



Sunburst Corvette Club

By-Laws

April 6, 2023

(Supersedes all previously dated versions)



ARTICLE 1

Name and Purpose

Section 1. This club shall be known as Sunburst Corvette Club, (The Club).

Section 2. The general purpose of the Club shall be to provide opportunities for planned trips, events and social activities for members of the Club, to provide and regulate events and exhibitions for Corvette owners, and to encourage careful and skillful driving.

Section 3. The Club is organized as a not-for-profit organization in the State of Illinois according to the Illinois General Not for Profit Corporation Act.

ARTICLE 2

Membership and Dues

Section 1. Membership in the Club shall be granted only to owners or principal operators of Corvettes at the time of original application for membership. Any exceptions to this requirement must be approved by the Board of Directors. Full membership privileges shall also be available to members' spouses as listed in Article 2, Section 4.

Section 2. Applicants must complete a Club membership application and pay applicable membership dues as described in Article 2, Section 4. New members shall have all the privileges of active members, except they shall not be able to hold an elected office in the Club during their first 3-months of membership.

Section 3. Classes of Membership shall be as follows:

- **Active:** Any person duly accepted as provided in Article 2, Section 2 and having paid such annual dues and fees as required in Article 2, Section 4.
- **Honorary:** A special class of membership reserved for those member(s) who have made significant contributions to the Club during their membership, or for those member(s) who leave the Club for personal reasons such as moving or retirement and are therefore unable to maintain an active membership. A request for Honorary membership status must be made to the Board of Directors in writing by an active member, along with any information to support the request. Following review and approval by the Board of Directors, honorary membership status will be granted following a majority vote of the members present at the next regular Club meeting. There shall be no dues for honorary members.
- **Charter:** All active members who paid their first-year dues on or before October 1, 1977.

Section 4. Club membership dues are comprised of two portions; a Sunburst Corvette Club portion and a National Council of Corvette Clubs (N.C.C.C.) portion. Membership dues for the Sunburst portion shall be as set by the board, and approved by the membership at the September meeting.

N.C.C.C. dues are established by N.C.C.C. and any modifications to the dues structure are outside the scope of these By-Laws. The current N.C.C.C. membership dues must be paid by each member of the Club to have an active membership status. Membership dues for new members joining after September 1 shall be for membership for the year remaining plus the next fiscal year. These dues do not include jackets, patches, or bumper stickers. No monies will be refunded on termination of membership.

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- Section 5. Active members are entitled to all Club privileges, except as noted in Article 2, Section 2. Honorary members are entitled to all Club privileges except that they shall not have the right to vote or hold office, nor shall they be eligible for discounts and similar special considerations extended to Club members, if any.
- Section 6. If any member shall willfully refuse or neglect to comply with these By-Laws, or shall be guilty of any conduct contrary to the purpose of the Club as provided in Article 1, Section 2, said member shall be liable to expulsion.
- Section 7. Membership will automatically lapse for non-payment of dues thirty (30) days past the Club's fiscal year (February 1).
- Section 8. Any member may be expelled for conduct as provided in Article 2, Section 6. However, before such action is taken, they must submit in writing AND in person his/her position on any charge of which the complaining member is concerned. The board will notify the member in writing. Both parties will be invited to the board meeting to discuss their sides of the situation. The Board will discuss the matter privately and the Board of Directors will vote to determine the appropriate action to be taken by simple majority, which may result in immediate dismissal from the Club in accordance with Sunburst Corvette Club By-Laws Article 2, Section 6.
- Section 9. Any member may resign by directing a letter of resignation to the Club Secretary. His/her resignation shall be effective on receipt, provided all indebtedness to the Club is paid. Any Club property in the possession of the member upon resignation must be returned.
- Section 10. All active members and active spouse members of the Sunburst Corvette Club shall be members of the National Council of Corvette Clubs (N.C.C.C.).
- Section 11. The Club will pay the outgoing President's Sunburst Corvette Club Membership Dues for the next year as thanks for serving. The outgoing President is responsible for paying his/her N.C.C.C. membership dues.
- Section 12. Any creative content provided to the Club in physical or digital form is given with an implied perpetual, unlimited right for the Club to use said content with absolutely no recourse (financial or otherwise) available to the original content submitter at the time of submission or thereafter unless the original content submitter specifically requests otherwise at the time the creative content is submitted to the Club.

The Board reserves the right to review, revise, reject or suggest modification to any creative content associated with the Club.

ARTICLE 3

Board of Directors

- Section 1. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the five (5) or six (6) General officers of the Club per Article 4, Section 1.
- Section 2. Without regards to membership classification, a spouse or companion of the same relationship or domicile shall not serve at the same time on the Board. (Only one person of a couple, can be a board member).
- Section 3. Board members may be re-elected, except the Past President. There is no limit on the number of terms that a board member may serve.

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- Section 4. Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors shall be filled according to the annual nomination and election process as provided in Article 6, except the Past President. Such person(s) appointed to fill such vacancies shall only serve until the next annual election.
- Section 5. Should any Board member engage in behavior(s) as described in Article 2, Section 6, the remaining Board members may recommend to the membership that his/her office be declared vacant and open for re-election according to the annual nomination and election process as provided in Article 6.
- Section 6. Board Meetings. The Board of Directors shall meet on a monthly basis to review current matters pertaining to the operation of the Club. The Board meeting schedule is every month with the day set by the board, except as amended. Board meetings may be attended by all active members. Minutes of each Board meeting shall be documented by the Secretary.
- Section 7. At all Board meetings, 51% of the Board Members must be present to constitute a quorum, defined as the number (as a majority) of members of a body that when duly assembled is (legally) competent to transact business.

ARTICLE 4 Officers

- Section 1. The general officers shall be: a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and an N.C.C.C. Governor elected by a majority vote of the active membership; and a Past President if he/she is willing to serve.
- Section 2. All officers shall enter upon their official duties on the first day of January and shall serve for a term of one (1) year, or until their successors shall be duly elected and qualified. They may be elected to succeed themselves. The Past President shall neither have a successor, nor be elected.
- Section 3. The duties of the officers shall be as follows:
- a. The President shall be the executive officer and shall preside over all meetings of the Club and of the Board of Directors. He/she shall be an ex-officio member of all standing and special committees. He/she shall perform such other duties as usually pertain to that office of the President. He/she may call special meetings of members. He/she shall be authorized to sign all checks. He/she shall be a member of the Club for a minimum of two years before being elected.
 - b. The Vice President, in the absence of the President, shall preside at all meetings of the Club and the Board of Directors. He/she shall also perform such other duties as usually pertain to that office or may be assigned him/her by the President. He/she shall also appoint members to certain standing Committees as provided in Article 9. He/she shall be authorized to sign all checks.
 - c. The Secretary shall keep the records and minutes of the regular and Board meetings of the Club in a book kept for this purpose. He/she shall be authorized to sign all checks. He/she shall give all notices of meetings of the members required by law or these By-Laws.
 - d. The Treasurer shall receive, collect, and have custody of all monies, debts and obligations belonging to the Club, including dues. He/she shall receive all monies of the Club and deposit same in the Club account. He/she shall make all payments of Club debts upon approval of the Board of Directors. No obligation, debt, or other liability shall be incurred by the Treasurer without the specific approval of the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall develop the annual operating budget as provided in Article 12, Section 2, and shall give a report on the financial status of the Club at regular Club meetings and, if so requested, at any other meeting of the Board of Directors. All contracts, drafts, notes or other orders for payment of money shall be signed in the name of the Club by the Treasurer and approved by the President, Vice President, or Secretary.

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- e. The N.C.C.C. Governor shall serve on the Board of Directors. He/she shall represent the Club in all matters pertaining to N.C.C.C.
- f. The Past President shall be the outgoing President, and be a voting member of the board. The Past President provides a carryover of experience for the board. If willing to serve, he/she may serve on the Board for one year immediately following their term as President. If unwilling to serve, the position will be vacant and not have a vote.

ARTICLE 5 Meetings

- Section 1. The regular meetings of the Club shall be held on the first Thursday of the month starting in February, except as amended by the Board of Directors.
- Section 2. Special meetings may be called by order of the President.
- Section 3. At all stated meetings of the members, 51% of the active members in attendance shall constitute a majority.
- Section 4. Notice of meetings, other than the regular Club meetings as scheduled in Article 5, Section 1, stating the place, day, hour and purpose of any meeting of the members, including special meetings, shall be given by the Secretary and sent not less than seven days before such meeting to the member. To reduce administrative burden on the Secretary, the Board of Directors may share the responsibility of providing this notice. Providing notice to members via either the current telephone or e-mail address on file in the membership records is deemed sufficient for this purpose.
- Section 5. Regular meeting site or any change in the regular meeting site must be approved by a majority of the Board of Directors. At the next regular Club meeting, any permanent changes must be approved by 51% of active members present and voting.

ARTICLE 6 Nomination and Election of Board Members/Officers

- Section 1. The President shall appoint a nominating committee consisting of three (3) active members.
- Section 2. This committee shall prepare a slate of eligible nominees for pending elections and present this slate to the members at the regular Club meeting in November.
- Section 3. Nominations may also be made from the floor.
- Section 4. Directors/ Officers shall be elected by a plurality, defined as an excess of votes over those cast for an opposing candidate, of those members present and voting.
- Section 5. The election of the Board of Directors/ Officers shall be held during the regular Club meeting of the month of December. The nominating committee shall present the slate of eligible nominees and any nominations from the floor, added to the slate, at the regular Club meeting of November.

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ARTICLE 7 Amendments

The By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members present and voting at any regular meeting of the Club, provided that notice of the proposed amendment has been given in writing and read at a previous meeting.

ARTICLE 8 Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots shall be allowed for legitimate reasons for the election of members of the Board of Directors/Officers and for changes and amendments to the By-Laws. Legitimate reasons would include complications of employment, military commitment, hospitalization, or reasons so decided by the board as qualifying as legitimate reasons. The member must notify the board prior to the balloting of his or her reason for qualifying for an absentee ballot. This ballot must be received by the chairman of the nominating committee prior to the balloting.

ARTICLE 9 Appointment of Committees and Club Activities

- Section 1. The President shall appoint such committees, in support of the stated purpose of the Club as defined in Article 1, Section 2, as he/she finds desirable from time to time and shall outline the duties and responsibilities of such committees. All reports or action taken by a committee must be voted by a majority of the entire committee. In addition to the authority granted above, certain standing committees, as set forth, shall be appointed annually by the Vice President.
- Section 2. The activities of the Club shall consist of planned trips, social gatherings, and events for active and honorary members as planned by Club committees and other members appointed by them. Each separate activity shall not require an approval or vote by the membership. Members may participate in any or all planned activities as their personal schedule allows.

ARTICLE 10 Charitable Contributions

- Section 1. Recipients of monetary charitable contributions shall be limited to local Chicago-land chapters of 501 (c) (3) recognized charitable associations.
- Section 2. Recipients of monetary charitable contributions shall be limited to 501(c)(3) recognized charitable organizations.
- A. No more than a total of five charities will be selected to be recipients of the Club's "excess funds".
 - B. Of the five selected charities, no more than One "National" charity will be selected to be beneficiaries of the Club's excess funds.
 - C. No one charity can be the beneficiary of the Club's excess funds more than two consecutive years.
- Section 3. Requests for monetary charitable donations shall be presented to the Board of Directors for qualification. With a majority vote, the Board of Directors shall qualify such requests according to the precepts outlined in Article 10, Section 1. If request is qualified, the Club treasurer shall advise the Board of Directors on the Club's availability of funds. If the request is deemed qualified and affordable by the Board, it will be presented to the membership at the next scheduled regular meeting and must be approved by 51% of the active members present and voting

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ARTICLE 11

Non-charitable Contributions

A particular event and/or the monies earned from such event may be designated to benefit organizations not deemed qualified and affordable according to the process outlined in Article 10, Section 2.

ARTICLE 12

Fiscal Year and Fiscal Responsibility

Section 1. The fiscal year of the Club shall be from January 1 to December 31.

Section 2. An annual operating budget for the Club shall be developed by the Treasurer, approved by the Board of Directors, and presented to the membership at the February regular Club meeting. The operating budget should detail expected annual income and expenses for the Club. The budget shall be balanced such that expenses may not exceed income on an annualized basis. However, due to the monthly timing of income and expenses, there may be certain months where income exceeds expenses (surplus) and vice-versa (deficit). The Treasurer shall be responsible for tracking income and expenses to ensure the approved operating budget shall be adhered to. Any situations that may arise that are projected to result in an annual deficit will require specific approval of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 13

Personal Liability

All persons or corporations extending credit to, contracting with, or having any claim against the Club or the Board of Directors shall look only to the funds and property of the Club for payment of any such contract or claim or for payment of any debt, damage, judgment, or decree, or any other money that may otherwise become due or payable to them from the Club or the Board of Directors, so that neither the members of the Club, the Board of Directors, present or future, shall be liable personally thereafter.

ARTICLE 14

Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the Club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Club may adopt.