chapter membership

and assurance that at least two (2) business meetings were held. Names of officers appointed to fill unscheduled vacancies shall be reported on a timely basis.

D. Duties of the Treasurer:

- (1) Receive, safeguard and hold all Chapter funds in the name of the GMC Dixielanders and serve as trustee and fiscal agent.
- (2) Keep accurate records of all Chapter funds and render reports on same at each business meeting or as may be required by the Chapter Executive Board.
- (3) Disburse Chapter funds only for authorized purposes.
- (4) Insures that the annual audit is conducted.

E. Duties of the National Director. The National Director shall represent the GMC Dixielanders on the governing Board of the National FMCA.

F. Duties of the alternate National Director. The Alternate National Director shall assume the duties of the National Director if he is unable to perform.

2. **TERMS OF OFFICE:** The elected officers of this Chapter shall serve a (1) one-year term of office. The President and Vice President may serve three (3) consecutive terms if elected.

3. **OFFICER LIMITATIONS:**

A. An individual FMCA member may hold Chapter office(s) in only one (1) Chapter.

B. Individual FMCA members may hold no more than (2) offices in the same Chapter.

C. Any member in good standing may be nominated from the floor for any elective office.

D. Only Full Members, Full Lifetime Members, Life Members, or Honorary Members, who have advanced from one of these classes, have the right to hold office in FMCA or in this Chapter.

E. No official or member shall become vested of any right, title to, or interest in any Chapter property, except as required by law.

4. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and three members in good standing elected by the membership at the annual election. The President shall be chairman of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall meet from time to time to formulate long-range plans for the club, make recommendations to expel any member that does not meet the criteria of the GMC Dixielanders or the FMCA and provide advice and counsel as required.

5. **VACANCY:** In the event of an unscheduled Chapter office vacancy the President may appoint a replacement, recommended by the Nominating Committee, and approved by the executive committee to serve until the next scheduled election.

ARTICLE V - COMMITTEES

1. **APPOINTMENT:** Committee members and Chairperson (except Nominating Committee) shall be appointed by the President.

2. **DUTIES:** All committees shall function within the policies of the Chapter and under the direction of the President. Financial Reports, vouchers and monies due the Chapter shall be submitted on timely basis.

3. **QUORUM:** A Committee quorum shall be a majority.

ARTICLE VI - CHAPTER ADMINISTRATION

1. **AUTHORITY:** This chapter shall be democratically self-governed, deriving its existence and authority from the consent of its membership

assembled in meetings or, in certain instances, by mail vote on stated propositions.

2. **ORGANIZATIONAL YEAR:** The fiscal and membership year of the chapter shall commence on Jan. 1, and end on Dec. 31.

3. **CHAPTER MEETINGS:**

A. The term "meeting" shall include coach rallies or any other gatherings suitable to the function of the Chapter and duly announced to the Chapter membership. Members shall not be required to attend any number of meetings nor any meetings at all; however, members are encouraged to attend as many meetings as possible.

B. **BUSINESS MEETING:** The Chapter must hold at least three (3) business meetings each membership year at which a quorum is present. Said meetings must be at least fourteen (14) days apart and be duly announced in advance to the membership.

C. **ANNUAL ELECTION:** The general membership is to elect Chapter officers, including a President, Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a National Director, an Alternate National Director, and three members to serve on the Executive Committee. The annual election shall be held at the Summer Rally or by mail/e-mail ballot if the Chapter does not have a rally by August 30th. If voting is by mail/e-mail, the ballots should be sent by August 1st and returned by August 20th. Mail ballots must have space for write-in votes. If the election is at a rally, the Nominating Committee shall place in nomination their slate of officers then nominations from the floor shall be called for.

D. **QUORUM:** A quorum for the transaction of business at any duly-called Chapter meeting is twenty-five percent (25%) of the Chapter family unit membership or fifteen (15) family unit members, whichever is less.

E. **VOTING:** Except as specified elsewhere in these Bylaws, a

simple majority vote of members in good standing and voting shall be required to approve or disapprove any matter. The Chapter has established that each family unit shall have one (1) vote. Balloting by mail/e-mail may be undertaken when a proposed matter is voted to be of such importance or urgency that a total membership vote is advisable.

F. PARLIAMENTARY PROCESS: The rules contained in the current edition of *ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER, NEWLY REVISED* shall govern this Chapter and in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of FMCA, and of this Chapter.

4. MAINTAINING AFFILIATION: This Chapter must maintain a minimum of fifteen (15) family unit members and provide a current list of members to FMCA on a timely basis. See Article IV, 1C(3).

5. ANNUAL AUDIT: An annual audit of the Chapter's financial books and records shall be undertaken and reported to the membership at each summer rally. The Chapter President shall appoint an auditor(s) annually.

6. APPLICATION OF NATIONAL CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS: Chapter Bylaws shall conform with any mandatory requirements stipulated in the National Constitution and Bylaws of FMCA insofar as they may apply to this Chapter.

ARTICLE VII - ELECTIONS

1. NOMINATING COMMITTEE COMPOSITION:

A. The Nominating Committee shall consist of three (3) Chapter members and one alternate member in good standing, nominated and elected by the Chapter membership at the Fall Rally and shall serve for the next fiscal year.

B. Election of an individual to the Nominating Committee shall not prohibit that person from being nominated for elected office.

2. **NOMINATING COMMITTEE DUTIES:** The duties shall be;
- A. To select one of its members as Nominating Committee Chairman.
 - B. To nominate all persons to fill Chapter offices, including a president, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, National Director, Alternate National Director, 3 members to serve on the Executive Committee, and 3 members and 1 alternate to serve on the next Nominating Committee.
 - C. To report their slate of officers to the membership at the Spring Rally.
 - D. To obtain clear acceptance of the nominees to serve the Chapter should they be elected.
 - E. To make certain that the nominated candidates are members in good standing and qualified under applicable National and Chapter bylaws.
 - F. To nominate candidates to fill unscheduled vacancies that occur in elected Chapter Offices.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

1. **MANDATORY AMENDMENTS:** National Bylaw Amendments applicable to Chapter operations shall be automatically adopted by the Chapter and are not subject to voting by the Chapter membership.
2. **AMENDING PROCEDURE:**
- A. These Bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 affirmative vote of the members present and voting at a duly-called meeting, providing that prior notice of at least thirty (30) days has been given of the proposition(s) to amend. Balloting may be by mail/e-mail in lieu of a duly called meeting.

B. Any member of the Chapter may propose changes in the Bylaws by submitting them to the Executive Committee for consideration. Proposals must be in writing and clearly state the proposed change(s). Approved amendments to these Bylaws become effective immediately upon their adoption, or at such time as specified in the amendment.

3. **DISTRIBUTION:** Copies of changes, additions, amendments, or revisions to these Bylaws shall be forwarded to the National Office and to the National Area Vice President.

ARTICLE IX - DISCIPLINE, RECALL OR EXPULSION

1. Final authority for the expulsion of members of the Chapter and for recall of officers shall rest with the Chapter membership.

2. Any member, director or officer of the Chapter is subject to expulsion, discipline or recall from the Chapter for any of the following reasons:

A. Violation of the National Constitution of Bylaws of FMCA or of this Chapter.

B. Violation of any rules lawfully made by or under the authority of Chapter officers.

C. Violation or violations of and/or disregard of the code of ethics of FMCA.

D. Any willful act or course of conduct contrary to the best interests of FMCA, or of its members.

E. Conviction of a felony.

F. Failure to perform the duties of his/her office in a reasonable manner.

G. Misfeasance, malfeasance, or nonfeasance of office.

H. Fraud, deceit, theft or embezzlement of any of the property of this Chapter.

I. Constant and continuous expression of dissatisfaction with the Chapter and/or FMCA and/or its officials at any places other than the regular meetings of the members.

ARTICLE X - LIQUIDATION AND DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution of the GMC Dixielanders Chapter of FMCA, by majority vote of the Chapter, all of the remaining assets of the Chapter shall be contributed to the purpose(s) for which the Chapter is organized, or to a qualified non-profit charity or charities.

ARTICLE XI - STANDING RULES

Standing rules may be adopted to establish or clarify Chapter policies and practices not related to parliamentary procedures and are subordinated to, and in accordance with Chapter bylaws. Standing Rules are adopted by a majority vote, are amended by a two-thirds vote without previous notice or by majority vote with such notice. This action may be done at any regular meeting by a vote of those present. Standing Rules may be temporarily suspended for the duration of a meeting by a majority vote.

K. O'Rourke, 2-19-04
(Correction made to Honorary Member, Article III,6)

STANDING RULES

GMC Dixielanders January 2004

Standing rules shall not be used to circumvent Chapter Bylaws but shall detail other rules that are necessary for Chapter operations and may be easily changed without amending Chapter Bylaws. Discretion shall be exercised to insure that a rule is really necessary and not frivolous.

1. **Initiation Fee:** All new members and reinstated members shall pay a \$10.00 initiation fee.

2. **Annual Dues:** All Members of the GMC Dixielanders shall be assessed \$10.00 dues per year.

3. **Rally Master:** The President shall appoint a rally master in advance of each duly announced rally or similar function. The rally master shall be in charge of all matters which relate to the physical arrangements and conduct of said rally. The rally master may enlist the aid of assistant rally masters. The Executive Committee shall from time to time as may be suitable to the general or specific occasions, define and publish the regular or specific duties of the rally master.

4. **Rally Fees:** Rally fees will be established by the rally master and coordinated with Chapter officers for each Chapter event. Fees may vary depending on activities planned, meals furnished, refreshments, etc., but should not exceed \$25.00 per person. Fees collected and not spent shall go to the Chapter treasury. Rally fees do not include camping fees unless specified. Rally fees will not be refunded unless timely notification is given. Refunds may be made for extenuating circumstances if the rally master is notified.

5. **Remembrance Policy:** In the event of illness, the Secretary will send get-well cards. Upon the death of an immediate member, a donation of \$25.00 will be sent to the designated church or an

appropriate charity

6. Family Associate Membership for Former GMC Dixielanders:
All former members who were in good standing and were forced to forfeit their qualifying coach shall have the opportunity to rejoin as Associate Members.

K. O'Rourke, 12-18-03