

GULF COAST SPORTS BOOSTERS, INC.

BY-LAWS

Article I – Name:

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Gulf Coast Sports Boosters, Inc. d.b.a. the Gulf Coast Sports Boosters, Inc., with headquarters in Port Charlotte, Florida. Here-in also referred to as the “Gulf Coast Sports Boosters”, “Booster Club” and “Club”.

Section 2. The Gulf Coast Sports Boosters, Inc. shall operate as a not-for-profit association under Section 501(c) (3) of the US Federal Tax Code.

Section 3. Upon dissolution of the organization, the Booster Club's assets shall be distributed to the Gulf Coast Sports Boosters, Inc. charities or other such means as approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members in good standing attending a regular or special meeting of the Booster Club as may be called by the President.

Article II – Mission Statement:

Gulf Coast Sports Boosters, Inc. is an exuberant group of fans dedicated to promoting and supporting sports venues of all types within our community. It is our intention to form a fan base that will foster moral and financial assistance to local sports teams of all levels including but not limited to high school, college and league teams with an emphasis on the game of baseball.

Article III – Membership:

Section 1. Active membership shall consist of dues paying members who are interested in upholding the mission statement and rules and by-laws as established by the Gulf Coast Sports Boosters, Inc. and who attend meetings and sponsored events as planned by the Club.

Section 2. Membership shall consist of one individual and must be eighteen (18) years of age or older to vote, hold office or be a committee chairperson. Any person under the age of eighteen (18) who wishes to be a member must be sponsored by and accompanied by a relative who is also a Booster Club member. Any exceptions are subject to approval of the Executive Committee. Each member shall be provided an official membership card and a copy of the current By-Laws.

Section 3. All memberships will be maintained on an annual basis for the calendar year beginning January 1 and ending December 31. If a member has not renewed his or her membership by March 1, he or she shall be in arrears and will be dropped from the membership list.

Section 4. The annual membership dues shall be determined by the Executive Committee as deemed necessary to cover expenses of the Booster Club. If the annual dues are recommended to be changed, said recommended changes must be approved by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at the next regular membership meeting.

Section 5. Members in good standing 18 years of age and older shall have the privilege of the floor at meetings of the Booster Club, the privilege of voting, the privilege of holding office, and serving as a committee chair.

Section 6. Membership Termination. The aim of the Gulf Coast Sports Boosters, Inc. is to create an atmosphere of ease and trust for the teams, its players, coaches, and staff that we may choose to support. Therefore, Gulf Coast Sports Boosters, Inc. members will not harass, annoy, pester, bother, be a nuisance, stalk, badger, bully, or otherwise trouble individuals, team players, coaches, or staff. Members may not use their status as a member of the Booster Club to gain any access to individuals, team, players, coaches, or staff, or derive any benefits for simply being a member in the Gulf Coast Sports Boosters, Inc., over their normal volunteer duties as Booster Club members. Any member who operates outside of established and agreed procedures of the Booster Club with any of the players, coaches, or staff, by falsely portraying themselves as official representatives, or points of contact for any of the Booster Club activities, when in fact they are not, will be warned of imminent membership termination if such conduct is continued. If such conduct is continued, their membership in the Booster Club will be terminated by the elected leadership of the Booster Club, and teams, coaches, players, and staff will be so notified.

Article IV – Officers:

Section 1. The officers of the Booster Club shall consist of a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and the immediate past president.

Section 2. The term of office shall be one year, commencing on January 1.

Section 3. No person shall be elected to the office of president for more than two consecutive terms unless otherwise approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership at a meeting preceding the nomination and election process.

Section 4. There are no restrictions on the number of consecutive terms the vice president, secretary and/or treasurer can hold office.

Article V – Duties and Election of the Officers:

Section 1. President-The president shall preside at all meetings of the Booster Club and all meetings of the executive committee, act as the principal executive officer of the Booster Club and enter into agreements in the name of the Booster Club, sign checks and contracts with the Treasurer and shall, in cooperation with the other officers and members, execute the policies of the Booster Club. In the event an elected officer resigns and/or permanently abandons his or her office, the President has the right and responsibility to name a successor from the current membership to fill the vacancy. The President—or his or her appointed individual—shall take charge of all monies, papers and other properties and shall discharge the duties and responsibilities of the office until the next regularly scheduled election of officers takes place. In August of membership year, the President shall appoint a nominating committee consisting of three (3) or more members in good standing none of whom shall be current elected officers.

Section 2. Vice President-The vice president shall perform the duties assigned by the president. In the absence, resignation, incapacity or inability of the president to perform his/her duties, the vice-president shall assume the duties of the president. The vice president may sign checks and contracts with the Treasurer.

Section 3. Secretary-The secretary shall take charge of all the papers of the Booster Club, shall keep a record of all members of the Booster Club, and shall inform the membership of the affairs of the Booster Club; shall issue membership cards to members and shall attend to all necessary correspondence to carry out the business of the Booster Club. The Secretary may sign checks and contracts with the Treasurer.

Section 4. Treasurer-The treasurer shall take charge of all financial records of the Booster Club and shall receive and deposit all funds in the name of the Booster Club in a designated savings and/or checking account in a bank in or near Port Charlotte Florida. The treasurer shall prepare the Booster Club's financial statements and shall, at the beginning of a fiscal year, prepare and provide a budget as approved by the Executive Committee for a vote and final approval by members of Booster Club for the coming year. In the event that the Treasurer cannot attend a regular monthly meeting, he/she will provide a copy of the current financial report to be read by another member of the board.

Section 5. In the event of a permanent vacancy in the office of president, the vice president shall assume the office of president and appoint a member in good standing to fill the unexpired term of vice president until the next regularly scheduled election of officers takes place. In the event of a permanent vacancy in the office of president and vice president simultaneously, the immediate past president shall assume the office of president and appoint a member in good standing to fill the unexpired term of vice president until the next regularly scheduled election takes place. In the event any elected officer resigns or otherwise abandons his or her office, he/she relinquishes any and all duties responsibilities and/or honors associated with that office.

Section 6. Officers and committee members shall serve without compensation but shall be entitled to reimbursement for actual expenses incurred in performing their responsibilities of the Booster Club as approved by the members of the Booster Club, except that travel, meal, or admission ticket expenses shall not be reimbursed.

Section 7. An officer may be removed from office for cause by a two-thirds (2/3) of active members present at a Booster Club meeting.

Article VI – Executive Committee:

Section 1. The executive committee shall consist of the currently elected/appointed officers and the immediate past president.

Section 2. The executive committee shall have complete control and management of the affairs, funds, and property of the Booster Club.

Section 3. A simple majority of the executive committee and additionally no less than 10 (ten) active members present shall constitute a quorum for a regular monthly business meeting to be convened. Regardless of the number of offices and chairmanships held, no person shall have more than one vote on the executive committee.

Article VII – Standing Committees:

Section 1. In the event of a vacancy in the chairmanship of a standing committee the president shall appoint a replacement with the approval of the executive committee.

Section 2. Standing committees may include but not limited to the following:

- a. Membership Committee
- b. Public Relations Committee
- c. Banquet/Cookout (BBQ) Committee
- d. Travel Activities Committee
- e. Fund Raising Committee
- f. Other committees as deemed necessary

Section 3. Duties of Standing Committees:

- a. Membership Committee-To initiate and coordinate efforts to increase the membership and maintain contact with current members.
- b. Public Relations Committee-To promote and publicize the Booster Club and its purposes and to specifically arrange publicity for all functions and activities of the Booster Club.
- c. Banquet/Cookout (BBQ) Committee-To plan and carry out the details of the annual banquet and organize any other banquets/cookouts, or parties throughout the year.
- d. Travel Activities Committee-To arrange and coordinate trips to out of town sports venues that the Club may choose to attend.
- e. Fund Raising Committee-To devise plans to raise money for the Booster Club. This could include but not limited to working with the public relations committee, banquet committee and perhaps private businesses.

Article VIII – Meetings:

Section 1. There shall be monthly meetings of the Booster Club to be held on the third Saturday of each month, at such time and place as designated by the president with the approval of the executive committee. The President may call a special meeting of the membership and/or the executive committee that may require the action of a vote by said members wherein such business **MUST be conducted** prior to a regularly scheduled meeting. Adequate notice must be given in a timely manner so as to allow the members to attend. All other meetings shall be called at the discretion of the President as the need arises.

Section 2. Recording of any official business transacted at any Booster Club and/or Executive Committee meetings by electronic, digital, mechanical, audio or video means by anyone other than the secretary is prohibited. As such those recordings without regard to the process for recording such meetings are sole property of the Booster Club and shall be forfeited to the executive committee once transcribed.

Section 3. The Booster Club shall host social events as they are available. No Booster Club business shall be conducted during a social event. There may be no charge to invited guests to attend such social events, but the Booster Club may invoke an entry fee for non-members to attend a Booster Club social event.

Article IX – Elections:

Section 1. Officers shall be elected at the annual September meeting and assume office on January 1 of the following year. The intention is for the newly elected officers to attend officers’ meetings beginning October 1 for transition and planning purposes.

No member may be elected to the office of President until he or she has been an active dues paying member in good standing for one year prior to being elected.

At the annual September meeting, the nominating committee shall nominate a slate of officers to be considered for election for the coming year. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor. No person shall be nominated unless that person has given his or her consent and willingness to serve in writing if he or she is unable to attend the meeting where the election takes place. After nominations are closed, the members shall vote for the offices in this order: president, then vice president, then secretary, then treasurer one at a time. The person receiving the highest number of votes of those voting at the meeting shall be elected to the office for which he/she was nominated.

Article X – Adoption and Amendment of By-Laws:

Section 1. These by-laws shall be deemed adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members in good standing present and voting at a regular membership meeting of the Booster Club.

Section 2. These by-laws may be amended only by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members in good standing and present and voting at a regular membership meeting of the Booster Club. Such amendments as voted and approved under this process shall have immediate effect or otherwise as specified.

Section 3. These by-laws shall be reviewed at least annually.

Article XI – Suggested Order of Business and Agenda for monthly Business Meeting:

1. Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance
2. Introduction of new members and/or guests
3. Reading of minutes of the previous meeting
4. Treasurer’s Report
5. Report of committees
6. Unfinished business
7. New business
8. Adjournment

_____ _____
 President Date