

**AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS OF  
GIRL SCOUT COUNCIL OF COLONIAL COAST  
UPDATED OCTOBER 12, 2024**

**ARTICLE I – NAME**

The name of the Corporation shall be Girl Scout Council of Colonial Coast (hereinafter referred to as the “Council” or the “Corporation”), a not-for-profit nonstock Corporation organized under the Virginia Nonstock Corporation Act, laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

**ARTICLE II – PURPOSE AND MISSION**

The purpose of the Council shall be as defined in the Articles of Incorporation and to make available to girls under its jurisdiction the program, practices, and standards of Girl Scouting as offered by the Girl Scouts of the United States of America. The Corporation shall be always carried out for the purposes and in accordance with the terms set forth in its Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws, and in conformity with all applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, affecting nonprofit organizations described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

**ARTICLE III – DELEGATE BODY**

**Section 1. Eligibility**

Individuals fourteen (14) years of age and older who are members of the Girl Scout Movement (the “Movement”) and who are currently registered through the Council are eligible to be Delegates.

**Section 2. Composition of the Delegate Body**

The Delegate Body shall consist of:

- A. Delegates elected by Service Units or other regional designation in accordance with the policies and procedures established for such election by the Board of Directors;
- B. At least two (2) Directors appointed by the Chair of the Board of Directors, one (1) of whom shall serve as chair of the Delegate Body, and all of whom shall serve as ex officio without vote;
- C. A staff liaison appointed by the CEO (who may be the CEO), who shall serve as ex officio without vote; and
- D. Any National Council Delegates then representing the Council (to the extent they are not also delegates elected by their Service Units).

**Section 3. Election**

- A. Procedure. Each Service Unit shall elect delegates and alternates in accordance with policies and procedures established by the Board of Directors by the second quarter of the calendar year prior to the expiration of such then serving delegates’ terms. If a Service Unit fails to elect delegates and alternates at least forty-five (45) days prior to the scheduled Yearly Meeting of the Delegate Body, the Board of Directors may appoint delegates and alternates to assure its representation in Corporation matters.

- B. Number. Each Service Unit shall be represented by at least one (1) delegate but not more than four (4) delegates; at least one (1) of such delegates must be an adult member.
- C. Term and Vacancies.
  - 1. The Delegates shall serve for a term of two (2) years or until their successors are elected and assume office.
  - 2. Terms of office shall begin immediately following the election.
  - 3. The Delegates shall serve for no more than three (3) consecutive terms. Such person shall not be eligible again for Delegate Body until after a lapse of one (1) year.
  - 4. Vacancies shall be filled first by alternates, and to the extent no alternate is available, the Delegate Body Chair may appoint a Delegate to serve for the unexpired portion of the vacated term from the Service Unit in which such vacancy has occurred.

#### **Section 4. Responsibilities**

The responsibilities of the Delegate Body shall be:

- A. To serve as the formal liaison between the Board of Directors and Staff leadership and the Girl Scout Movement whom it serves;
- B. To seek input from the Council's volunteers, current and prospective Members of the Girl Scout Movement, their parents, and the broader Council community regarding the efficacy and relevance of Council programs and services;
- C. To elect, by majority vote, up to two (2) representatives from the Delegate Body to serve a renewable two (2) year term on the Board of Directors, as ex officio members without vote.
- D. May elect, by majority vote, up to two (2) representatives from the Delegate Body to serve a renewable two (2) year term on the Board Development Committee.
- E. The Delegate Body may elect, by majority vote, representatives from the Delegate Body to serve on Committees other than the Board Development Committee (as outlined below).

#### **Section 5. Meetings**

- A. Yearly Meeting. The Delegate Body must hold at least one (1) meeting a year that occurs within the first quarter of the fiscal year. The Yearly Meeting of the Delegate Body shall be held for the purpose of election of Delegates to serve as nonvoting members on the Board of Directors, election of Delegates to serve on the Board Development Committee or other committees, voting on amendments to the bylaws (if any), and any other business or transactions as shall come before the Delegate Body.
- B. Special Meetings. Special meetings may be called by the Chair of the Delegate Body and/or shall be called by the Chair of the Delegate Body upon the written or electronic communication request of at least twenty (20) Delegates.
- C. Notice.
  - 1. Notice of the date, time, and place of each Yearly Meeting or special meeting shall be given personally, by mail, or by electronic transmission as provided below, to each member of the Delegate Body at least ten (10) days prior to a regularly scheduled yearly meeting and at least five (5) days prior to a specially called meeting. The purpose of a special meeting shall

- be stated in the notice to the Delegate Body, and no other matters shall be considered at the special meeting.
2. Notice of the date, time, place and/or purpose of a regular or special meeting of the Delegate Body may be given by a form of electronic transmission.
- D. Waiver of Notice of Meeting. A Delegate may, in writing or via electronic communication, waive notice of any meeting of the Delegate Body either before or after the meeting and such waiver shall be deemed the equivalent of giving notice.
- E. Voting.
1. Each Delegate shall be entitled to one (1) vote.
  2. No Delegate shall vote in more than one capacity.
  3. Unless otherwise designated by these Bylaws, all matters shall be determined by a majority vote.
  4. Proxy and/or absentee voting shall not be allowed, except under the next two sentences. Upon a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Delegates then sitting, the Delegate Body may allow proxy voting by the Delegate Body on a specific matter provided that a copy of the action to be taken shall be provided to the Delegates at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting at which proxy voting on the matter is proposed. Under such circumstances, electronically transmitted proxy votes will be accepted.
- F. Electronic Meetings. Delegates may participate in the Yearly Meeting or any Special Meeting by use of any means of communication by which all Delegates participating may simultaneously hear each other during such meeting and may communicate concurrently with any other participant in the meeting, including but not limited to by telephone, electronic conference call, electronic online conference meeting, or videoconference technology. A Delegate participating in a meeting by this means is deemed to be present in person at the meeting.

**Section 6. Accountability**

Any Delegate who is absent from either the Yearly Meeting or any training without prior written notice and good cause acceptable to the Board Chair, may be removed from office and/or the Delegate Body by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Directors present and voting at any regular meeting of the Board.

**Section 6. Quorum**

A majority of the number of Delegates elected and serving at the time of any meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Such Delegates may be present in-person or linked by telecommunication or by means such that all Delegates participating in the meeting are able to hear or be advised of the discussion and other Delegates can hear or be advised of their participation in the proceedings.

**ARTICLE IV – BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1. Composition**

The Board of Directors (“Board”) shall consist of the elected officers of the Corporation and not less than thirteen (13) nor more than seventeen (17) adult directors-at-large (collectively, the “Directors” and individually, a “Director”). All Directors shall be residents of the Commonwealth of Virginia or the State of North Carolina and registered Members of the Girl Scout Movement. The Board of Directors shall, from time to time, fix the size of the Board of Directors within the range prescribed by this Section; provided, however, that in doing so, the size of the Board of Directors shall not be reduced so as to eliminate the seat of an incumbent Director whose term is not then expiring; and provided, further, that a change in the size of the Board of Directors may be made

effective at a subsequent specified date. In addition, the CEO shall be an ex officio, non-voting member of the Board of Directors. Up to two (2) Delegates may also serve as non-voting Directors upon their election by the Delegate Body, and up to two (2) girl members fourteen (14) years of age or older may also serve as non-voting Directors upon the appointment by the Board Chair.

## **Section 2. Self-Perpetuating Election from Slate**

- A. The Board is self-perpetuating in the manner provided for in these Bylaws.
- B. All Directors shall be elected by majority vote of the Board of Directors from a slate of nominees approved and proposed by the Board Development Committee.

## **Section 3. Term of Office**

- A. The directors-at-large shall serve for a term of two (2) years or until their successors are elected and assume office.
- B. Terms of office shall begin at the close of the Annual Meeting at which elections are held.
- C. The term of office of approximately half of the elected directors-at-large shall expire at each annual meeting of the Council.
- D. The directors-at-large shall serve for no more than three (3) consecutive terms. Regardless of the number of consecutive terms any person shall have served as a director-at-large, such person shall be eligible to serve no more than five (5) consecutive two (2) year terms in any elected position of the Board, or as an officer except as provided in Article V, Section 2.D. Such person shall not be eligible again for elective office until after a lapse of one (1) year.
- E. A Director who shall have served a half term or more in office shall be considered to have served a full term in office.
- F. Up to two (2) girl members age fourteen (14) or older may be appointed to the Board of Directors by the CEO and Board Chair as non-voting ex officio members. Their term of office shall be for one (1) year, commencing October 1<sup>st</sup> following the annual meeting of the Corporation.

## **Section 3. Vacancies**

A vacancy occurring in a position of director-at-large may be filled by the Board of Directors for the remainder of the unexpired term.

## **Section 4. Power and Authority, and Accountability**

- A. Power and Authority. The Board of Directors shall have full power and authority over the affairs of the Council between meetings of the Council, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws or by statute.
- B. Accountability. The Board of Directors is accountable to:
  - 1. The Council membership, including the elected Delegate Body, for managing the affairs of the Council including development of a decision-influencing system allowing for members of the Movement, including girl members, to have a voice on key issues affecting the Council and the Movement;
  - 2. The Board of Directors of Girl Scouts of the United States of America for compliance with the charter requirements;
  - 3. The Commonwealth of Virginia for adherence to state Corporation law;
  - 4. The federal government in matters relating to legislation affecting not-for-profit, nonstock Corporations.

## **Section 5. Meetings**

- A. Scheduling. The Board of Directors shall hold at least five (5) regular meetings a year, one (1) of which may be its Annual Meeting, at such time and place as the Board may determine. Special Meetings may be called by the Chair of the Board and/or shall be called by the Chair of the Board upon the written or electronic communication request of at least four (4) Directors.
- B. Annual Meeting. Within the final quarter of the fiscal year, the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held for the purpose of installation of Directors, election of Board Officers of the Council, and any other business or transactions as shall come before the Board.
- C. Notice.
  - 1. Notice of the date, time, and place of each regular or special board meeting shall be given personally, by mail, or by electronic transmission as provided below, to each member of the Board of Directors at least ten (10) days prior to a regularly scheduled meeting and at least five (5) days prior to a specially called meeting. The purpose of a special meeting shall be stated in the notice, and no other matters shall be considered at the special meeting.
  - 2. Notice of the date, time, place and/or purpose of a regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors may be given by a form of electronic transmission.
- D. Waiver of Notice of Meeting. A Director may, in writing or via electronic communication, waive notice of any meeting of the Board of Directors either before or after the meeting and such waiver shall be deemed the equivalent of giving notice.
- E. Quorum. A majority of the number of Directors elected and serving at the time of any meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Such Directors may be present in person or linked by telecommunication or by means such that all Directors participating in the meeting are able to hear or be advised of the discussion and other Directors can hear or be advised of their participation in the proceedings.
- F. Voting.
  - 1. Each voting member of the board shall be entitled to one (1) vote.
  - 2. No member shall vote in more than one capacity.
  - 3. Unless otherwise designated by statute, the Articles of Incorporation of the Council, or these Bylaws, all matters shall be determined by a majority vote.
  - 4. Proxy and/or absentee voting shall not be allowed, except under the next two sentences. Upon a vote of two-thirds of the members then sitting, the Board of Directors may allow proxy voting by the Board of Directors on a specific matter provided that a copy of the action to be taken shall be provided to the Directors at least 10 days prior to the meeting at which proxy voting on the matter is proposed. Under such circumstances, electronically transmitted proxy votes will be accepted.
- G. Electronic Meetings. Directors may participate in any meeting by use of any means of communication by which all Directors participating may simultaneously hear each other during such meeting and may communicate concurrently with any other participant in the meeting, including but not limited to by telephone, electronic conference call, electronic online conference meeting, or videoconference technology. A Director participating in a meeting by this means is deemed to be present in person at the meeting.

## **Section 6. Removal**

- A. Any board member, including an officer, who is absent from three (3) consecutive regular board meetings in their entirety without good cause acceptable to the Chair of the Board, shall be removed from office and/or the board by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Directors present and voting at any regular meeting of the Board.
- B. Any Director, including officers, may be removed from office and/or the board with or without cause by:
  - 1. Three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Board of Directors after a motion is made by any Director for such removal; or
  - 2. Three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Board of Directors after a recommendation for such removal from the Board Development Committee.

## **ARTICLE V – OFFICERS**

### **Section 1. Elected Officers**

The elected officers of the Corporation shall be the Chair of the Board, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary.

### **Section 2. Term of Office**

- A. The officers listed in Article V, Section 1 shall be elected by majority vote of the Board of Directors from a slate of nominees approved and proposed by the Board Development Committee for a term of two (2) years or until their successors are elected and assume office. If there is only a single candidate for office, the election may be held by acclamation (i.e., by voice vote).
- B. Terms of office shall begin at the close of the Annual Meeting at which elections are held.
- C. No individual shall serve more than three (3) consecutive terms in any one or combination of offices. Such person shall not be eligible again for elective office until after a lapse of one (1) year.
- D. Despite the provisions of Article V Section 2.A. and C., under exceptional circumstances when the Board (after consultation with the Board Development Committee) determines it is in the best interests of the Council for the Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, or Secretary to serve an additional two (2) year term, such officer may be elected to serve no more than four (4) consecutive terms in any one or combination of offices.
- E. No individual shall hold more than one office at a time.
- F. An officer who shall have served a half term or more in office shall be considered to have served a full term in the office.

### **Section 3. Vacancy in Office**

- A. Chair of the Board. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Chair of the Board, the vacancy shall be filled by the Vice Chair of the Board for the remainder of the term, or if the office of Vice Chair is vacant or the Vice Chair is unable or declines to serve, the vacancy shall be filled by the Board of Directors in accordance with Article V Section 3.B.
- B. Other Offices. In the event of a vacancy in any elected office during a term, except as provided in Article V Section 3.A., the Board of Directors shall fill the vacancy, and the person thus elected to fill the vacancy shall serve until the next annual meeting of the members of the Corporation. If such meeting is not one where the regularly scheduled election would be held for such office, then a special election

shall be held at the annual meeting for the unexpired year of the term of office, on the terms in Article V, Section 2.

#### **Section 4. CEO as Ex Officio Officer; Duties of CEO**

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) shall be appointed by the Board of Directors of the Council to serve at its pleasure. The CEO shall:

- A. Be the chief executive officer of the Corporation;
- B. Be responsible for providing advice and assistance to the Corporation, the Board of Directors, the Chair of the Board and other officers and the committees and task forces;
- C. Be responsible for administering all the operations of the Corporation;
- D. Establish geographic Service Units for the purpose of efficiently administering the Corporation's operations;
- E. Have such other powers and perform such other duties as may be provided by the Board of Directors or the Chair of the Board; and
- F. Serve as an ex officio member of all committees and the Board of Directors.

#### **Section 5. Duties of Other Officers**

The officers shall perform the duties prescribed in this Article and such other duties as are prescribed by action of the members of the Council, the Board of Directors, the Chair of the Board, and the adopted parliamentary authority.

- A. The Chair of the Board shall:
  1. Be the principal officer of the Corporation;
  2. Preside at all meetings of the Council and the Board of Directors, voting only in the instance of a tie;
  3. Assure support by the Board of Directors for the Council's strategic direction and appropriate oversight of performance;
  4. Report to the Council and the Board of Directors as to the conduct and management of the affairs of the Corporation; and
  5. Serve as an ex officio member of all committees.
- B. The Vice Chair of the Board shall:
  1. Preside at meetings of the Council and the Board of Directors in the absence or inability of the Chair of the Board, or when delegated the responsibility of presiding;
  2. In the event of the vacancy in the office of Chair of the Board, succeed to the office for the remainder of the unexpired term; and
  3. Be responsible for other duties as assigned by the Chair of the Board.
- C. The Treasurer shall:
  1. Serve as Chair of the Finance Committee;
  2. Exercise and perform such other duties usually incident to the office of Treasurer;
  3. Generally provide effective stewardship and oversight of the Corporation's finances; and
  4. Be responsible for other duties as assigned by the Chair of the Board.
- D. The Secretary shall:
  1. Ensure that proper notice is given for all meetings of the Delegate Body and the Board of Directors;
  2. Maintain the roll of the names of the Delegates who are eligible to vote at any Yearly Meeting;
  3. Have responsibility for the seal of the Corporation and ensure its safekeeping;

4. Ensure the proper preparation of the minutes and maintain custody of minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors and the Delegate Body and authenticate records of the Council;
  5. Serve as the custodian of corporate minutes, books, records, and files of the Council;
  6. Oversee and work in conjunction with the Executive Assistant of the Council in his or her recordkeeping function; and
  7. Be responsible for other duties as assigned by the Chair of the Board.
- E. Immediate Past Chair may:
1. Serve as a non-voting member of the Board of Directors; and
  2. Serve in an advisory capacity to the Board Chair and Vice Chair.

## **Section 6. Qualifications of Officers**

To be considered for an officer role, the individual must have shown demonstrated leadership qualities and/or knowledge of the Council's governance. Examples of such leadership qualities and knowledge include, but are not limited to, serving as Chair of a Committee, serving as an Officer of the Council, or serving in an equivalent leadership position within the Council or a similar organization.

## **ARTICLE VI – COMMITTEES**

### **Section 1. Establishment**

The Executive Committee and the Board Development Committee, as separately described in these Bylaws, shall be standing committees of the Board of Directors, and shall be governed by Articles VII and VIII respectively. The Board of Directors may establish any other committee or task group it deems necessary to help fulfill its functions.

### **Section 2. Appointment**

- A. The chair of any committee or task group shall be appointed by the Chair of the Board, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.
- B. Members of any committee or task group shall be appointed by the Chair of the Board in consultation with the chair of the respective committee or task group.
- C. At least two (2) members of any committee or task group shall be Directors, one of whom shall serve as chair of the committee.
- D. Up to two (2) members of any committee or task group may be Delegates.
- E. Up to two (2) members of any committee or task group may be girl members age fourteen (14) or older.
- F. Appointments to committees and task groups shall be for two (2) years unless a different term is specified by the Board of Directors at the time of its approval of the committee or task group chair's appointment.
- G. Vacancies in any committee or task group shall be filled by the Chair of the Board in accordance with Section 2.A. or 2.B. of this Article.

### **Section 3. Quorum**

A majority of the number of committee members appointed and serving at the time of any meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Such committee members may be present in person or linked by telecommunication or by means such that all committee members participating in the meeting are able to hear or be advised of the discussion and other committee members can hear or be advised of their participation in the proceedings.



## **ARTICLE VII – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### **Section 1. Membership**

There shall be a standing Executive Committee comprised of the Chair, the Vice Chair, the Treasurer, and the Secretary. The Chair may, in his or her discretion, appoint up to two (2) voting Directors to serve on the Executive Committee for at least a one (1) year term at the first meeting of the Board of Directors following the annual meeting of the Corporation. In addition, the CEO shall be an ex officio, non-voting member of the Executive Committee.

### **Section 2. Meetings**

The Executive Committee shall not be obligated to meet regularly but shall meet at the call of the Chair or the CEO on not less than one (1) business days' notice. The provisions of Article IV, Section 5 governing the means for giving notice, the waiver of notice, quorum and voting (except that there shall be no proxy voting) shall apply to the conduct of business by the Executive Committee.

### **Section 3. Authority and Accountability**

The Executive Committee shall be authorized to transact administrative and ministerial business of the Corporation, which business shall include, but not limited to, (i) the opening of banking and similar accounts, (ii) the authorizing of contracts in the normal course of the Corporation's business (to the extent not within the inherent powers of the CEO), (iii) the taking of actions in furtherance or in execution of policies or resolutions previously approved by the Board of Directors or the membership, and (iv) the taking of any other class of actions the authority for which is delegated to it by the Board of Directors; provided, however, that the Executive Committee may not take any action which, under Virginia law, may not lawfully be delegated by a board of directors to a committee.

The Executive Committee shall provide a written or electronic communication report of its actions to the Board of Directors within ten (10) business days after each meeting.

## **ARTICLE VII – BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

### **Section 1. Membership**

There shall be a standing Board Development Committee, and such committee shall be composed of:

- A. No fewer than seven (7) members;
- B. At least two (2) of the members shall be Directors, and no more than fifty percent (50%) of the members may also be Directors;
- C. Up to two (2) of the members may be Delegates; and
- D. A staff liaison, appointed by the CEO (who may be the CEO), who shall serve as ex officio, without vote, in addition to the seven (7) member committee.

### **Section 2. Election, Term, and Vacancies**

- A. The Board Development committee members who are not Delegates shall be elected by majority vote of the Board of Directors from a slate of nominees

- approved and proposed by the Board Development Committee for a term of two (2) years or until their successors are elected or assume office.
- B. The Delegate committee members shall be elected by majority vote of the Delegate Body for a term of two (2) years or until their successors are elected and assume office. If there is only a single candidate for office, the election may be held by acclamation.
  - C. Terms of office shall begin at the close of the Annual Meeting at which elections are held.
  - D. No individual shall serve for no more than three (3) consecutive terms. Such person shall not be eligible again until after a lapse of one (1) year.
  - E. An individual who shall have served a half term or more on the committee shall be considered to have served a full term.
  - F. In the event of a vacancy on the committee, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the Board of Directors until the next Annual Meeting of the Corporation. If the vacancy occurs in the first year of the term, then a special election to fill the vacancy for the second year of the term shall be held at the next Annual Meeting.

### **Section 3. Election, Term, and Vacancy of Committee Chair**

- A. One of the Directors on the committee shall serve as the Chair of the committee.
- B. The term of office for chair shall be two (2) years.
- C. No individual shall serve more than two (2) consecutive terms as Chair of the committee regardless of how long the individual may have been a member of the Board Development Committee. Such person shall not be eligible again until after a lapse of one (1) year.
- D. In the event of a vacancy in the office of chair, the Chair of the Board of Directors shall appoint a new chair from its eligible members to serve the remainder of the term.
- E. An individual who shall have served a half term or more as chair shall be considered to have served a full term in such office.
- F. The majority vote of the Board of Directors members present and voting at any meeting of the Board may remove any Board Development Committee member with or without cause, which shall include but not be limited to being absent from three (3) consecutive committee meetings in their entirety without good cause acceptable to the Chair of the Board or designee.

### **Section 4. Responsibilities**

The responsibilities of the Board Development Committee shall be:

- A. To solicit and recruit candidates for all elected positions in the Council;
- B. To provide to the Board of Directors a single slate for all positions for election, including officers and directors no fewer than ten (10) days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors;
- C. To provide to the Board of Directors in accordance with the time frame established by Girl Scouts of the United States of America a single slate of delegates and alternates to the National Council Session of Girl Scouts of the United States of America;
- D. To develop in conjunction with the Board of Directors:
  - 1. Board orientation and education materials;
  - 2. Board development materials;
  - 3. Methods for identifying needed skills and talents for the Board of Directors and committees;

- 4. Methods for succession planning; and
- 5. Board annual self-assessment materials;
- E. To conduct board orientation and board development training sessions as needed and/or as directed by the Board of Directors; and
- F. To, if necessary and advisable, by unanimous vote of the committee, propose to the Board of Directors:
  - 1. The removal of any Director with or without cause; and
  - 2. The removal of any National Council Delegate with or without cause.

**Section 5. Quorum**

A majority of the number of Board Development Committee members elected and serving at the time of any meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Such committee members may be present in person or linked by telecommunication or by means such that all committee members participating in the meeting are able to hear or be advised of the discussion and other committee members can hear or be advised of their participation in the proceedings.

**ARTICLE IX – NATIONAL COUNCIL DELEGATES**

**Section 1. Eligibility**

Delegates and alternates to the National Council of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America shall be United States citizens age fourteen (14) years and older. They shall be members of the Movement registered through the Council at the time of election and throughout the term of service.

**Section 2. Election**

The delegates and alternates whom the Council is entitled to elect to the National Council of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America shall be proposed on a slate by the Board Development Committee and elected by the Board of Directors by majority vote in accordance with the time frame established by the Girl Scouts of the United States of America and shall serve a term of three (3) years or until their successors are elected and assume office.

**Section 3. Vacancies**

The Board of Directors shall fill delegate vacancies from among the elected alternates. If there are not adequate alternates to fill the delegate positions, the vacancies may be filled from amongst the eligible members of the Council.

**Section 4. Removal**

- A. Any National Council Delegate may be removed from office with or without cause by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Board of Directors after a recommendation for such removal from the Board Development Committee.

**ARTICLE X – FINANCE AND LEGAL**

**Section 1. Fiscal Year**

The fiscal year of the Council shall be as determined by the Board of Directors.

## **Section 2. Contributions**

Any contributions, bequests, devises, and gifts for the purpose of Girl Scouting within the Council shall be accepted or collected only as authorized by the Board of Directors.

## **Section 3. Depositories**

All funds of the Council shall be deposited to the credit of the Council under such conditions and in such financial institutions as shall be designated by the Board of Directors.

## **Section 4. Approved Signatures**

Approvals for signatory authority in the name of the Council and access to funds and securities of the Council shall be authorized by the Board of Directors. Contracts for services or for the purchase, sale, financing or encumbrance of real property, and the instruments which carry out such contracts, may be signed by either the Chair of the Board or the Chief Executive Officer without the need for specific authorization of a signatory by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may also authorize any other officer or employee to sign contracts and purchase orders, subject to any conditions or limits on such authority deemed advisable.

## **Section 5. Bonding**

All persons having access to or responsibility for the handling of monies and securities of the Council shall be bonded in the amount authorized by the Board of Directors.

## **Section 6. Budget**

The Board of Directors shall approve the annual operational and capital budgets. No expenses shall be incurred in the name of the Council in excess of the budgeted amounts without prior approval of the Board of Directors.

## **Section 7. Property**

Title to all property shall be held in the name of the Council.

## **Section 8. Audits**

An independent certified public accountant shall be retained by the Board of Directors to perform an annual audit of the financial statements of the Council. A new committee appointed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors or an existing committee selected by majority vote of the Board of Directors shall consider proposals to select an auditor. A report of the audit shall be submitted to the Board of Directors and to the Girl Scouts of the United States of America.

## **Section 9. Financial Reports**

A summary report of the financial condition of the Council shall be presented to the Board of Directors at its Annual Meeting and the Delegate Body at its Yearly Meeting.

## **Section 10. Investments**

The funds of the Council shall be invested in accordance with the policy established by the Board of Directors as such a policy is proposed by the finance and/or investment committees appointed by the Board of Directors.

## **Section 11. Legal Counsel**

The Corporation shall retain independent legal counsel to:

- A. Ensure compliance with federal, state and local requirements;
- B. Review and advise on all legal instruments the Corporation executes, such as leases, contracts, property purchases and property sales; and
- C. Review and advise on any official statements developed for the press or the media as deemed necessary by the CEO and Board Chair.

## **Section 12. Conflict of Interest Policy**

The Corporation and the Board of Directors shall comply with all Virginia and local laws concerning conflict of interest transactions (as defined in Section 13.1-871 of the Virginia Code) applicable to Virginia nonstock corporations and shall comply with the Conflict of Interest Policy, which may be amended by the Board of Directors from time to time.

# **ARTICLE XI – INDEMNIFICATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

## **Section 1. Indemnification of Directors and Officers**

To the fullest extent permitted and in the manner prescribed by the Virginia Non-Stock Corporation Act and any other applicable law, the Corporation shall indemnify any person who was or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or proceeding (whether civil, criminal, administrative, arbitrative, or investigative), including an action by or in the right of the Corporation, by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director or officer of the Corporation or is or was serving at the request of the Corporation as a director, officer, employee, or agent of another Corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan, or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if such person acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interest of the Corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, such person had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful. The termination of any action, suit or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or upon a plea of *nolo contendere* or its equivalent, shall not, of itself, create a presumption that such person did not act in good faith and in a manner which such person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the Corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had reasonable cause to believe that his or her conduct was unlawful. The Board is empowered, by majority vote of a quorum of disinterested directors, to contract in advance to indemnify any such person.

## **Section 2. Indemnification of Employees or Agents**

The Board, mindful of insurance considerations, is empowered, by majority vote of a quorum of disinterested directors, to cause the Corporation to indemnify (and advance reasonable expenses to) any person not specified in Section 1 of this Article who was or is a party to any proceeding by reason of the fact that he or she is or was an employee or agent of the Corporation or is or was serving at the request of the Corporation as a director, officer, employee, or agent of another Corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan, or other enterprise, to the same extent as if such person were specified as one to whom indemnification is granted in this Section 2.

## **Section 3. Insurance Authorized**

The Board may purchase and maintain insurance in such amounts as the Board may determine, on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee, or agent of another Corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan, or other enterprise, against any liability asserted against or incurred by such person in any such capacity or arising from his or her status as such, whether or not the Corporation would have power to indemnify him or her against such liability under the provision of this Article.

#### **Section 4. Applicability**

The provisions of this Article shall be applicable to all actions, claims, suits, or proceedings commenced after the adoption hereof, whether arising from any action taken or failure to act before or after such adoption. No amendment, modification, or repeal of this Article shall diminish the rights provided hereby or diminish the right to indemnification with respect to any claim, issue, or matter in any then pending or subsequent proceeding that is based in any material respect on modification, or repeal. Reference in this Article to directors, officers, employees, or agents, shall include former directors, officers, employees and agents, and their respective heirs, executors and administrators.

#### **Section 5. Consistency with Federal Tax Law**

Notwithstanding anything in these Bylaws to the contrary, in no case shall the Corporation indemnify, reimburse, or insure any person for any taxes imposed on such individual under Chapter 42 of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code"), relating to private foundations and certain other tax-exempt organizations. Further, if at any time the Corporation is deemed to be a private foundation within the meaning of Section 509 of the Code then, during such time, no payment shall be made if such payment would constitute an act of self-dealing or a taxable expenditure, as defined in Section 4941 (d) or 4945 (d), respectively, of the Code.

### **ARTICLE XII – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall be the parliamentary authority of the Council.

### **ARTICLE XII – REVIEW AND AMENDMENTS**

These Bylaws will be reviewed by a Bylaws Committee at least every three (3) years. The Bylaws Committee shall be appointed by the Board Chair and shall be composed of:

- A. No fewer than seven (7) members;
- B. At least two (2) of the members shall be Directors, and no more than fifty percent (50%) of the members may also be Directors;
- C. At least two (2) of the members shall be Delegates, and of those Delegates at least fifty percent (50%) of whom must be Delegates elected by his or her Service Unit.
- D. A staff liaison, appointed by the CEO (who may be the CEO), who shall serve ex officio, without vote, in addition to the seven (7) member committee.

One of the Directors on the committee shall also serve as the Chair of the committee.

The Bylaws Committee will advise the Delegate Body and the Board of Directors of proposed changes or amendments to these Bylaws. The committee will have the authority to propose changes and/or amendments, which will be presented to the Delegate Body and the Board of Directors by notice at least thirty (30) days prior to the Delegate Body Yearly Meeting.

These Bylaws may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Delegate Body at a meeting (either the Yearly Meeting or a Special Meeting called for the purpose of voting on amendments to the bylaws), providing that the proposed amendment(s) shall have been included in the notice of the meeting.

Approved October 12, 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tracy Kille". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chief Executive Officer