



The Constitution of the Rainier Council of the Square and Folk Dance Federation of Washington

Revised March 7, 2011

ARTICLE I (Name)

The name of this organization shall be: ***Rainier Council of Square and Folk Dance Federation of Washington.***

ARTICLE II (Purpose)

The purpose of the organization shall be:

- A. To encourage the enjoyment of Square and Folk Dancing.
- B. To promote and conduct festivals. (Local and State)
- C. To assist in the formation and development of Square and Folk Dancing groups.
- D. To encourage between square and folk dance groups, mutual cooperation and exchange of dance techniques, and standardization thereof.
- E. To encourage classes for the training of square and folk dance leaders.

ARTICLE III (Membership)

Membership in the organization shall be open to all non-profit clubs in square and folk dancing having a minimum membership of sixteen (16) persons including a full slate of officers, consisting of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. This minimum membership provision shall not affect those clubs currently affiliated with this organization. Application for membership shall be submitted to the Board of Directors for its recommendations and shall thereafter be considered by the Council meeting. A duly approved club shall be an associate member until it has been passed upon by the Square and Folk Dance Federation of Washington. Associated members shall enjoy all the privileges of members.

ARTICLE IV (Officers)

1. The officers of this organization shall be: ***President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Area Council State Delegate and Delegate to the State Nominating Committee.***
2. Officers of this organization shall be elected from the membership of the member clubs.
3. The terms for office of ***President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary*** shall be for one (1) year. The above name officers may succeed themselves for one term of one (1) year only.
4. The term for the office of ***Area Council State Delegate and Delegate to the State Nominating***

Committee shall be two (2) years. The holders of either office may succeed themselves indefinitely until defeated in any regular election.

5. The office of *Area Council State Delegate* may be held in conjunction with any other office of the Council except that of *President* and *Delegate to the State Nominating Committee*.

6. The office of *Delegate to the State Nominating Committee* may be held in conjunction with any other office of the Council except *Area Council State Delegate*.

7. In the event of the unexpected vacancy of either the office of *Area Council State Delegate* or the *Delegate to the State Nominating Committee*, the President shall appoint a temporary delegate until the next meeting, curing which time of new business, the office shall be filled by election of the voting members present.

ARTICLE V (Board of Directors)

The *Board of Directors* shall consist of the *Officers of the Council*, the *Immediate Past President* and their partners. It shall investigate and screen all applications for membership, shall review business to be brought before the Council meeting and shall pass on business requiring immediate action; but shall not have the power or authority to vote appropriations or to obligate the Council in excess of \$50.00 for any one project, and shall make a full report at the next regular Council meeting or more often if deemed necessary.

ARTICLE VI (Election of Officers)

A *Nominating Committee* shall be set up at the September meeting. It shall be the duty of the *Immediate Past President* to serve as chairperson with two (2) other members elected by the council. The *Nominating Committee* shall select at least two (2) candidates for each office. A member of the *Nominating Committee* should receive the same consideration for nomination as any other qualified person. The *Nominating Committee* shall use the following qualifications in their selection of candidates:

A. For President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Area Council State Delegate and Delegate to the State Nominating Committee.

Two (2) of the four (4) following qualifications:

At present or have been:

1. Rainier Council Delegate for a minimum of three (3) months.
2. And any one (1) of the three (3) following qualifications:
 - a. Club Officer
 - b. Committee Chairperson - Club
 - c. Committee Chairperson - Council

B. For Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary:

Two (2) of the four (4) following qualifications:

At present or have been:

1. Rainier Council Delegate
2. Club Officer.
3. Committee Member - Club
4. Committee Member - Council

The *Nominating Committee* shall report its slate of nominees at the February meeting of the Council. The floor will be open for further nominations during new business at the March Council meeting. The spouse of a nominee for the office of *President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, or Corresponding Secretary* shall be ineligible for nomination these offices during the same term. A qualifications and history shall be prepared by each candidate. This list with a ballot shall be sent to each club. One vote is allowed for each member of a Federated Club for each office. This ballot is to be marked, sealed and sent to the *Nominating Committee Chairperson*. Only a committee chosen by the President at that time will count the sealed ballot at the May meeting. In case of a tie vote, the delegates at the meeting will cast a secret ballot to decide the winner. All officers shall be elected by a simple majority of the votes cast. Officers thus elected shall take office during the consideration of new business at the June meeting.

ARTICLE VII (Management)

Management of the Council shall be administered by the Council, which shall be composed of two (2) delegates from each member club and under the leadership of the Council Officers. Those entitled to vote are:

1. The two (2) delegates from each member club or their alternates, if registered with the Council Recording Secretary.
2. All standing committee chairpersons.
3. All Council elected officers, except that of the President.
4. The President may vote to make or break a tie only.
5. All elected officers and standing committee chairpersons are entitled to one (1) vote only and may not cast a vote as a representative of a club.

ARTICLE VIII (Amendments)

This constitution and By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present at any duly called meeting, a quorum being present, provided that the proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing, to the voting members at least forty (40) days prior to the meeting at which action is to be taken.

ARTICLE IX (Quorum)

A quorum shall be twenty-five (25) percent of all voting members plus two (2) officers.

ARTICLE X (Boundaries)

The boundaries of Rainier Council shall be as follows: From Redondo on the Puget Sound East on South 272nd, to King County line on the east; thence follow the King County line South until it meets the Pierce County line and follow the Pierce County Line South around Mt. Rainier National Park; thence West and Northwest on the South Pierce County line to Puget Sound and including the portion of Pierce County across Puget Sound.