

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

BUZZARD CLUB OF AMERICA

HOUSTON CHAPTER

Revised 02/09/14

Article I

Name and Purpose

Section 1

The name of this organization shall be the Buzzard Club of America-Houston Chapter.

The fiscal year will be January 1 through December 31.

Section 2

The purpose is to bind together all sanctioned bowlers who have had at least three (3) splits in a row of any variety in one game, while participating in sanctioned competition. It is to encourage high bowling scores with members of high moral character and to promote the fun and fellowship of the game of bowling.

Section 3

This club recognizes the late Thomas E. Walters, Jr. as the Founder and Creator of the Buzzard Club of America and is the holder of the Registered Trademark of same. In August of 1969, the membership of this club made him Chief Buzzard and voted to give him a Lifetime Membership in the organization.

Upon Mr. Walters's death, the Registered Trademark of the Buzzard Club of America was handed over to Arlen Deason of the Houston Chapter. See attached affidavit.

Article II

Membership and Eligibility

Section 1

The membership of this Chapter shall consist of men and women who are current members, in good standing and sanctioned by the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) through the Greater Houston USBC Association (GHUSBC), which consists of Harris County (excluding the cities of Pasadena, Deer Park, LaPorte and Baytown), Fort Bend County, Waller County and Grimes County.

Any Buzzard member-at-large who is a member in good standing from a bowling association other than Houston will be allowed to attend and bowl with the Houston Chapter under the following obligations:

- a) Pay the monthly dues to the Houston Chapter until such time that a Chapter of their own is organized in their area.
- b) Pay any transfer fee, if applicable, to the Greater Houston USBC Association.
- c) Inspire other Buzzard Members in their area to create and form into a Chapter of their own as soon as possible.

Any active Buzzard in good standing who is transferred by their employer, joins the Armed Services, or otherwise leaves the Houston Area and later returns to the Houston Area, may resume as an active Buzzard in good standing with payment of that portion of the dues that would be payable at that time, provided he or she has renewed his or her sanctioning with USBC through the GHUSBC.

Any Buzzard in good standing from another Buzzard Chapter may become a member in good standing of the Houston Chapter after verification from his or her home chapter and payment of current dues to the Houston Chapter and pay any transfer fee, if applicable, to the GHUSBC.

Any Buzzard member whose membership begins after December 2000 who attains the age of 65 and has been a member in good standing for a period of 10 years, will be given a Lifetime Membership in the Buzzard Club of America Houston Chapter.

Any Buzzard member in good standing who attains 25 years of membership will be given a Lifetime Membership in the Buzzard Club of America

Section 2

To become eligible for membership in this Club, a bowler must have had at least three (3) splits in a row in one game while bowling in sanctioned competition play. Anyone qualifying to become a Buzzard must submit an application for membership to the Board of Directors within thirty (30) days after qualification.

All applications must be signed and submitted to the Board of Directors by a Buzzard in good standing and who has been a Buzzard in the club for at least one (1) year. The application must supply a copy of the score sheet (tele-score or computer print-out) and a statement signed by the league secretary, tournament director, or both team captains verifying the three splits and the qualification of the applicant to the Buzzard who will submit the application, with supporting evidence, to the Board. Upon acceptance, the new member will be informed in time to be present at the current gathering or the next meeting.

The Membership Initiation Fee is Five Dollars (\$5.00) and must accompany the application. This covers the Membership Kit which consists of the Membership Information sheet, Monthly Gathering Tournament Rules and the first month's dues.

The monthly dues are one dollar (\$1.00) per month to defray operating expenses of the Club. Said dues are to be paid annually in advance and due by January 31st of each calendar year. Any member who is delinquent for more than one (1) month will be dropped from membership in the Club and will have to qualify again to regain membership.

An active Buzzard in good standing will be defined as any member whose dues are current and paid in full. This may be subject to exception by the Board of Directors, if upon review it is found that a Member's job, personal or family illness, death in the family, etc. has prevented said Member's attendance. Each case will be reviewed by the Board of Directors on an individual basis and then brought before the membership.

Article III

Meetings

Section 1

This Chapter shall have meetings to be called "Gatherings" the first Sunday of each month, unless otherwise designated due to interference with a national holiday, etc., at various bowling establishments in the Houston area. A business meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. at which time all outside activities shall cease until all major business has been completed. At this time outside activities may resume while monies are being disbursed in the meeting room. At the time of the meeting, new Buzzard members will be introduced to the membership and presented their Membership Kit. Any old business or new business pertinent to the Chapter shall be handled at this time in good parliamentary manner.

The highlight of the Gathering will be the bowling of three (3) games, to start promptly at 2:00 p.m., between each other on a handicap basis and will be sanctioned by and subject to the rules and regulations of USBC. The bowling of these games will be further regulated by the

“Monthly Gathering Tournament Rules” as approved annually by USBC. Cut-off time for registration is 1/2 hour before the start of any sanctioned event.

Section 2

The Officers and Area Directors shall meet prior to the General Membership Meeting to discuss the current business of this Chapter if deemed necessary by the Officers and Board of Directors. A quorum of at least 2/3 of the Board members shall be required to be present to enact any new legislation of the Chapter.

Any major decisions greatly affecting the general membership cannot be approved solely by the Board and must be brought before the membership in the business meeting at 1:00 p.m. for a simple majority vote from a quorum of at least 2/3 of the membership present in the meeting to approve or disapprove any new legislation or major decision. Any such action shall be publicized in the Newsletter at least one month prior to any vote.

The Board of Directors can authorize, without the approval of the general membership, expenses and/or payments it deems necessary up to and including twenty-five ((\$25.00) dollars. If the expenses and/or payments are to exceed twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars, it must be brought before the membership for a majority vote from a quorum of at least 2/3 of the membership present in the meeting to approve or disapprove.

Section 3

The “Monthly Gathering Tournament Rules” will be considered a part of this Constitution and Bylaws. Any changes therein and approval thereof, after the approval and sanctioning by USBC, will require the same approval procedure as an Amendment to this Constitution.

Also considered a part of this Constitution and Bylaws is Exhibit “A” entitled General Membership Information, Rules and Regulations. Both the rules and the exhibits will be a part of the Official Membership Kit presented to all new members.

Section 4

The first three (3) months a new member bowls, his or her handicap and prize winnings will be based on his or her current high book average or current high league average of 21 games or more, whichever is higher. The new member will establish a “Buzzer Average” after three (3) months or nine (9) games, which will subsequently be used at all monthly gatherings. New members who do not have an established average, must bowl at least nine (9) games to eligible to bowl in the Annual tournament, or enter on the entering average requirement.

Averages for active members in good standing will be on a continuing basis. Averages will not be set each year. "Buzzard Averages" will be used only for the Monthly Gathering Tournament and other Buzzard organization Tournaments.

Article IV

Board of Directors

Section 1

The Board of Directors of the Houston Chapter will consist of the following officials.

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Recording Secretary

Parliamentarian

Sergeant-At-Arms

Section 2

The Board shall decide on any dispute or protest and it is within its power to discipline any member for violating any provisions of this Constitution and Bylaws, or for conduct derogatory to the best interest of this Club. It shall also have authority to expel and/or reinstate any member for good and sufficient reason.

Article V

Election of Officers

Section 1

The election of Officers shall be held at the Monthly Gathering in December of each year. The president will appoint a nominating committee in October and the committee's recommendations will be published in the November and December newsletter. Installation of

new Officers will take place at the Monthly Gathering business meeting in January of each year or as may be otherwise scheduled as set out in Article XI, Section 4. Nominees shall be active members in good standing for a period of at least one year.

Article V1

Duties of Officers and Term of Office

Section 1

PRESIDENT

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and the Board of Directors. He or she shall arrange to have the Treasurer open an account in a recognized bank in the name of the Club, with the signatures of at least two officers required for all withdrawals. He or she shall audit and verify the bank balance monthly. He or she shall have the power to limit discussion. When a vacancy in an officer's position occurs, the President shall appoint a replacement until the next election. If the office of the President becomes vacant, the vacancy shall be filled by the Vice President and the office of Vice President shall be appointed by the President.

The President shall appoint all necessary committees and shall be an ex-officio member of all such committees with the exception of the nominating committee. He or she shall be the Chief Executive of the Club and as such shall represent the Houston Chapter at the Annual Meetings, enforce all provisions, objectives and purposes of the Club, and perform such other duties as they happen to pertain to his or her office.

VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice President will, in the absence of the President, perform the duties of that office and shall discharge such other duties as may be required of him or her. He or she shall be custodian of the Buzzard Banner and see to its proper display and care. The Vice President shall also be in charge of the Special Events and also serve as Chair Person of all banquets, parties and social events. This may or may not include our hosting of the annual tournament.

SECRETARY

The Secretary shall maintain an accurate record of all bowling scores and averages. He or she shall see that the "Monthly Gathering Tournament Rules" are submitted to USBC each year for approval and to the certifying of and for each Monthly Tournament is obtained. He or she shall advise the Recording Secretary of the monthly winners as soon as possible after the Monthly Tournament for publication in the Newsletter. He or she shall perform all other such duties as

required by USBC of a League Secretary. The Secretary shall receive 50 cents per member who bowls per month from the Club Treasury for services rendered.

TREASURER

The Treasurer shall establish an account in a recognized bank in the name of the Club. Two (2) officer's signatures will be required for all withdrawals. The monthly bank statement will be sent to the President. He or she must deposit all funds within one week after each meeting, keeping an accurate account of all monies paid to the Club and the disbursements thereof. He or she shall present a current financial statement at each meeting which must be read and approved by the membership. He or she shall keep a record of monthly dues paid by members. He or she shall perform all other duties as required by USBC of a League Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive 50 cents per member who bowls per month from the Club Treasury for services rendered.

RECORDING SECRETARY

The Recording Secretary is the recording officer of the Club and Custodian of its records. He or she shall keep the minutes of each meeting. He or she will prepare and mail the monthly Newsletter each month to all members in good standing. He or she will be in charge of the Club's correspondence as required, and /or as may be requested by the Board of Directors. The Recording Secretary shall receive 50 cents per member who bowls per month from the Club Treasury for services rendered

PARLIAMENTARIAN

The Parliamentarian is to interpret Constitution and Bylaws during the business meeting at the monthly gatherings. He or she shall perform all such other duties as may be required of him or her by the President or the Board of Directors.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

The Sergeant-At-Arms shall maintain order during the meetings. He or she shall count the votes whenever a show of hands or an oral vote is taken. He or she shall perform all such other duties as may be requested of him or her by the President or the Board of Directors.

COMBINED DUTIES

Section 1

The Board of Directors will ascertain any pertinent information, such as pricing, scheduling of tournaments, availability of nursery, etc. for publication in the newsletter.

Section 2

The Treasurer and the Recording Secretary shall maintain the applicant's information as a part of their records and it shall be used for the purpose of maintaining and assuring that each new application is acted upon for approval by the membership.

Section 3

All current officers and officers-elect will participate in the Board of Directors meetings in December and January to assure a smooth transition of officers and business. All officers, when going out of office, shall be bound to transfer to their successors all records, funds, equipment, etc. belonging to the club.

Article VII

Nominating Committee

Section 1

The Nominating Committee shall consist of three (3) active members and two (2) alternates in good standing in the Club for at least one year and shall be appointed by the President, or may volunteer their assistance to the President at least two (2) months prior to the election. These may not include any member on the Board of Directors.

The committee shall contact the current Officers to determine if they are seeking their current office or if they are seeking another office.

If there is a vacancy in any office, first consideration shall be given to the current Officers to determine if they would be interested in filling that vacant office.

If the committee feels there is a member who they believe would make a good officer for any office, they must contact that member and receive their consent before the committee can make their recommendations for that member.

If the committee considers any member on the Nominating Committee for any position, and that member gives their consent, then that member must be removed from the committee and

one of the alternates will take their place. Another alternate will be appointed to replace that member.

Section 2

All standing or appointed committees shall bring their reports and /or findings back to the Board of Directors and General Membership by the next regular meeting after being appointed.

Article VIII

Rules Committee

Section 1

The Rules Committee shall consist of three (3) members in good standing in the Club for at least one (1) year and shall be appointed by the President, or they may volunteer their assistance to the President. The Parliamentarian shall be the Chair Person of the Committee. It shall be the function of this committee to review the Constitution and Bylaws and formulate any new rules and regulations deemed necessary to the function of this Chapter for presentation to the Board of Directors. They shall also assist the Secretary, if requested, with the preparation of the Monthly Gathering Tournament Rules.

Article IX

Newsletter

Section 1

A Buzzard Newsletter will be printed monthly and sent to all members in good standing in the Chapter. It will be mailed approximately one and one half weeks before the next regular Monthly Gathering.

The President will review the Newsletter for its contents before being mailed to the membership. In his or her absence, the Vice President shall perform the duty.

Section 2

A report giving the names of the winners and the amount won in the monthly tournament will be publicized in the next month's publication of the Newsletter following each Monthly Gathering. Also, the name and address of the next bowling establishment where the Chapter will meet will be printed.

Section 3

The Newsletter will report all information as required in the Constitution and Bylaws and any other information the Officers and/or members may deem newsworthy.

Article X

Official Buzzard Club Shirt

Section 1

The official Buzzard Club Shirt shall be white with black lettering. No other Buzzard Shirt except for the Houston Chapter can be worn at the gatherings. The style of shirt is dependent upon and subject to change due to availability from manufacturers and/or suppliers. If a style change is necessary from that now being used, it shall be approved by the active members in good standing.

Section 2

It is not compulsory to own an Official Club shirt to belong to the Club or participate in any Club event.

Section 3

The exact specifications for the lettering and the design of the "Buzzard" for the Houston Chapter Official Club Shirt are the property of the club and shall not be reproduced or used by any other organization without written approval from the Board of Directors.

Section 4

The recommended Official Buzzard Club Shirt is to be permanent press broadcloth with embroidery; permanent press with vinyl; double knit with embroidery; or double knit with vinyl. These shirts are to meet the identical specification of the original Buzzard Shirt.

Article XI

Calendar of Events

Section 1

The annual schedule for the Monthly Gathering will be prepared by the Board of Directors. The schedule will be for the year in advance from January through December.

Section 2

The Annual King and Queen Buzzard awards will be based on the total number of splits accumulated by a man and a woman while participating in the Monthly Gathering Tournaments during the year.

Section 3

Other special events and occasions such as a Christmas Party, Halloween Party, etc. may be scheduled by the Board of Directors and the Vice President, provided there is sufficient interest shown by the membership.

Section 4

Any regular Gathering, Tournament, special event or party will be scheduled where it will not interfere with our members' participation in the Annual Buzzard Bowling Tournament.

Article XII

The revised Constitution and Bylaws dated this 1st day of March, 2013, has been

approved and adopted by the Board of Directors and the General Membership of the Houston Chapter of the Buzzard Club of America and supersedes any and all documents governing this Organization. So be it known to all Buzzards by the signatures of our Club Officers as set out below representing the Membership in full agreement.

Tom Carlson, President

Roger Moon, Recording Secretary

Donna Castellese, Vice President

Vickie Carlson, Parliamentarian

Jackie Rugg, Secretary

John Rodgers, Sergeant-At-Arms

Gayle Miller, Treasurer

EXHIBIT A
BUZZARD CLUB OF AMERICA
HOUSTON CHAPTER

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Monthly business meetings will begin promptly at 1:00 p.m. Tournament bowling will begin promptly at 2:00 p.m. Cut-off time for registration is one half hour before the start of any sanctioned event.

New members will receive their Official Membership Kits and be introduced to the Club at the monthly gathering following their election into the Chapter's fellowship and membership.

Monthly dues are \$1.00 and are to be paid annually in January. New members first month's dues are included in the initiation fee provided he or she bowls within three months after being approved for membership. New members will pay the balance of the annual dues applicable to his or her good standing at the second tournament he or she attends. Personal checks will be accepted for payment of dues; however, all monthly gathering entry fees shall be on a cash basis only.

At each monthly Gathering, the Treasurer will issue a Door Prize Ticket to all members in good standing. Be sure to get your ticket when you come in as they will not be issued after bowling has started. A ticket for one man and one woman will be drawn during the tournament.

Buzzard Club Recap Sheets for our monthly tournament are set up at the control desk or in some prominent place. You should come early to sign up on the lane of your choice, out of the ones designated. This assists the secretary to record the averages and handicaps of the tournament participants before bowling starts and is greatly appreciated (he or she likes to enjoy his or her bowling also). When you have finished bowling, be sure to check your scores and totals and sign your name or initials beside your total to indicate that you have verified and accept the entries made.

Monthly tournament winners and the amount won is published in the next month's Newsletter. Winners need not be present during the business meeting to collect monies due. Prize money will be returned to the Club Treasury after three (3) months or held for the winner at the discretion of the Board of Directors. If someone other than the winner claims the winnings, he or she will be responsible for those winnings.

During Monthly Tournament bowling, any member who gets three (3) splits in a row is eligible to join the Elorine ("Ellie") Deason Memorial THREE-IN-A-ROW CLUB. Upon payment of \$2.00

you will receive a miniature Buzzard Head and become eligible to participate in the roll-off at the end of the year. The roll-off consists of the three games that are bowled at the regular January Gathering and the winner or winners are determined by the bowler with the most splits in those three (3) games. You may purchase a Buzzard Head each time you have three-in-a-row; however, you are only eligible to qualify once in the roll-off. Be sure that your three-in-a-row is noted on the recap sheet.

BUZZARD CLUB OF AMERICA

HOUSTON CHAPTER

MONTHLY GATHERING TOURNAMENT RULES

1. The tournament shall be governed by USBC rules. It shall be directed and controlled by the Buzzard Club Board of Directors and supervised by the Secretary. This tournament is sanctioned by the USBC.
2. Only active Buzzard Club Members in good standing will be allowed to bowl in the monthly tournament. All members must be sanctioned with USBC. Guests will be allowed to bowl as pacers.
3. Each member will pay \$18.00 entry fee each month, except those who have a birthday during that month, and they will pay \$10.00. Prize money will be \$5.00 and the Secretary's and Treasurer's fee will be 50 cents each. Pacers fees will be \$10.00 and they are not eligible for any prizes. As member fees increase so will the pacer fees. These fees are subject to change if the bowling centers increase their prices as voted and approved by the membership.
4. The monthly tournament will consist of three (3) games bowled as singles on a handicap basis. The handicap will be 90% from 210 for both men and women.
5. Monthly gatherings will be the first Sunday of every month unless otherwise specified. All members must be signed up no later than one half hour before the start of any certified event.
6. Active members in good standing will use their established average from previous monthly gatherings each month. New members will use their highest book average from the previous season, or highest league average of 21 games or more, whichever is higher, for handicapping purposes, until they have bowled three (3) months or nine (9) games, which shall constitute an average.
7. Winners will be determined and paid on a ratio of one to every ten bowlers. There will be two classes for men and women. Class A (151 & up) and Class B (150 & under). These classes will be a minimum of four places each. A \$5.00 cash award will be given to the man and the woman who has the most splits. All ties will be equally divided between those involved. All prize monies will be returned 100% at the following monthly meeting. The money for the splits will be paid from the Club Treasury funds.
8. The names of the winners and the amount won will be published in the Club Newsletter the month following each monthly gathering. Also, the name and address of the next bowling establishment where the Chapter will meet will be included.
9. The winners each month will be paid at the following monthly gathering of the Chapter. If a winner fails to claim his or her winnings after three (3) consecutive months, his or her money may revert to the Chapter Treasury or be held for him or her at the discretion of the Board of

Directors. If someone other than the winner claims the winnings, he or she will be responsible for the winnings.

NOTE– THIS IS AN ASSIGNMENT OF RIGHTS AND A COPY OF THE ORIGINAL SHOULD BE INCLUDED – THIS SHEET WILL NOT NEED MODIFICATION OR ALTERATION BUT IS ONLY INCLUDED TO COMPLETE THE PACKAGE.

I Elma Walters of 615 East 19th St., Houston, Texas 77008, being of sound mind hereby name Arlen Deason as my attorney-in-fact for the following matter exclusively. Arlen Deason shall have full powers and authority to do and undertake all acts, on my

behalf, and with the wishes of my late son, Thomas Walters, of The Buzzard Club of America.

Arlen Deason shall have full power of substitution and revocation, including but not limited by said authority the right to initiate, defend, commence, settle legal actions, and all matters beneficial to or concerning , The Buzzard Club of America.

Signed this 28th day of July, 1996

Elma Walters

Witness: _____

Donna Castellese

619 East 19th St.

Houston, Texas

77008

Witness: _____

(Judie Cauthen

227 E. North Hill Dr.

Houston, Texas

