

# LCFD bylaws

As amended October 2021

## I. Purpose

- A. The official name of the group is “Lavender Country and Folk Dancers” (LCFD).
- B. LCFD organizes and runs dance camps, which are multiple-day events usually occurring at a rustic site.
- C. LCFD promotes and supports gender-free traditional dancing (contra, square, English country, and folk) primarily, but not exclusively, for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer folk and friends.
- D. LCFD is a not-for-profit organization which will occasionally raise money for the purpose of supporting LCFD activities.
- E. LCFD will promote gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and queer dance leaders and musicians, and others who support gender-free dancing, whenever possible.

## II. Members

- A. Anyone may join LCFD regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.
- B. Membership status, benefits, terms, and fees, if any, shall be determined by the board of directors.

## III. Member Organizations

- A. Local Dance Groups: LCFD will support local dance organizations which sponsor gender-free traditional dance. The relationship between the LCFD board and the local groups will be marked by the following:
  1. LCFD will assist a local group with financing (if available) and expertise. Requests for monetary assistance should be forwarded to the treasurer. Decision to grant or loan money will be made by the board.
  2. LCFD will advertise the local dances to a wide audience via LCFD and other traditional dance sources.
  3. The local dance groups will be asked to assist LCFD in promoting LCFD activities in their areas.
- B. Dance Focused Groups—LCFD will be supportive of related gender-free traditional dance groups (Western square dancing, country & western, ballroom, etc.) and include the activities in LCFD events where possible and be a resource for more information.

## IV. Leadership

- A. The activities of LCFD will be managed by a 7 person board of directors elected by the membership. The term of office is two years, starting on January 1st, with three and four positions elected in alternate years.
- B. Elections will be held within 60 days of the annual membership meeting.
  1. The board will hold elections by remote ballot. Reasonable effort shall be made to facilitate voting by all members.
  2. The board or its designated nominating committee will propose a slate of candidates from among the membership, which shall be composed of no more than 2/3 of one gender identity, unless no other qualified candidates are available. Every effort will be made to achieve diverse gender identity and geographic representation on the board.
  3. Members may nominate themselves or others by notifying the board at least 15 days before the annual membership meeting (the board may extend this deadline if necessary).
  4. If, at the time of the election, there are no more nominees than open seats, the nominees are deemed elected and no vote is required.

5. If the annual membership meeting cannot be held as scheduled, the board may determine an adjusted timeline for elections and term start dates.
- C. In the case of vacancies between elections, the board may appoint a member to fill the vacancy until the next election.
  - D. The board will appoint the following officers from among its members at its first meeting following the annual election to serve for one year (officers may be appointed at other times to fill vacancies):
    1. Two Co-Chairs (of different gender identities, if possible), responsible for compiling board meeting agendas, leading meetings, and assigning tasks.
    2. A Treasurer, responsible for keeping account of all monies, paying bills, managing income, setting the annual budget, and producing an annual financial statement to be made available to the membership.
  - E. The board will also appoint board members or general members to the following positions and committees:
    1. The Camp Committee, responsible for all aspects of running dance camps, including staffing, location, advertising, registration, and volunteers (the Camp Committee must be represented at board meetings).
    2. Other positions and committees to be created as needed.

## **V. Meetings**

- A. An annual meeting of the membership will be held at least once per year., preferably at the last camp of the calendar year.
  1. A quorum is established by who is present. A simple majority of members present is necessary to carry any motion, except as noted in Section VI below.
- B. The board of directors will hold at least 3 meetings per year.
  1. A board meeting has a quorum if at least one co-chair and one half of the remaining board members are present. A simple majority of those present at a board meeting is necessary to carry a motion, though the board will attempt to reach decisions by consensus.
  2. All LCFD members are welcome to attend and participate in any meeting, except when the board meets in executive session, which will be used only when necessary to maintain confidentiality.
  3. Meeting minutes will be distributed to the board within one month of the meeting, and will also be published on the LCFD website or otherwise made available to the general membership.

## **VI. Amendments and Changes to the Bylaws**

- A. The bylaws may be amended or changed by a 2/3 vote announced in advance and taken at the annual membership meeting.

- ## **VII.**
- A. No part of LCFD's assets or net earnings may inure to the benefit of any individual. This does not preclude the payment of reasonable amounts for goods or services provided to LCFD.
  - B. Upon dissolution, the assets of LCFD shall be distributed to the Country Dance & Song Society, Inc., or to another non-profit organization that is exempt under sec. 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.
  - C. LCFD shall not, as a substantial part of its activities carry on propaganda or otherwise attempt to influence legislation, except to the extent permitted by section 501(h) of the Internal Revenue Code, nor shall it participate to any extent in any political campaign for or against any candidate for public office.
  - D. It is intended that the organization shall be entitled to exemption from Federal income tax under sec. 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code and shall not be a private foundation as described in sec. 501(c)3 the code.
  - E. LCFD subscribes to the general purposes of the Country Dance and Song Society, Inc.