

Bylaws of the Georgia Sea Hawkers

ARTICLE I – NAME AND PURPOSE

The Georgia Sea Hawkers are the most passionate, hardcore, devoted, cheer-crazy, raisin' the roof, no life during football season havin' fun fans on earth. Our purpose, as a Sea Hawkers Booster Club, is to have fun while supporting our players, Seahawks organization and supporting the communities of Georgia. We are an official Booster Club of the Sea Hawkers Organization recognized by the Seattle Seahawks. We are ambassadors who strive to demonstrate the spirit of the 12's in all that we do. We are a volunteer organization run by and for Seahawk fans.

Our Mission: To make the world a better place by raising awareness and funds for charities in the spirit of the 12s.

Our Vision: To create chapters across the globe in support of helping every community realize their own spirit of the 12s.

Our Purpose: Through volunteerism, to support the Seattle Seahawks organization, players and families, fans and communities.

ARTICLE II – GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Membership and Structure

- a. All members must be in good standing. Members are deemed to be in good standing when all of the following conditions are met.
 - Current on member dues
 - In compliance with all position duties, as assigned
 - Not known to have violated any Seahawks or Sea Hawkers policies and/or guidelines, including these bylaws
- b. Membership of the Georgia Sea Hawkers shall consist of:
 - Board of Officers
 - Chapter members
- c. Dues-paying members shall have full access to Georgia Sea Hawkers events, Sea Hawkers benefits, and voting rights at chapter meetings.

2. Voting at Chapter Meetings

- a. All members age 18+ who are present at a meeting are entitled to one vote.

- b. Voting may be by voice vote, roll call, or conducted electronically.
- c. A secret ballot vote may be requested and shall be at the discretion of the Board.
- d. There shall be no voting by proxy. Members must be present in order to vote.
- e. Majority vote is the victor.
 - i. In the event of a tie, the vote will be decided by the Board votes.
- f. If a quorum is not met, the vote will be decided by the Board, who will consider the votes of members who are present.

3. Chapter Dues and Enrollment

- a. The annual dues of members shall be established by the Bylaws of the Sea Hawkers Central Council. Dues are currently \$15.00 for a single membership and \$25.00 for a household membership (up to 4 members).
 - i. Children under age 18 do not count toward the 4-member limit.
- b. Member dues are due with the initial application and at time of renewal of membership. Membership is by the calendar year (January thru December)

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- a. Renewals not paid by the end of February will be dropped from the membership list until paid, unless otherwise communicated by the Board.

4. Meetings

- a. **Board** – The Board shall meet a minimum of quarterly to manage the chapter's affairs.
 - i. Six of nine Officers shall be present to constitute a quorum. (Amendment: 51% of Officers shall be present to constitute a quorum.)
 - ii. Each Officer shall possess one vote.
 - o The Member at Large and Past President(s) position is a non-voting position.
 - iii. Meetings may be conducted via conference call, or other electronic means, as the Board determines appropriate.
- b. **Chapter** – Chapter meetings shall be held annually. Additional meetings will be held at the discretion of the Board.
 - i. Annual – The Annual Meeting shall be held each year in June.

- ii. Special – Special meetings may be called at the written/email discretion of a majority of the Board or at the written/email request of 10% of the chapters' members. At least five days' notice shall be given for all special meetings.
- iii. Quorum – At any meeting of the chapter, 10% of active members shall constitute a quorum.
- iv. Place & Time – The place and time of chapter meetings shall be announced to all members with at least two weeks' notice (except Special Meetings).
- v. Meetings may be conducted via conference call, or other electronic means, as the Board determines appropriate.

ARTICLE III – ELECTION OF OFFICERS TO THE BOARD

1. Term of Office

- a. Board Officers excluding Past President(s) shall be elected to serve for a two (2) year term of office. Term effective date is July 1 of the current year.

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- 1. Board appoints Past President(s) position and length of term is at Board's discretion.
- b. Four (4) positions are to be elected in even years and the other four (4) are to be elected in odd years

Even Years

- Vice President
- Secretary
- Publicity Coordinator
- Membership Coordinator

Odd Years

- President
- Treasurer
- Community Service Chair
- Member at Large

1. Nomination Process

- a. At the June meeting either the President or Vice President (whichever is not up for election) shall announce which Board Officer position are open for election.
- b. Nominations for these positions must be made in good faith and with the commitment that such nominees, if elected, would attend a minimum of ten (10) chapter watch parties or events per year.
- c. Candidates must be in good standing, Georgia residents, and be able to, when appropriate, attend meetings in person.
- d. At the June meeting either the President or Vice President (whichever is not up for

election) shall place all nominations before the membership, at which time further nominations may be made and seconded from the floor (live or electronically). A vote is not necessary on a nomination, as the vote will occur during the voting process.

- e. All nominations must be for a specific Board position.
- f. Any nominations for President must be currently holding a Board position or held a

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Board position within the last 2 years.

- c. Each candidate will be given up to two minutes to make a statement of their interest in and qualifications for the position.

2. Voting Process

- a. At the June meeting either the President or Vice President (whichever is not up for election) shall place all nominations before the membership for a vote.
- b. See Article II Section 2.
- c. If all or part of the slate of Officers is unchallenged, the President or Vice President (whichever is not up for election) may call for a voice vote to accept the unchallenged Officers.
- d. An Officer position left unfilled after the Annual meeting shall be filled based upon the recommendation of the Board.

ARTICLE IV – BOARD OF OFFICERS

1. Business and Property

- a. The business and property of the chapter shall be managed by the Board consisting of eight Officers, subject to the limitations of Article VII.

2. Mid-Term Vacancy

- a. Any vacancy occurring on the Board by such reason as the death, resignation, or removal from office requires the return of all Georgia Sea Hawkers Booster Club physical and intellectual property within ten (10) calendar days. An exception may be made in the case of death.
 - Failure to do so could result in legal action and violates the 'in-good-standing' requirement thus prohibiting said former Officer from holding any office on Central Council.
- b. Any vacancy occurring on the Board by the death, resignation, or removal from office shall be filled by appointment by the Board for the unexpired term of the vacated position.
 - The appointment is to be made by a simple majority vote of the remaining

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members of the Board.

1. Meetings

- a. Any Officer who is absent from three consecutive Board meetings may be removed from the Board by a majority vote of the Officers. This vote of removal must be taken within one month of the third meeting from which the Officer was absent.

2. Transition of Responsibilities

- a. To assist incoming Officers, there shall be a minimum of a 1-month period of transition after each election.
 - During the transition time there should be a transfer of knowledge, files and access to the incoming Officer.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS

1. Descriptions for Officer positions are general duties. Not every task is listed, and Board Officers have the right to change tasks amongst themselves when deemed in the best interest of the Booster Club and/or the Seahawks as long as a majority of the Board is in agreement.
 - a. Changes may also be made on a predetermined trial basis and will be duly noted in the meeting minutes.
 - b. The correspondence and records-of-procedure for each position shall be maintained by the Officer and are considered intellectual property that belongs to Georgia Sea Hawks.

2. The Board

The Board shall consist of the following Officers:

- a. **President**

The President shall be the chief executive Officer of the Georgia Sea Hawks and its Board and shall preside at all their meetings. They shall have the general and active management of the Georgia Sea Hawks and its Board; may execute all instruments on their behalf and shall see that their business and policy is carried into effect. They shall be an ex-officio member of all committees and have such other powers and perform such other duties as is usually inherent to such office.

b. Vice President

The Vice President shall have the primary responsibility of assisting the President and the other Officers of the Board as requested by the President. In the event the President is not present at a meeting, the Vice President shall preside in their place.

c. Secretary

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all Georgia Sea Hawks Board and Chapter meetings and send the minutes within ten (10) days of the meeting. The Secretary shall also perform such other duties pertaining to the secretarial requirements of the Georgia Sea Hawks and its Board. The minute books, records, correspondence files, and all central files shall be maintained by the Secretary and belong to the Georgia Sea Hawks.

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d. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall receive and be accountable for all General Funds belonging to the Georgia Sea Hawks. They shall deposit all such funds into the depository designated by the Board to hold Chapter funds as the Board may direct. They shall disburse such funds as the Georgia Sea Hawks, or its Board may direct, and shall sign all checks together with such other Officers as the Board may direct. They shall keep accurate books and records, provided by and belonging to the Georgia Sea Hawks, of all receipts and disbursements and report the financial status of the Georgia Sea Hawks at each meeting.

e. Membership Coordinator

The Membership Coordinator shall have the primary responsibility of organizing and coordinating Georgia Sea Hawks memberships; maintaining a list of current membership and keeping the Board informed of membership status.

f. Publicity Coordinator

The Publicity Coordinator shall have the primary responsibility for managing and posting through the Georgia Sea Hawkers official social media accounts and ensuring that all posts and communications meet the standards of the Georgia Sea Hawkers, the Sea Hawkers organization and its Mission, Vision and Purpose.

g. Community Service Chair

The Community Service Chair shall have the primary responsibility or organizing chapter volunteer and fundraising activities throughout the year.

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h. Member at Large

The Member at Large is a non-voting Officer whose duties and responsibilities are not fixed, but instead is available to assist the Board as directed by the Officers; based on the needs of the chapter.

i. Past President(s)

After the initial transition period described in Article IV, the Past President(s), if in good standing based on the Code of Conduct as outlined by the Sea Hawkers Central Council, can be appointed as a Non-Voting Officer by agreement of a majority of the Board, to mentor the President and the other Officers of the Board. Term length is at the sole discretion of the Board. The Past President(s) would be required to be a member of the chapter. Georgia residency and attendance at chapter events is not required. If the Past President(s) decline this appointment, positions will not be filled.

Article VI – Board of Officers

1. Committees

- a. The Board shall establish and disband committees as needed and appropriate. The Board will set forth the duties and responsibilities of each committee. The President shall appoint the chairperson(s) of such committees.
- b. The President may create and fill temporary committees as appropriate, to accomplish the objectives of the chapter.

ARTICLE VII – CHAPTER FUNDS

1. The funds of the Georgia Sea Hawks must be deposited in the financial institution approved by the Board of Officers. They shall deposit all such funds into the depository designated by the

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Board to hold Chapter funds as the Board may direct.

2. The President and the Treasurer will have authority to deposit/transfer/withdraw funds.
3. All checks/withdrawals of more than two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) must be voted on and approved by six of eight Board Members.

ARTICLE VIII – AFFILIATION

1. The Georgia Sea Hawks shall affiliate with the Sea Hawks Central Council and other Sea Hawks chapters recognized by the Sea Hawks Central Council.
2. The Georgia Sea Hawks Board of Officers shall appoint one primary representative and two alternate representatives to attend Central Council meetings.
 - a. The primary representative shall attend all Central Council meetings or designate an alternate to attend in their place.
 - b. The Primary (or acting Primary) representative shall be responsible for all votes that occur during Central Council Meetings.
 - c. Alternate representatives may attend all Central Council meetings and actively participate except to vote.
3. The Board of Officers is authorized to submit dues from the Georgia Sea Hawks funds each year to the Central Council. The amount of dues is to be determined by the Central Council and consistent with the amount paid by Sea Hawks Chapters. As of January 1, 2021, dues to Central Council are \$175.00.

ARTICLE IX – CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

1. The Georgia Sea Hawks shall provide charitable contributions based on a majority vote of six of eight Board Officers.
2. The Georgia Sea Hawks will provide charitable donations in the form of time, effort, tangible items, and monetary funds based on a majority vote of six of eight Board Officers.

ARTICLE X - DISSOLUTION

The Georgia Sea Hawks shall be considered “dissolved” when it is considered inactive by Sea Hawks Central Council or has less than fifteen (15) active members.

Upon dissolution, all property of the Georgia Sea Hawks shall be forfeited to the Sea Hawks Central Council or to charity. The last members of the Georgia Sea Hawks would direct Central Council to this decision.

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ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the regular members present at a meeting of the chapter where a quorum has been established. Members should receive notice of a potential bylaw change at least fourteen days before the meeting to enact such a change.

These bylaws were created by the Board for the Georgia Sea Hawks and they were voted on by the Active Members on June 11, 2023 and as quorum was met, these bylaws went into effect immediately.

All current elected/appointed Board members are listed with position below:

Past President
Anna Peterson

President
Paul Brewer

Secretary
Joan Phillips

Vice President
Devonny Leger

Membership Coordinator
Charli Young

Publicity Coordinator
Bernard Shepard

Community Service Chair
Megan Linsenmann

Member at Large
David Daniels

Treasurer
Sparkle Alemazkour