

CONSTITUTION OF THE LINDEN HILLS DANCING CLUB, INCORPORATED

We, the members of the Linden Hills Dancing Club, Inc., in regular meeting assembled, in order to carry into effect the objects and purposes of our organization and to place our Club on a permanent basis, do agree upon and adopt the following as the Constitution of said Dancing Club.

Article I – NAME

Section 1 The name of this organization shall be “The Linden Hills Dancing Club,” hereafter referred to as the “Club”.

Article II – OBJECTIVES

Section 1 The objectives of the Club shall be to:
A. Encourage and promote ballroom dancing and provide opportunities to experience other social dancing styles.
B. Provide an environment to develop dancing and social skills.

Article III – ORGANIZATION

Section 1. The Club is incorporated under the laws of the State of Minnesota.

Section 2 The Executive Committee shall consist of nine couples. The Chair Couple, the Treasurers and Secretaries, elected by the Executive Committee, shall serve as officers of the Club.
A. The Chair Couple shall:
 1. Preside at all general meetings of the Club
 2. Chair the Executive Committee meetings
 3. Set goals and provide a year-end report to the Club at its Annual Meeting
 4. Serve a one year term of office
B. The Treasurers shall:
 1. Keep the financial records of the Club and submit them annually to a third-party audit. The auditor’s report shall be made to the Executive Committee in writing.
 2. Make a financial report at the Club’s Annual Meeting and make the financial records available for examination by the membership if requested.
 3. Make disbursements of the Club funds only with the authorization of the Chair Couple.
 4. Collect dues from all members prior to the first dance, collect all other receivables, and deposit all funds in the Club’s accounts.
 5. Ensure that any funds left at the end of the year are carried forward for use the next dance year.
C. The Secretaries shall record , distribute, and file the minutes of the general membership and Executive Committee meetings.

Section 3. The Executive Committee shall manage the Club in such a way as to serve the objectives of the Club. This includes, but is not limited to: contracting with a dance facility, setting dues and fees, hiring musicians or providing music, selecting committees, appointing task forces and making other necessary arrangements on behalf of the Club.

A. Three couples shall be elected to the Executive Committee at the Annual Meeting by the voting members of the Club to serve a three year term. Active members who have not previously served on the Executive Committee or who have not served in the last five years be eligible for election.

B. The Executive Committee shall prepare a ballot of members eligible for election to the Executive Committee. Ballots shall be made available, or mailed, to all voting members prior to or at the Annual Meeting. The Executive Committee shall collect and count the ballots and inform the electees of their election prior to a formal announcement to the Club's membership.

C. Each member shall vote for three couples to the Executive Committee. The three couples receiving the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected provided they are willing to serve. In the event there are more vacancies to be filled, those receiving the next greatest number of votes shall fill the term of that vacancy provided they are willing to serve.

D. A couple filling a partial term on the Executive Committee shall retain their eligibility for subsequent election to a regular three year term.

E. A record of the votes cast for election to the Executive Committee shall be kept for at least one year.

F. Ties shall be resolved by the Executive Committee.

Section 4. The Club's fiscal year shall be identical to the club's dance year (July 1st through June 30th of the following year) and its Annual Meeting shall be held at its last regularly scheduled dance of the year (May or June).

Article IV – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in the Club shall be open only to *couples without regard to race, creed, color or national origin.

Section 2. Membership shall consist of three categories:

A. Active Members:

1. Eligibility: *couples who are sponsored by a least one member couple.
2. Responsibilities and privileges:
 - a. Pay annual dues
 - b. Serve on dance committees or the Executive Committee
 - c. Exercise full voting rights
 - d. Receive all mailings
3. Limitations: there shall be no limit to the number of active members admitted to the club.

B. Associate Members:

1. Eligibility: Active members of 20 or more years or who have moved outside the greater metropolitan area. Requests for this membership status must be made in writing to the Executive Committee.
2. Responsibilities and privileges:
 - a. Pay annual dues
 - b. Exercise full voting rights
 - c. Pay regular guest fees for meals
 - d. Receive all mailings
 - e. Not required to serve on dance committees.
3. Limitations: the number of Associate Members shall not exceed 20% of the active membership. Associate Members may return to active membership upon approval of a written request by the Executive Committee.

- C. Honorary Members:
1. Eligibility: inactive past member (couple, widow or widower) chosen by the Executive Committee.
 2. Responsibilities and privileges:
 - a. Receive all mailings
 - b. Pay regular guest fee for meals

Article V – DUES

- Section 1. Dues shall be determined by the Executive Committee and announced at each Annual Meeting for the subsequent year.
- Section 2. Dues are payable to the Treasurer by the first dance of the year.
- Section 3. Dues may be pro-rated to new members who join after the first dance of the year.

Article VI – MEETINGS/DANCES

- Section 1. The Club's Annual Meeting will be held at the last scheduled dance of the dance year.
- Section 2. The Executive Committee shall schedule its own meetings.
- Section 3. Official meetings of the Club or Executive Committee require the presence of its officers and the majority of the Executive Committee.
- Section 4. Meetings of assigned committees/task forces and other designated groups may occur where and when applicable.
- Section 5. Locations of the Club's meetings/dances shall be determined by the Executive Committee and may be held in any facility provided financial and other requirements are met.

Article VII – CONDUCT

- Section 1. Smoking is discouraged and is to be allowed only in designated smoking areas of facilities used by the Club.
- Section 2. Intoxicating beverages are permissible at a dance if approved by the Executive Committee and held at a site where the party providing the site holds a liquor license and is authorized to sell such beverages to the public.
- Section 3. Under no circumstances will any person holding club membership or a guest of a member be permitted to sell, donate or distribute free intoxicating beverages at a site where a regular or special dance is held.
- Section 4. Decorating a facility for a meeting/dance, if done at all, shall not deface the property and must be in compliance with local fire codes regarding flammability and egress of the site.

Article VIII – DRESS

- Section 1. Except for costume parties or other special dances, acceptable attire shall be worn by members at the Club's dances.
- A. Gentlemen: tuxedo and coordinating accessories are preferred and encouraged.
 - B. Ladies: attire of a material and style appropriate to current acceptable fashions intended for a formal occasion is preferred.

Article IX - GUESTS

- Section 1. Guests, who may or may not be prospective members, may attend any of the Club's events with a Club member of any membership status; advance notice of such attendance should be given to the month's Dance Chair Couple.

Section 2. The hosting couple or member is responsible for the guest and is to pay the Treasurer the guest fees for the event/dance.

Section 3. Generally, it is preferred that prospective members attend one or two dances in order to determine their interest and then be recommended for membership by one couple.

Article X – AMENDMENTS

Section 1. The Constitution may be revised or amended at any Annual Meeting of the Club provided written notice of the proposed revision is given to the membership of the Club at least sixty days prior to the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. Proposed revisions are generally prepared by the Executive Committee and presented to the Club. However, proposals offered by members are acceptable provided they are proposed in writing to the Chair Couple of the Executive Committee at least ninety days prior to the Annual Meeting, thereby allowing time for the Executive Committee to review the proposals prior to notice being given to the membership.

Section 3. A vote on the amendment shall be taken by written ballot of those present or voting by absentee ballot after time has been allowed for full discussion at the meeting.

Section 4. In order to be passed, amendments must be approved by at least two-thirds of the votes cast by eligible voting members.

Section 5. All amendments to the Constitution shall become effective immediately on their adoption unless otherwise specified in the amendment when adopted.

Section 6. When an amendment has been adopted, articles of amendment must be prepared pursuant to Minnesota Statute 317A.139 and filed with the Secretary of State.

Article XI- WAIVER OF LIABILITY

Section 1. Neither the Club nor any of its officers or committee members shall be liable to any member, in any membership category, or their guests, for personal injury or for damage to or loss of property claimed to be caused by or to have arisen out of:

A. Any Club activities; or

B. Any dangerous or defective condition of any premises not owned by the Club; or

C. The actions of any agent or employee of the owner or operator of any premises not owned by the Club.

Section 2. By membership in the Club each member shall be deemed to have accepted the provisions of the Article and to have waived any and all claims or demands for any such above described injury, damage or loss.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO ACTION BY THE OFFICERS
OF THE LINDEN HILLS DANCING CLUB,
INCORPORATED

Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 317A.139 Linden Hills Dancing Club, a non-profit corporation, in lieu of a meeting of the incorporators do hereby adopt the following resolutions effective immediately.

RESOLVED, that the Constitution of the Linden Hills Dancing Club attached are hereby approved.

Chuck and Dee Dee Bolter

Dwight and Ruth Haberman

Karl Schweikart and Susan Hopp

John and Pat Anibal

Joel and Nancy Anderson

Dennis and Suzanne West

Kay and Arnie Anderson

Greg Samuelson and Jean Miller

Jim and Lynne Skripka

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the officers of the Club executed this unanimous consent on the 11th day of November , 2002.

Dwight Haberman

Ruth Haberman

John Anibal

Pat Anibal

Karl Schweikart

Susan Hopp

*Pursuant to action at the October 19, 2002 meeting of the membership of Linden Hills Dancing Club, this constitution was amended by a vote of 62 to 6, changing Article IV, Section 1, "Membership in the Club shall be open only to ~~married~~ couples..." and Section 2, "Eligibility: ~~married~~ couples..."