

BY-LAWS

THE INTERNATIONAL GOOD SAM RECREATIONAL VEHICLE CLUB

- A. All members of the Chapter must first be members of the Club, and such membership must be in good standing.
- B. They are a Chapter of the Club. By-Laws cannot state that they are a club of the Good Sam club. Club always refers to the International Good Sam Recreational Vehicle Club.
- C. The Chapter will only use the Good Sam name and logo in good taste and to promote the Good Sam Pledge and Chapter activities and in a manner consistent with the Club Constitution, By-Laws and General Policies of the Club. The Chapter agrees to cease and desist from all use of the Good Sam name and logo upon loss of its Charter for any reason.

BLUFF CITY SAMS BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I - Name and Meeting Date

The name of this Chapter shall be the **BLUFF CITY SAMS**, Chapter 12 of the Tennessee State Organization of the Good Sam Club, organized on April 26, 1983. The meeting dates shall be the third full weekend (Friday – Sunday) of each month, with the business meeting to be held at 10:00 AM on Saturday. The President may change the meeting time, because of weather or another scheduled activity. In the months of the Spring and Fall Tennessee State Sasmborees, that state function will constitute that month's camping outing. Chapter meetings will be held in accordance with the Samboree schedule. During the months of December, January, February, with March optional, dependant on the weather and the descretion of the Chapter officers, a dinner only meeting will be held with appropriate business being taken care of at this time. The Bluff City Sams Chapter will be an all adult Chapter.

ARTICLE II - Purposes

The purpose of this organization is to promote the objectives and goals of the Good Sam Club; for the mutual benefit of the members of this Chapter for travel, fun, and companionship.

ARTICLE III - Active Membership and Associate Membership

A. Active Membership:

- 1. All applicants for membership must become a member of Good Sam International Club.
- 2. a. All applicants for membership must be nominated by a membership unit of the Chapter. They must attend three (3) meetings in five (5) months time. Of the three (3) qualifying meetings, at least two (2) must be at campouts during which the prospective member has their camping unit present and in use. The prospective member will be nominated and voted on for membership during the business meeting which completes the above requirements.

- b. Membership voting will be by secret ballot and approval will require a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those current members present.
3. Applicants for membership are required to have in their possession, camping equipment or a recreational vehicle.
4. Each membership unit shall pay to the treasurer annual Chapter dues of \$20.00, \$1.00 of which shall be for state dues. The dues for continuing membership shall be due and payable in January, becoming delinquent in February. Any applicants voted on and accepted between June 30th and December 31st will pay the treasurer one-half of the yearly dues (\$10.00).
5. In case of death of a member, a \$25.00 memorial is to be sent to a charity of the family's choice. In case of sickness of a member, a card is to be sent by the Chapter's secretary.
6. Membership in this Chapter shall not exceed twenty-five (25) membership units, with other interested parties being placed on a waiting list.

B. Associate Membership:

1. Associate Memberships shall be granted under the following circumstances provided the membership unit requests associate status. Associate memberships may be granted retroactively at the request of the former membership unit.
2. They find it impossible to continue as an active unit due to circumstances beyond their control.
3. They adopt the generally accepted definition of a full-time RV lifestyle but wish to remain associated with the Chapter.
4. Associate memberships shall be subject to the following provisions:
 - a. Associate membership shall cost \$10.00 per year primarily to defray the cost of maintaining that unit on all mail lists and printing for newsletters.
 - b. Associate members shall be welcome to attend all Chapter activities, however, it will be the associate member's responsibility to make the necessary contact for reservation where required.
 - c. Associate Membership Units shall not be counted as a membership unit as limited by Article III Para. 6 above.
 - d. Associate membership units shall not have a vote on any Chapter business and shall not be counted to determine quorums by By-Law changes.
 - e. To convert to an Associate Membership, that unit must have been an active membership unit for a minimum of one (1) year.
 - f. To return to Active Membership status, the unit shall be required only to remit a full year's dues (\$20.00) if returning prior to June 30th of the year and one-half the yearly dues (\$10.00) after June 30th. No Chapter vote shall be required.
 - g. Associate members are not eligible to hold a Chapter office.

ARTICLE IV - Length of membership.

- A. Membership shall be for life except for the following reasons:
 - 1. Failure to pay annual dues to this Chapter and to the Club.
 - 2. Withdraws from the Chapter.
 - 3. Fails to attend the required number of meetings (4); two (2) of which must be campouts.
 - 4. Does not conduct himself or herself in a manner befitting the policies of the Club.
- B. Membership shall be forfeited automatically for the above reasons.
- C. Reinstatement may be made upon majority vote of the membership and upon payment of dues and club fees as required.

ARTICLE V - Elected Officers, Nominations & Elections

- A. Elected officers shall be:

President	Treasurer
Vice-President	Wagon Master
Secretary	Legislative Representative
- B. The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee, consisting of three (3) Chapter members at the regular meeting in September of each year.
- C. The Nominating Committee shall immediately distribute a nominating ballot, listing all offices to be filled, to all members and request each member to recommend two (2) candidates for each elective office. Only active members who do not hold a state office(s) can be nominated. Ballots are to be returned to the committee, by mail, no later than October 10th.
- D. The Nominating Committee will tabulate the results and select the two (2) candidates receiving the most ballots for each elective office. The candidates will then be contacted to see if they will agree to serve, if elected. If the candidate declines, the candidate with the next higher number of ballots will be contacted. A list of the two (2) accepting nominees will be presented at the November meeting.
- E. Election of Officers shall be held during the business meeting in November. The elections will be decided by a simple majority vote of those members present. The current Chapter President will not vote except in case of a tie. (Newly elected officers shall be authorized to hold their organizational meeting(s) between the November and December Chapter meetings and may contract camping schedules for the ensuing year.)
- F. New officers shall take office and be installed as the final order of business at the December meeting.
- G. If any elected officer resigns his or her office, nominations and a special election will be held at the next monthly meeting to fill that office. If the President resigns, the Vice President will assume the Office of President. Nominations and a special election will be held at the next monthly meeting to elect a Vice President.

ARTICLE VI - Officers and Committees

- A. The length of term for officers shall be one (1) year. A complete new slate of officers will be nominated each year.
- B. All matters of a routine nature may be decided by a simple majority vote of those members present. It shall be the decision of the President (with the exception of items contrary to the By-Laws) as to what constitutes a routine matter.
- C. The number of votes per membership unit consisting of two (2) people will be two (2) votes.
- D. The officers will select and appoint committees as beneficial to the Chapter.

ARTICLE VII - By-Laws Changes

- A. The President shall appoint members to a By-Laws Committee annually. The committee shall consist of a Chairman and two (2) other Chapter members. The Vice-President shall serve as Chairman of the Committee during his or her term of office.
- B. Suggestions for changes to the By-Laws by members shall be referred to the By-Law Committee.
- C. After careful review and deliberation, the By-Law Committee shall report its recommendation to the Chapter during open meeting.
- D. If a change has been recommended, that change shall be read at the next regular meeting and the membership shall be advised that the matter will be voted upon at the next regular meeting.
- E. Upon approval (disapproval), by the membership, the change shall (shall not) be adopted and included in the current By-Laws.
- F. To be adopted, changes to these By-Laws must be approved by a quorum of the membership. A quorum shall be fifty percent (50%) or more of the membership units, and must constitute two-thirds (2/3) of those individual members present.

ARTICLE VIII - Regulations

- A. The colors of Navy blue denim and red shall be the Chapters colors. During Chapter meetings, dinner meetings and church services, regulation vest and official badges are to be worn. The vest and badge is to be worn at all times during State Samborees and Mini-Samborees. Wearing of official vests may be dispensed with at the discretion of the President. Fine of \$.50 will be assessed for failure to wear official vests unless the President has dispensed with wearing of the vests.
- B. The President shall be authorized to approve expenditures of \$50.00 or less for services, entertainment or equipment for the Chapter. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall be authorized to approve these expenditures. Any expenditure of more than \$50.00 shall be voted on and approved by the members at the monthly Chapter meeting.

- C. The Treasurer shall maintain a checking and/or savings account(s) for the safe keeping of all Chapter funds. The Treasurer shall be authorized to sign checks or make withdrawals. In the absence of the Treasurer, the Secretary shall be authorized to sign checks.

ARTICLE IX - DISSOLUTION

- A. This Chapter may cease operation and dissolve under the provisions and procedures established by the Good Sam Club.
- B. Upon dissolution of the Chapter, the funds remaining after all bills and expenses are paid, will be donated to a charitable organization by the direction of the majority vote of the membership.