



**SERVING OUR COMMUNITY
SINCE 1999**

By-Laws

Revised March 16, 2021

ARTICLE I

The name of this organization, organized November 2, 1999, shall be known as the “KREWE OF CHASCO.” Hereafter referred to as the KREWE. It shall be located in West Pasco County, Florida.

ARTICLE II

Mission:

1. To celebrate the rich history of our great nation, The United States of America.
2. To foster true volunteerism and mentorship with special emphasis on the welfare of our community.
3. To encourage interaction and friendship among people of diverse backgrounds.
4. To participate in community activities, Florida’s Parade Season and other such activities in a manner to be determined each year by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE III

Section 1. Admission:

1. Admission to membership in the Krewe shall be by invitation **only**.
2. A prospective member shall attend at least one Krewe function prior to an invitation to membership.
3. A prospective member must be endorsed by one member of the Krewe.
 - a. An application form shall be completed by the prospective member, validated by the endorser and presented to the membership committee.
4. The initiation fee and year’s dues must accompany all applications. Applications will not be considered without payment for initiation fee and annual dues.
5. The membership committee will submit all nominations to the officers with or without recommendation. Applications will be considered in the following sequence:
 - a) Candidates proposed by the officers and accepted by a majority vote.
 - b) Candidates with supporting Krewe sponsorship.
 - c) Reinstatements of those members who resigned in good standing.
6. The officers shall have sole authority to elect persons to membership. Acceptance shall require a majority vote by ballot at any meeting or via electronic submission.
7. Upon acceptance, the secretary shall send notification of membership to the applicant.

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8. A candidate denied membership would not be eligible to reapply for membership for one year following the date the application was acted upon.

Section 2: Membership

Membership Categories

1. Life Membership - We no longer offer Life Membership, but those existing Life Memberships shall have all privileges of another membership. It relieves the member of all dues, excluding special charges or assessments, such as, but not limited to guests, food charges, etc.
2. Charter Member - Charter Members will be limited to the first one hundred active members and the first ten associate members. They will be entitled to wear the Charter Member symbol as part of their regalia. The designation "Charter Member" will be duly noted underneath their name in the Krewe roster.
3. Honorary Membership – Honorary Membership will be bestowed to those that are active in supporting the Krewe of Chasco. Those memberships will be voted on by the officer/directors and a monthly Krewe meeting with a majority vote required for any Honorary Membership.

Active Membership Tiers

1. Platinum – Includes all Krewe socials, six (6) parades (three Tampa & three local) and has no fundraising requirements.
2. Gold – Includes all Krewe socials, six (6) parades (three Tampa & three local) and does have fundraising requirements.
3. Silver – Includes all Krewe socials, one parade with transportation provided (Tampa), three (3) local parades and does have fundraising requirements.
4. Bronze (Social Member) – Includes all Krewe socials, one (1) local parade and discount on guest fee for other parades. Does not vote in Krewe elections or hold board/committee positions.

Fees for each membership level will be determined by the Board of Directors on an annual basis.

Membership Limit

The Board of Directors will have the sole authority to select the number of members eligible for membership each year until a maximum of 200 active members is attained. Associate membership will not be included in the membership unit.

ARTICLE IV

Section 1: Initiation Fee and Dues

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1. The initiation fee will be determined by the Board of Directors on an annual basis.
2. Dues shall be determined by the Board of Directors based on budgetary requirements and shall be payable annually on December 1st.
3. Failure of a member to participate in any of the Krewe's activities shall not entitle said member to a refund of any portion of their annual dues.
4. A member whose dues are delinquent after January 1st shall be notified by the treasurer and the member will be automatically dropped from membership. A member who has not paid or has not made arrangements to pay with approval of the Board of Directors by the regularly scheduled January Board of Directors meeting will be automatically dropped from membership effective immediately, with no vote necessary.
5. Admittance will not be allowed into all Krewe functions when a member has not paid in advance for any functions requiring paid reservation.

Section 2: Member in Good Standing

1. A member in good standing is a member whose dues and current assessments are paid. Delinquent dues refer to an unpaid balance thirty days after the date of the first notice.
2. No admittance will be allowed into social functions when member has not paid in advance for any functions requiring paid reservations.

Section 3: Reinstatements

1. A former member in good standing may apply for membership through the above application process.
2. A member who was dropped for non-payment of dues shall be reinstated provided the past due amount and current dues are collected at time of application.

Section 4: Duties of Members

1. Each person, by accepting membership in the Krewe, shall agree to conform to and abide by the bylaws and code of conduct of the Krewe in effect at the time of such acceptance, or thereafter effective.
2. Members are encouraged to participate in all activities that are sanctioned by the Krewe.
3. Members are greatly encouraged to volunteer their time and expertise to any non-profit entity in the Tampa Bay area as individuals and as a Krewe.

ARTICLE V – Officers

Section 1:

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The officers shall be a president, vice president, a secretary and a treasurer.

Section 2:

The officers shall be elected and assume their duties at the first yearly meeting of the Board of Directors, which shall be held within thirty (30) days of each annual meeting.

Section 3:

A majority vote of the active membership present at the annual meeting shall constitute election to office. No proxy vote or absentee ballots will be considered.

Section 4:

The term of office shall be for two years or until a successor is elected.

Section 5:

All vacancies in office shall be filled by the Board of Directors, except for the offices of president and vice president.

Section 6:

In recognition of service as president, all past presidents shall be made honorary presidents for life at the completion of their term. A unanimous vote of the Board of Directors may elect a past president as an honorary president if they are unable to complete their term of office.

ARTICLE VI – Duties of Officers

All officers shall perform the duties prescribed in the adopted parliamentary authority in addition to those specified in these bylaws.

Section 1: The president shall:

1. Preside at all meetings of the Krewe and of the Board of Directors.
2. Sign all official documents.
3. Co-sign checks when necessary.
4. Submit for board approval a proposed budget for the fiscal year, which begins on October 1.
5. Appoint all committees necessary to carry out the activities of the Krewe, except for the nominating committee and the auditing committee.
6. To represent the Krewe at all Inter-Krewe functions.

Section 2: The Vice-President shall:

1. Preside at meetings in the absence of the president.



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2. Assume the office of President in the event of the officer's failure to serve.
3. Co-sign checks when necessary.
4. Serve as chairman of the budget committee.
5. Attend Inter-Krewe functions.
6. Perform such other duties as may be assigned to this office.

Section 3: The Secretary shall:

1. Record the proceedings of all meetings of the Krewe.
2. Read or distribute the minutes of all general meetings to the members.
3. Conduct any correspondence as shall be requested by the President or the Board of Directors.
4. Keep the Corporate Seal, a copy of the Articles of Cooperation, the Bylaws and such other papers assigned to this office.
5. Maintain the minutes of all Krewe and Board of Directors meetings in a secure manner.
6. Maintain the official list of the names and addresses of the members of the Krewe, also the official list of the members of the Board of Directors.
7. Compile, publish and distribute the administration records, in cooperation with the Board of Directors.

Section 4: The Treasurer shall:

1. Be responsible for the collection of dues and assessments and the placing of the funds in a bank approved by the Board of Directors.
2. Be custodian of all funds and keep an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements.
3. Disburse money only at the authorization of the Board of Directors, either by specific action or by adoption of a budget.
4. Prepare checks for payments and pay bills promptly. In the absence of the Treasurer the any officer can sign checks.
5. Send a statement of assessments to each member, sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting.
6. Notify members whose assessments are delinquent; send a report to the Board of Directors of members whose assessments are delinquent and considered in arrears.
7. Be bonded and insured at the expense of the Krewe.
8. Make a financial report to the Board of Directors and the Krewe at every meeting and when otherwise requested by the President or the Board of Directors.
9. File any necessary forms with the Internal Revenue Service.



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10. Serve as a member of the budget committee.
11. Perform such other duties as may be assigned to this office.

Section 5:

All retiring officers shall within ten (10) days following the election meeting of the Board of Directors, deliver to their successors all materials pertaining to the office.

ARTICLE VII – Nominating Committee

Section 1:

1. The nominating committee shall consist of three (3) members in good standing, elected from the active membership by the Board of Directors, at least two (2) months preceding the annual meeting in an election year.
 - a) In odd numbered years the offices of President, Treasurer and two of the directors shall have candidates appointed by the nominating committee.
 - b) In even numbered years the offices of Vice-President, Secretary and the other three directors shall have candidates appointed by the nominating committee.
2. The report of the nominating committee shall be included in the notice of the annual meeting. At the annual meeting nominations are in order from the floor, provided the nominee is a member in good standing.
3. The consent of the nominee to serve, if elected, must be obtained prior to nomination from the floor, provided the nominee is a member in good standing.
4. If there is more than one nominee for each office, the election shall be by ballot, if not, the election may be by voice. In case of a ballot vote, the nominating committee shall prepare ballots. A plurality vote shall elect.
5. The nominating committee shall meet immediately after its election to select a chairman.
6. The committee may meet by phone, in person or electronic communication.
7. A vacancy on the nominating committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII – Meetings

Section 1: Annual Meeting

The Krewe shall meet annually in the month of October for the purpose of electing officers and directors, receiving reports from officers and committees and any other necessary business. The time and the place of the meeting shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2: Special Meeting

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A special meeting of the Krewe may be called by the President and Board of Directors and shall be called by the President on written petition from at least five members of the Board of Directors or twenty (20) members of the Krewe.

Section 3: Notice of Meeting

Notice of all meetings of the Krewe shall be sent to all members at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting.

Section 4: Voting at Meetings

1. There shall be no vote by proxy.
2. A quorum for any annual or special meeting shall be twenty-five (25%) of the active membership.

ARTICLE IX – Board of Directors

Section 1:

The Board of Directors shall consist of four (4) elected officers and five (5) directors. The five (5) Directors shall be elected at the annual meeting and will serve a two (2) year term. Should a vacancy occur in a director's position, the remaining Board of Directors will appoint someone to fill the balance of that term. After election, directors will be elected in to serve their two (2) year term.

Section 2: The Board of Directors shall:

1. Carry out the duties as documented in their position's Standard Operating Procedure
2. Manage the affairs of the Krewe.
3. Select the nominating committee.
4. Adopt the annual budget prepared based on dues payable for the fiscal year beginning October 1;
5. In an emergency, the President and Vice President shall be empowered to authorize appropriations not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and the expenditure shall be ratified and recorded at the next meeting of the Board of Directors.
6. Fix the bond of the Treasurer, as needed.
7. Fill vacancies in offices.
8. Declare a vacancy in any office or committee for failure to perform their respective duties.
9. Be empowered to adopt code of conduct for the Krewe.
10. Select an auditing committee to audit all financial documents before each annual meeting.



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11. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at the call of the President at least four times a year.
12. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the president or shall be called by the President at the request of a majority of its members, provided notice has been given to all board members. No business shall be considered except that specified in the notice.
13. It is expected that all members of the Board of Directors will support **the majority** of the Krewe.
14. Five (5) members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE IX – Committees

There shall be committees on membership, auditing and parade marshal and such other committees as shall be authorized by the Board of Directors. A member of the Board of Directors shall a participating member of all committees except the nominating committee and audit committee.

ARTICLE X – Parliamentary Authority

“**Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised**” shall govern the proceedings of this Krewe in all cases not provided for these bylaws or in the standing rules.

ARTICLE XI – Amendments

These bylaws may be amended at any annual or special meetings of the Krewe by a sixty (60%) of the active members, present and voting, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to each member twenty (20) days immediately preceding the meeting at which said amendment is to be voted upon.

ARTICLE XII – Dissolution

The Krewe may be dissolved with the assent given in writing and signed by not less than two thirds (2/3) of active members (Bronze/Social Members Excluded) as set forth in these By-Laws. Upon Dissolution of the Krewe the assets of the Krewe shall be dedicated to an appropriate public agency to be used for purposes similar to which the Krewe was created. In the event that such dedication is refused acceptance, such assets shall be granted, conveyed and assigned to any non-profit organization to be devoted to such similar purposes.

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