

BY-LAWS
THE GATOR DUGOUT CLUB, INC.

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BY-LAWS
The GATOR DUGOUT CLUB, INC.

ARTICLE I
CLUB NAME AND PURPOSE

Section I - Name

This organization shall be a non-profit club having 501(a) known as The Gator Dugout Club, Inc., hereinafter referred to as "the Club".

Section II - Purpose

The purpose of the Club shall be to support the University of Florida baseball program in accordance with all rules and regulations set forth by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the Southeastern Conference (SEC), the University Athletic Association, Inc. (UAA) and the University of Florida (UF).

ARTICLE II
MEMBERSHIP

Section I - General Qualifications

Full membership is open to any person(s). Voting rights shall be granted to any member 18 years of age or older in accordance with the membership classifications.

1. Membership Classifications

Student: Any person who is currently enrolled at any high school or a two or four year institution. They must indicate the name of the institution on the membership application. A student member 18 years of age or older shall have one (1) vote, with all rights and privileges as may be assigned and made available to the membership by the Club.

Individual: Any person not covered in other classifications within this subsection. A membership application and appropriate dues shall be submitted to the Club. Each individual member 18 years of age or older shall have one (1) vote, with all rights and privileges as may be assigned and made available to the membership by the Club.

Family: Two or more immediate members of a family (i.e., a couple or parents and their children **under 18 years of age**). A membership application and appropriate dues shall be submitted to the Club. Each adult 18 years of age or older shall have one (1) vote, with all rights and privileges as may be assigned and made available to the membership by the Club.

Corporate: A membership application in the name of the business, with a list of designated voting members 18 years of age or older attached along with appropriate dues shall be submitted to the Club. Each business shall have rights and privileges as may be assigned or made available to the membership by the Club and shall include a maximum of four (4) votes, one per designated voter as indicated on the membership application.

Individual Lifetime: Any individual, qualified for Individual Membership, making a onetime lifetime dues payment. Each lifetime member shall have one (1) vote. The Club will limit the number of new Individual Lifetime Memberships to four (4) per fiscal year.

Family Lifetime: Any family qualified for Family Membership, making a onetime lifetime dues payment. Each adult, 18 years of age or older, shall have one (1) vote. Once children of a Family Lifetime Membership reach the age of eighteen (18) they no longer qualify for Family Lifetime Membership and must reapply for their membership in the Club. The Club will limit the number of new Family Lifetime memberships to four (4) per fiscal year.

Distinguished: Any individual upon the recommendation of the Club's Board of Directors and approved by a majority of the membership. There are no dues for this membership and membership is for life. This individual must have exhibited extraordinary contribution to the Gator baseball program. Each Distinguished member shall have one (1) vote.

Honorary: A non-voting membership designated as Honorary, may be awarded upon recommendation of the Board of Directors and approval of the membership. The member shall not have voting privileges. Honorary memberships shall be renewed each year as recommended by the Board of Directors of the Club.

Section II - Dues

1. Assessment

Dues shall become due December 31. The current active membership shall be notified the dues for the upcoming year must be paid prior to or by December 31 to maintain membership in good standing.

Renewal memberships with current dues unpaid by February 15 shall be removed from the active membership roster without any action from the Club and shall forfeit all rights and privileges assigned or made available to the membership.

Persons wishing to become members during the college baseball season shall have to pay full annual dues. Those wishing to join after the College baseball season shall pay a full years dues and have membership for the following year.

2. Dues

Annual dues are set for each membership classification as follows:

Student -\$18.00

Individual - \$30.00

Family- \$45.00

Corporate - \$60.00

Individual Lifetime - \$400.00

Family Lifetime- \$600.00

3. Dues Increases

The Gator Dugout Club Board shall have the authority to change dues in increments of \$5.00 up to a maximum \$15.00 change without a vote from the membership.

Notice of the proposed increase will be published in the Club's newsletter at least 60 days prior to a set date of implementation. If the increase is more than the allowable maximum, the dues proposal shall be published and sent to the membership.

If there is an objection, such objection must be submitted to the Secretary by a member in a letter stating the reason for the objection and signatures of at least two (2) members in good standing. Such a letter shall be received by the Secretary within 30 days of the notice of increase.

A ballot for approving or disapproving the increase will be sent to the membership within 14 days of the Secretary receiving an objection letter. The deadline for returning the ballots will be 14 days from the date of the ballot mailing. Approval or disapproval of the request will be based on the simple majority vote of the received ballots.

Should there be no objections to the increase, the increase will be declared approved by acclamation.

Publishing the new dues in the by-laws does not constitute changes in the by-laws and will not request a membership vote.

The Board shall review the dues structure a minimum of once every 3 years.

ARTICLE III MEETINGS

Section I - Regular Meetings

The Club will hold a minimum of five (5) regular meetings per year to have programs pertaining to Gator baseball and to conduct business requiring membership involvement. The date, time, and place of the meeting shall be set by the Board of Directors and notice of such meeting mailed to the membership. The regular meetings are open to members in good standing and invited guests only. Approval of business conducted shall be by a majority of voting members present. Meetings will be scheduled such as to maximize attendance of the membership and recruitment efforts for new members. Such a schedule may reduce the number of meetings during the summer and fall and increase the number of meetings during the Gator baseball season as determined by the Board.

Section II - Social Meetings

The Club upon recommendation of the Board of Directors and approval of the membership, shall conduct social meetings for the membership and the Gator baseball team. Such meetings shall conform to the rules as provided by the NCAA, SEC, UAA, and UF.

ARTICLE IV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors is composed of the Officers and Standing Committee Chairperson of the Club.

Section I - Officers

1. Composition

The officers of the Club are President, President Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. The President, President Elect and Treasurer may be bonded at the expense of the Club and discretion of the membership.

2. Duties

A. President - shall serve as the presiding officer of the Club and shall conduct all Board and Club meetings. The President shall serve as Club liaison with the coaches of the Gator baseball team and the UAA officials. The President shall co-sign checks for the Club. The President shall appoint whatever ad hoc committees he or she or the Board of Directors shall deem necessary.

B. President Elect - shall serve in the absence of the President as the presiding officer of the Club. The President Elect shall be the chairperson for the Scholarship Fund Raising Committee. The President Elect shall assume additional duties and responsibilities assigned by the President and/or the Board of Directors.

C. Secretary - shall maintain the official membership list, shall have custody of, and maintain all other Club records except financial records, shall record the minutes of all meetings and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President and/or the Board of directors. Minutes of the previous Board meeting shall be presented for approval at each Board meeting. Minutes of the previous regular meeting shall be presented for approval at each regular meeting. The Secretary will also provide the membership dates of the Club's activities and regular meetings with the first regular meeting notice or dues statement.

D. Treasurer - shall have the care and custody of all funds, securities, and valuables belonging to the Club. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to deposit the funds of the Club to its credit in such bank or depository as the Board of Directors may designate, to co-sign all checks and drafts in the name of the Club, to keep the books and accounts of the Club to render to the Board of Directors monthly financial reports and to render to the Club membership in writing, annually, a full statement of Club finances. The Treasurer shall coordinate membership information with the Secretary and Membership Committee Chairperson.

E. Past President- as a member of the Board shall act as an advisor to the Board on past and ongoing programs and projects.

Section II - Standing Committees

1. Composition

The Club shall have the following Standing Committees: Membership, Publicity, Social, Program, Awards, and Scholarship Fund Raising.

The President shall appoint the chairperson of each Standing Committee with the exception of the Scholarship Fund Raising committee which will be chaired by the President Elect. Each chairperson shall, after consultation with the President, appoint whatever committee members that may be necessary to carry out the duties of the committee. The Standing Committee chairpersons shall serve on the Board of Directors.

2. Duties

A. Membership Committee - shall study and make recommendations to the Board with respect to the development of membership promotional materials, activities and programs to increase Club membership and retain present membership. This committee will work with the Publicity Committee when developing promotional material directed at increasing membership.

B. Publicity Committee - shall study and make recommendations to the Board with respect to the development of promotional materials, advertisements, announcements, and programs to increase

the general public awareness of the Club. This committee will work with the Membership Committee when developing promotional material directed at increasing membership.

C. Social Committee - Shall be responsible for planning and implementing all social meetings approved by the Board of Directors such as the preseason Covered Dish Dinner, Dugout Club Day, any awards dinners, etc.

D. Scholarship Fund Raising Committee - shall study and make recommendations to the Board with respect to fund raising projects, especially for the Club's scholarship program. Once Board approval is given, the committee will be responsible for implementing such projects.

E. Program Committee - shall be responsible for obtaining speakers for the regular meetings. The committee will submit to the Board a list of potential speakers one month prior to the first regular membership meeting.

F. Awards Committee - shall be responsible for monitoring players during the entire season to determine candidates for *The Gator Dugout Club Awards*.

Section III- Ad Hoc Committees

When necessary for the orderly operation of the Club, the President will appoint chairpersons for ad hoc committees. Examples of such ad hoc committees are: Raffle, Snacks, Trips, newsletter, Club merchandise, etc. Chairs of ad hoc committees shall have input at Board meetings but no voting power.

Section IV- Board Member Vacancies and Participation

1. Board Vacancies

A. President. In the event the President resigns or becomes unable to complete the term of office, the President Elect shall assume the Presidency. The new President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint a President Elect from the active membership (a member in good standing) to serve the remainder of the term.

B. Other Officers and Standing Committee Chairpersons. If, for any reason, should the office of President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer or Standing Committee Chairperson become vacant during a term, that office shall be filled by appointment by the President from the active membership (a member in good standing) with the approval of the Board of directors.

2. Board Member Participation

At the discretion of the President, any officer or Standing Committee Chairperson who is absent from three (3) consecutive Board meetings may be replaced with the office filled as outlined in Article IV, Section III Subsection 1-B.

ARTICLE V ELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section I - Term of Office

The President Elect shall be elected for a one year term and automatically become President the following year. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected for a two year term.

Standing Committee Chairs shall be for a one year term, except for the Social Chair which will be for a two year term.

No Officer or Standing Committee Chairperson shall serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office with the following exception. In the event no Club member submits their name for nomination and the Nominating Committee is unable to secure agreement from a Club member to serve as an officer or Standing Committee Chairperson, the Nominating Committee shall be allowed to submit the existing officer or Standing Committee Chairperson's name (if said person agrees) for an additional term to be approved by vote of the general membership.

Section II - Nominations

A. A Nominating Committee composed of the President Elect and two (2) members shall be appointed by the President no later than June 30.

B. The Nominating Committee shall meet and nominate one person for President- Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer and submit their slate of Officers to the Board of Directors by July 30.

C. The secretary shall see that the slate is sent to the members or published in the Club's newsletter by August 30. Additional nominations may be submitted to the Secretary by the membership in a letter containing the name of the nominee and signatures of at least two (2) members in good standing. Such a letter shall be received by the Secretary by September 30.

If there are no additional nominees, the slate of nominees as submitted by the Nominating Committee shall be declared the new officers by acclamation.

If there are additional nominees, ballots containing the official nominees and additional nominees will be sent to the membership by October 15. The deadline for returning the ballots will be November 15.

Section III - Assuming Office

New officers and Standing Committee Chairpersons shall take office at the December meeting at which time they will meet with the outgoing Board of Directors. The new Board should meet prior to the December meeting to set meeting dates and events for the upcoming year.

ARTICLE VI CLUB AWARDS

Section I- Awards presentation

The Gator Dugout Club awards shall be presented to Gator baseball players at an appropriate time during the year as determined by the Board.

Section II- Awards Selection Process

An awards chairperson shall be appointed by the President at the beginning of the season. The awards chair and a committee of their selection shall submit to the Board after the entire season is completed. The Chair shall discuss the slate of awards nominees with appropriate baseball staff for input only.

Once the slate is approved by the Board, a ballot of all nominees shall be submitted to the Club membership by mail. The membership shall vote for their choice by either standard mail or email. The Awards Chair shall tally the votes and inform the Board of the results.

The selected winner's and their families and baseball staff shall be notified of the results.

Section III- Awards Description

P.A. Lee Memorial Award- in memory of assistant Coach Lee. Given for sportsmanship and "can do" attitude. (Look for the most positive player. Does not have to be a starter)

Coach Dave Fuller Award- for timely hitting (Not necessarily the highest batting average, but a clutch hitter)

Mr. Gator Baseball – Most Outstanding Player. Player who best personifies Gator baseball. (Good attitude, team leader, etc.)

Steve Georgiadis Award - given in memory of Steve Georgiadis, a Gator player who lost his life after surgery during the season. For the player who has overcome adversity, either health or family related or related to other personal problems. Award not presented every year.

Gator Dugout Pitching Award – given to the pitcher exhibiting the most outstanding performance. Can be either a starting or relief pitcher.

ARTICLE VII BEHAVIOR AND COMPORIMENT OF MEMBERS

Section I - Conduct

Any member whose dues are current is considered a member in good standing. As it is the duty of the President to serve as the Club liaison with the baseball coaches and UAA officials, no member of the Club may approach the coaches or any UAA representative on behalf of the Club for any reason unless they have been specifically asked/directed to do so by the President. If such a request/directive is made, the member shall make it clear he/she has the approval of the President to act on behalf of the Club. No member shall assist in the planning or take part in the execution of any planned promotion, exhibition or other function sponsored under the auspices of the UAA on behalf of the Club unless the UAA representatives have contacted the Club President and specifically requested such assistance. The President will then appoint and coordinate member participation.

Section II - Discipline

Any member who does not conduct themselves in accordance with the by-laws (which require members to adhere to NCAA, SEC, UAA, and UF rules and regulations) is subject to immediate suspension pending review by the Board. The member in question shall have the right to appear before the Board at the time of review.

**ARTICLE VIII
OPERATING AND REPORTING YEAR**

The Club year shall begin January 1 and end December 31 each year.

**ARTICLE IX
PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

Robert's Rules of Order, as amended, shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by the by-laws.

**ARTICLE X
AMENDING BY-LAWS**

These by-laws may be amended or replaced, wholly or in part, by a majority of members in good standing voting for such changes at a regular meeting of the Club. All amendments must be explained to the membership at the previous regular meeting. All members must be notified by U.S. mail prior to the meeting that amendments will be proposed and will be voted upon at the following meeting. A final copy of the amended by-laws shall be provided to the membership.

Amended by the general membership on December 4, 2000

Amended by the general membership on February 21, 2004

Amended by the general membership on November 16, 2009

Amended by the general membership on September 18, 2017 (Added Pitching Award and *THE* to club name)

Amended by the general membership on October 28, 2019 (Article II Membership Dues structure)