

**PUGET SOUNDERS CHAPTER
OF
THE FAMILY MOTOR COACH ASSOCIATION, INC.**

CHAPTER BYLAWS
Effective June 4, 2010

ARTICLE I - CHAPTER NAME

The name of this not for profit organization shall be the Puget Sounders Chapter, of the Family Motor Coach Association, Inc, here in referred to as Chapter and FMCA.

ARTICLE II - OBJECT

1. **PURPOSE:** This Chapter exists to promote social, recreational and informational activities, that provide a means of meeting new friend, enjoying old friends and having fun.
2. **DESCRIPTION:** This Chapter shall be authorized to function in the Northwest Area, soliciting members from the geographical area consisting of King, Snohomish, Skagit, Whatcom, and Island Counties in the State of Washington. FMCA members from outside the geographical area requesting membership in this Chapter will be made welcome.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

1. **ELIGIBILITY:** To be eligible for and to maintain membership in the Chapter, a person must be in good standing with FMCA, and meet the dues requirements and provisions set forth in the Bylaws of this chapter.

Membership in this 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-dependents 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 shares 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. A member must own a qualifying motor coach (motorhome) or at least 1/3 interest in a qualifying motor coach (motorhome) in order to vote or hold office in this chapter.
6. A "qualifying motor coach" is defined as a self-propelled, completely self-contained vehicle that contains all the conveniences of a home, including cooking, sleeping, and permanent sanitary facilities, and in which the driver's area is directly accessible in a walking position from the living quarters. The terms motor coach and motorhome may be used interchangeably.

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 the Chapter and FMCA. The annual dues for membership in the Chapter shall be an amount established by the membership.

B. **RENEWAL:** Renewal dues from Chapter members become due and payable on October 1st of each year.

C. **INITIAL APPLICATION:** Application for new membership shall be accompanied by payment of annual Chapter and FMCA National dues (unless already an FMCA member). If an initial application accepted after September 1st of the year, the dues shall be regarded as covering the next membership year.

D. **INITIATION FEE:** New and reinstated members may be required to pay an initiation fee in and amount to be established by the Chapter membership.

E. **ARREARS:** Any member whose dues remain unpaid for more than three (3) months after becoming due shall be considered delinquent; after April 1st membership is canceled.

ARTICLE IV - CHAPTER ADMINISTRATION

1. **AUTHORITY:** This Chapter shall be democratically self governed, deriving its existence and authority from the consent of its membership assembled in meeting or, in certain instance, by mail vote on stated propositions.

2. **ORGANIZATIONAL YEAR:** The fiscal and membership year of this Chapter shall commence on October 1st and ends on September 30th.

3. CHAPTER MEETINGS:

A. **MEETING:** The term "Meeting" shall include coach rallies, camp outs, dinner meetings, and any other gathering suitable to the function of the Chapter.

B. **BUSINESS MEETING:** The Chapter must hold at least two (2) 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. The Chapter Secretary shall furnish proof and assurance that two (2) meetings were held.

C. **ANNUAL ELECTIONS:** One of the business meetings must be an Annual Meeting at which the voting general membership is to elect Chapter Officers, including a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, National Director and Alternate National Director.

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

E. **VOTING:** Except as specified elsewhere in the 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 voting will be as follows:

- When taking a voice vote, there will be one (1) vote for each adult member.
- For a written or mail ballot, there will be one (1) vote per family unit. Balloting by mail may be undertaken when a proposed matter is considered by the membership to be of such importance or urgency that the total membership vote is advisable.

F. **PARLIAMENTARY PROCESS:** The rules contained in ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER, NEWLEY 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 the Chapter.

4. **MAINTIANING AFFILITION:** This Chapter must maintain a minimum of fifteen (15) family unit members. The chapter secretary shall furnish to the national office of FMCA, no later than December 31st each year, a membership list, a list of chapter officers, and assurance that a business meeting was held. P&P#3011/B, Article VI, paragraph 2)

5. **ANNUAL AUDIT:** An annual audit of the Chapter's financial books and records shall be undertaken and reported to the membership.

6. **APPLICATION OF FMCA NATIONAL CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS:** This Chapter accepts and agrees that the Chapter Bylaws shall conform with any mandatory requirements stipulated in the National constitution and Bylaws of FMCA.

ARTICLE V - ELECTIONS

1. NOMINATING C OMMITTEE COMPOSITION:

A. The Nominating Committee shall consist of not less than three (3) members in good standing, nominated and elected annually by the Chapter membership

B. Election of an individual to the Nominating Committee shall not prohibit that person from being nominated for elected office or any member in good standing from being nominated from the floor for any elective office.

2. NOMINATING COMMIITTEE DUTIES:

A. To select a slate of officers for the new year to be presented for voting by the Chapter membership.

- B. This committee shall nominate candidates for the Chapter Offices, including a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, National Director, and Alternate National Director.
- C. To Obtain clear acceptance of the nominees to serve the Chapter should they be elected.
- D. To make certain that nominated candidates are members in good standing and qualified under applicable FMCA and Chapter Bylaws.
- E. The nominating committee shall nominate candidates to fill vacancies which occur in elected Chapter Offices.
- F. To select one of its members as the Nominating Committee Chairman.

ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS

1. **DUTIES OF OFFICERS** : The duties of elected officers shall be as defined in the Members and Volunteers Handbook.

2. **TERM OF OFFICE:**

- A. The terms of the Chapter officers, President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall begin no later than October 1st following their election, and run for a period of one year.
- B. The National Director shall be elected for a term of two (2) years, and that term shall begin upon the receipt by FMCA of the Notification of Election, furnished by the Chapter Secretary. There shall be no limit to the number of terms a National Director may serve on the Governing Board.
- C. The Alternate National Director shall be elected for a term of one year and that term shall begin upon the receipt by FMCA of the Notification of Election, furnished by the Chapter Secretary.

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 two (2) offices in the same Chapter
- C. Only Full Members, Full Life Members, Life Members, or Honorary Member who have advanced from one of these classes, have the right to hold office in FMCA or this Chapter.
- D. 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 BOARD:

- A. The Officers of this Chapter shall constitute the Executive Board.
- B. The Executive Board shall have general supervision of the affairs of the chapter between its business meetings. The Board shall be subject to the orders of the chapter, and none of its acts shall be in conflict with the chapter or FMCA.

ARTICLE VII - COMMITTEES

- 1. **COMMITTEES:** Committee members and Chairpersons, except the Nominating Committee, shall be appointed by the President.
- 2. **DUTIES OF THE CHAIRPERSON:** All committees shall function within the policies of the Chapter and (except the Nominating Committee) under the direction of the President. (P&P-# 3011/B., Article VI, paragraph 4)
- 3. **QUORUM:** A Committee quorum shall be a simple majority of the committee.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

- 1. **MANDATORY AMENDMENTS:** Amendments applicable to Chapter operation shall be automatically adopted as may be required by mandatory amendments to the National FMCA Constitution and Bylaws. Such mandatory amendments are not subject to voting by the Chapter membership.
- 2. **AMENDING PROCEDURE:** The vote to amend must pass by 66% of 2/3 affirmative vote of the total number of ballots cast for the proposal to be adopted. An amendment to these Bylaws become effective immediately upon its 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 - LIQUIDATION AND DISOLUTION

In the event of dissolution of the Puget Sounders 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 nonprofit charity or charities.

CERTIFICATION

The Puget Sounders By Laws were accepted for file by FMCA on June 4th, 2010.
Certified by the FMCA Constitution and By Law Committee.