

# BYLAWS SINGLES INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER, FMCA

## ARTICLE I – CHAPTER NAME

The name of this not-for-profit organization shall be the SINGLES INTERNATIONAL Chapter of the Family Motor Coach Association, Inc. hereinafter referred to as a Chapter of “FMCA”.

## ARTICLE II – OBJECT

A. PURPOSE: The purpose of this Chapter shall be to foster fellowship and communication between single members of FMCA and to promote and/or provide social, recreational and exchange activities for enjoyment of mutual interests and concerns.

B. AREA: This Chapter shall be authorized to function in the International Area.

C. SCOPE: This Chapter will have members who are considered to be single or who consider themselves to be single.

## ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

### 1. ELIGIBILITY:

A. 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.

B. Membership in this Chapter shall not be denied any person because race, age, gender, national origin, religion, marital status, or disability.

C. This chapter welcomes all single FMCA members.

2. The term “family unit” is defined as a person; his or her spouse, or partner; dependents of each, regardless of age; non-dependent 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 recreational vehicle (RV) who share a membership number.

4. The term “member” is defined as each adult who, jointly or individually, constitutes a membership. The rights of each member are defined in the description of each category contained in Article III (3) of the FMCA Bylaws.

5. A member must own a qualifying recreational vehicle (RV) or at least 1/3 interest in a qualifying recreational vehicle (RV) in order to vote or hold office in this Chapter.

6. The term qualifying recreational vehicle (RV) is defined as a “self-contained wheeled vehicle that includes permanently installed cooking, sleeping and sanitary facilities”.

## 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 this Chapter shall be an amount as the membership shall establish, from year to year, by resolution at a general meeting.

B. RENEWAL: Renewal dues from chapter members become due and payable on the first (1st) day of October each year.

C. INITIAL APPLICATION: Application for new membership shall be accompanied by payment of annual chapter and national dues (unless already an FMCA member). If an initial application is accepted after August, the dues shall be regarded as covering the next membership year.

D. REINSTATED APPLICATION: Reinstated members shall be required to pay the renewal dues established by the chapter membership.

E. ARREARS: Any member whose dues remain unpaid for more than two (2) months after becoming due shall be considered delinquent after December 1st and membership is cancelled.

## ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

1. DUTIES OF OFFICERS: The duties of elected officers shall be as defined in the *Member and Volunteer Handbook* and in the Chapter Standing Rules.

### 2. TERMS OF OFFICE:

A. The elected officers of this Chapter shall begin serving their term immediately upon announcement of their election except for the National Director and Alternate National Director who shall begin their terms 14 days thereafter.

B. The elected officers, President, Executive Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, National Director, Alternate National Director, Vice President Newsletter Editor and nine Area Vice Presidents (as outlined in the FMCA Chapter Directory) shall be elected to serve as many one year terms as they are willing to serve. A one-year term ends when the officer is reelected or a successor is elected.

### 3. RIGHTS AND LIMITATIONS:

A. An individual FMCA member may hold either a single office in each of two chapters or two offices in one chapter. A member may hold the office of National Director or Alternate National Director in only one chapter.

B. Any member of good standing may be nominated from the floor for any elective office.

C. 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 the 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 conflict with the Chapter or FMCA.

#### ARTICLE V – COMMITTEES

1. APPOINTMENT: Committee members and chairpersons (except Nominating Committee) shall be appointed by the president.

2. DUTIES: All committees shall function within the policies of the Chapter and (except the Nominating Committee) under the direction of the president. Financial reports, vouchers, and monies due the chapter shall be submitted on a timely basis.

3. QUORUM: A committee quorum shall be a majority.

#### ARTICLE VI – 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 instances, by mail vote on stated propositions.

2. ORGANIZATIONAL YEAR: The fiscal year of the Chapter shall commence on January 1st and end December 31st. The membership year of the Chapter shall commence on October 1st and end on September 30th.

#### 3. CHAPTER MEETINGS:

A. TYPES: The term "meeting" shall include RV rallies, campouts, dinner meetings, and any other gathering suitable to the function of the Chapter.

B. BUSINESS MEETINGS: In each fiscal year, the chapter shall hold at least one business meeting at which a quorum is present. The meeting can be a gathering in one area or where some or all of the members communicate with other members through electronic means such as the Internet or by telephone that allows all members the opportunity for simultaneous aural communication. Said meeting shall be duly announced in advance to the membership, including adequate description of how to participate. "Voting may be conducted at a business meeting, or by mail, email or other electronic means. (NOTE: Chapters that allow for an election or other proposed matter to be decided by mail, email, or other electronic means may not also allow voting on the election or the proposed matter at a meeting".)

C. OFFICER ELECTION: The voting general membership is to elect chapter officers, including a President, Executive Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a National Director, an Alternate National Director, Vice President Newsletter Editor and nine Area Vice Presidents (as outlined in the FMCA Chapter Directory).

The election of officers shall be by written ballot. A 51% or greater majority of the votes cast shall be required to elect officers or decide issues. Each member, present and in good standing, shall be entitled to cast one vote.

D. QUORUM: A quorum for the transaction of business at any duly-called chapter meeting is 25% of the chapter family unit memberships or fifteen family unit memberships, whichever is less.

E. VOTING: Except as specified elsewhere in these bylaws, a simple majority vote of members in good standing, eligible to vote and voting shall be required to approve or disapprove any matter.

Voting will be one vote for each adult member.

Balloting by mail may be undertaken when a proposed matter is voted to be of such importance or urgency that a total membership vote is advisable.

F. PARLIAMENTARY PROCESS: The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern this Chapter's proceedings to which they are applicable and in which they are inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of FMCA, and the bylaws of this Chapter.

#### 4. MAINTAINING ACCREDITATION:

This Chapter must maintain a minimum of fifteen family unit memberships.

The Chapter Secretary will furnish to the National Office of FMCA, no later than December 31st each year, a list of chapter officers and assurance that a business meeting was held.

The Chapter Treasurer shall furnish to the National Office of FMCA, no later than December 31st of each year, a membership list.

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 NATIONAL CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS: This Chapter accepts and agrees that the Chapter Bylaws shall conform to any mandatory requirements stipulated in the FMCA Constitution Bylaws and Member and Volunteer Handbook.

## ARTICLE VII – ELECTIONS

### 1. NOMINATING COMMITTEE COMPOSTION:

A. The Nominating Committee shall consist of five (5) chapter members in good standing, but not less than three (3).

B. The Nominating Committee shall be elected by the membership at the Chapter's annual meeting and shall serve until the next election.

C. 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 COMMITTEE DUTIES:

A. To select one of its members as Nominating Committee Chairperson.

B. To nominate candidates for the chapter offices including a President, Executive Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a National Director, an Alternate National Director, a Vice President Newsletter Editor and nine Area Vice Presidents (as outlined in the FMCA Chapter Directory) as needed.

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 national and chapter bylaws.

E. To nominate candidates to fill vacancies that occurs in elected chapter offices.

## ARTICLE VIII – DISCIPLINE

Should a member commit an offense considered to be grounds for discipline, recall or expulsion, the matter shall be referred to the FMCA REVIEW COUNCIL to be dealt with in accordance with FMCA policy outlined in the *Member and Volunteer Handbook*.

## ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

1. MANDATORY AMENDMENTS: FMCA National Bylaw *Member and Volunteer Handbook – Policy and Procedures* amendments applicable to chapter operations shall be automatically adopted by the Chapter and are not subject to a vote by the Chapter membership.

2. AMENDING PROCEDURES: These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the members present and voting a duly-called meeting, providing prior notice of at least thirty (30) days have been given of the proposition(s) to amend.

Any member of this Chapter may propose changes to the bylaws.

Approved amendments to these bylaws become effective immediately upon their 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 X – STANDING RULES

This Chapter may adopt Standing Rules to provide guidelines and procedures by which the Chapter may function and operate.

## ARTICLE XI – LIQUIDATION AND DISSOLUTION

This Chapter of FMCA may be dissolved by a majority vote of Chapter members. 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 non-profit charity or charities.

Adopted at Annual Bus. Mtg. 08/18/98; Revised to comply with National Comments 02/01/99; Revised to comply with National Comments 05/05/99; Amended at Annual Bus. Mtg. 03/12/11; Amended at Annual Bus. Mtg. 02/02/12; Revised to comply with National Comments 02/05/14; Amended at Annual Bus. Mtg. 03/15/14.

Forward to FMCA for updated (RV Vehicles) approval 10-29-18