

BY-LAWS OF FLORIDA FOLK DANCE COUNCIL, INC.
as Revised June, 2003

I. NAME

The name of this association is Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc., hereafter referred to as FFDC or FFDC, Inc.

II. PURPOSES

The purposes of the corporation are to facilitate communication among Florida international folk dance groups; to educate and inform individual international folk dancers and other interested persons; to organize international folk dance seminars and organize an annual folk dance week-end (membership may suggest time and place of this week-end, but the ultimate decision will be made by the Executive Board); and to undertake from time to time such projects as may be put forth by the Executive Board to further knowledge of, appreciation for, and participation in international folk dance and related cultural activities in Florida.

A. POLICY: This organization shall be a nonprofit, nonpartisan and nonsectarian organization whose members shall have the sole right to govern and control all its activities through its officers duly elected as provided in the By-laws. No part of the net earnings of the Association shall inure to the benefit of any director or officer of the Association, or any private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the Association affecting one or more of its Purposes).

III. DURATION

FFDC is to have perpetual existence.

IV. MEMBERSHIP

- A. Memberships are of two classes, single and "family". A person, or family, that joins FFDC by paying the established fee is entitled to receive the corporation newsletter, either by regular mail or via email, during the period of membership. A family, considered to be two adult persons (over the age of 18), living at the same address, and at some time or another be active in folk dance and/or both be *listed* as members in the membership roster of FFDC, shall receive only one copy of the newsletter sent by regular mail, or if two email addresses exist, a newsletter can be sent to both email addresses. Each member is entitled to all other considerations and privileges of membership including voting.
- B. An organization may pay one membership fee, be listed in the membership roster, and receive the corporation newsletter, but will *not* be entitled to membership privileges which includes voting.
- C. The Executive Board is to determine the amount of membership dues. As of June, 2003, they will be \$15.00 single membership, and \$20.00 family membership. The membership year shall be from March 1st to the last day in February with dues due by March 1st. A \$5.00 discount will be allowed on both memberships if paid before January 15th.
- D. A *new* member, or family membership, who join after September 1st will not have to pay again in March of the following year, but be allowed the privilege of retaining membership for the full following membership year with all considerations including voting.

V. MEETINGS

There will be one meeting a year of the general membership to take place during the FFDC Weekend (aka Camp) where the election of new officers, if an election year, will take place and/or other issues may be voted upon. If necessity dictates, write-in votes from the general membership will be accepted.

VI. OFFICERS (A.K.A. Executive Board or Board)

- A. All officers must be members in good standing of FFDC.
- B. According to the "Articles of Incorporation" there must be at least three officers of FFDC (President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer)
- C. Henceforth the Officers of FFDC will be: (Revised June, 2003)
President; Vice-President/Secretary; Treasurer; Editor

VII. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

President: Will manage the affairs of FFDC; conduct meetings of general membership and/or call a meeting of the Board (and, if necessary, to include Committee members) as necessitates, via e-mail. Voting will also be permitted via e-mail or with a write-in vote. Also, the responsibility of the president will be the running of the FFDC Camp, which includes choosing committees, choosing and hiring instructors and/or musicians and/or vendors for the Camp, syllabi for dances taught, and to take care of any room accommodations or scheduling or any other miscellany that may arise.

Vice-President/Secretary: Will assist the president in any endeavors of FFDC, or in the absence of the president, will conduct the general meeting at FFDC Camp. If the president, for any reason, cannot fulfill his/her duties, the vice-president will become the president and assume all the responsibilities of the president to complete the term of office. If the vice-president cannot assume these duties, then a new president will be appointed by the Executive Board to complete that term of office. The **secretarial** duties will consist of taking minutes at the general membership meeting at FFDC Camp. If the vice-president is not available to do this, then any board member (other than the president) will do so, or, if necessary, a committee member.

Treasurer: Will maintain the membership rolls; keep records of receipts and disbursements; submit financial reports to the Executive Board, as needed, and to the Editor, as needed for publication in the monthly newsletter. A Treasurer's report will be given at the yearly membership meeting of FFDC Camp, and one yearly report for publication in the newsletter in or about the time of the month of September.

Editor: Will be responsible for publishing the monthly newsletter with articles sent in by officers and/or members, and which will also include any mailings that must reach the general membership. A new membership roster will be prepared and printed in the April edition of the newsletter, and any member of FFDC who has not paid his/her dues by that time, will not be listed in the new roster. Optional will be the maintenance and/or "assistance of" the maintenance of the FFDC web site.

Immediate Past President: Will serve as Parliamentarian; will be privy to any Board meetings and may offer suggestions to the Board on any issues, but will not have any Board vote *except* in the case of a tie vote in a Board decision.

VIII. COMMITTEES (as of June, 2003)

A. Advisors to the Board

Two former officers of FFDC, in good standing, chosen by the president.

Duties of the Advisors will be to have privy to all workings of the present board and to act in the capacity of advisors. However, they will have no Board vote on any issues of the Board.

B. Nominating Chairperson/Committee

There will be one nominating chairperson, who is in good standing, and who will be chosen by the president.

Duties of the Nominating Chairperson will be to select at least two members of his/her own choice of the general membership, in good standing, to form the Nominating Committee who, in turn, will assist the Chairperson. Prior to one year before the next election of officers, the Committee will seek out members who would like to fulfill the privileges of being an FFDC officer, and to submit a Slate of Officers no later than **December 1** of that year in order to present the Slate of Officers in the newsletter at least one month before Camp. Nominating Committee members will have no vote on Board issues.

IX. ELECTIONS (Revised June, 2003)

- A. Each position on the Board will be for a two year period with the right of any particular officer to run consecutively for another two years. Any officer may then run again in *a different* Board position after having completed the time period designated by the former position. Any officer may run again for the *same position* as long as *at least one election term* has passed since the time of his/her former position..
- B. Any member in good standing may run for any position, or any member in good standing may nominate another member in good standing (as long as written permission in agreement is given by that person) to run for any office. All such nominations must be received by the Nominating Chairperson no later than **December 1** prior to the next election in February to allow for the Slate of Officers to be presented to the general membership at least one month before FFDC Camp.
- C. If there is only one person nominated for each position, the future officers will automatically be voted in by those present at the general membership meeting at the FFDC Camp. If more than one person is running for any particular position, a write-in registration vote form will be printed in the newsletter, and must be received by the president by **February 1**. No votes will be accepted after that time except from members who are attending Camp and have not submitted a written vote prior to that time, but their written vote must be received at time of registration at Camp. Prior to the general membership meeting, the Nominating Committee (consisting of at least three persons, or a third person appointed by the President) will count the votes and submit the results to the President.
- D. In the event of the resignation, or the inability of any officer to perform his/her duties, the Executive Board will appoint an interim officer to complete that term of office, with the exception of the presidency, which will automatically be filled by the Vice-President.

X. BY-LAWS/AMENDMENTS

These by-laws will be printed in June or July of each year and will be the only copy available to the membership. Any of the by-laws may be amended by a **2/3** vote of the membership in attendance at the FFDC Camp in the following way:

- A. Submit your request for changes by **December 1** to the president (email requests will be accepted) to be taken into consideration at the general membership meeting at FFDC Camp in February where voting will take place. In this case, no write-in votes will be allowed, nor will write-in requests (including email requests) be accepted *except* from those who will be in attendance at the FFDC Camp.

XI. DISSOLUTION

Upon dissolution of FFDC, Inc., all of its assets remaining after payment of all costs and expenses, shall be donated to not-for-profit tax-exempt international folk dance organizations designated by the Executive Board of Officers of FFDC, Inc., or to any other not-for-profit tax-exempt body if no international folk dance organizations qualify.