

Constitution of the Ruritan District

ARTICLE I. Name

This association of Clubs shall be known as the _____ District of Ruritan National.

ARTICLE II. Objectives

We, believing that the best interest of Ruritan National and of our Ruritan Clubs can be better served through a union of Clubs, declare the objectives of this District to be as follows:

1. To unify the efforts of the Clubs in this District.
2. To promote those efforts which do not lend themselves to solution by individual Clubs.
3. To promote goodwill among the Clubs.
4. To link the Clubs to Ruritan National.

ARTICLE III. Membership

All Ruritan Clubs duly organized and chartered and in good standing within the jurisdictional area of the _____ District, as designated and determined by Ruritan National, shall belong to this District.

ARTICLE IV. Meetings

Section A. A District Convention shall be held each year with the time and place to be determined by the District Cabinet subject to approval by the National Executive Committee, so as to arrange the date for the convenience of the National President or other National Officers. A District Governor and Lt. District Governor shall be elected and installed at this convention and shall take office January 1.

Section B. The District Cabinet shall meet upon call of the District Governor, or upon call of any three (3) of its members.

ARTICLE V. District Dues

At the option of the District, the Club shall pay to the District Treasurer annual dues in the amount of \$_____ per Club member. These dues shall be based on the enrollment of the Club as of the close of the meeting in January of each year and shall be payable by March 1st of the same year. However, in no event shall District dues exceed Two Dollars (\$2.00) per Club member per year.

ARTICLE VI. Cabinet and Officers

Section A. Each District shall have a District Cabinet of which the District Governor is Chair. It shall consist of the following members: the District Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Assigned National Director, the District Secretary, the District Treasurer, or the District Secretary-Treasurer, all Zone Gover-

nors, the three (3) immediate past District Governors, Growth and Development Chair, Foundation Promotion Chair, Leadership Development Chair, Publicity and Public Relations Chair, Fund-raising Chair, and Youth Activities Coordinator.

Section B. A majority of the cabinet shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII. Politics

This association and its member clubs shall be nonsectarian and nonpartisan, and shall take no action endorsing or condemning any candidate or measure which is to be submitted to the vote of the people.

ARTICLE VIII. Amendments

This Constitution may be amended at any regular convention of Club Delegates in the District by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present at such convention, provided:

1. No amendment shall be made which is in conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of Ruritan National.
2. The proposed amendment is approved by the District Cabinet and the National Board of Directors.
3. The Clubs in this District are notified of the proposed amendments by the District Governor at least sixty (60) days in advance of the District Convention.

Bylaws of the . . . Ruritan District

ARTICLE I. Dues & Obligating Local Club

Section A. In the event District Dues are established, each member Club shall pay same to the District Treasurer on or before the 1st day of March of each year.

Section B. Any Club which shall be in arrears as much as eighteen (18) months in the payment of District dues shall be subject to suspension by the Board of Directors of Ruritan National upon the recommendation of the District Cabinet, and forfeit all rights to membership in this association.

Section C. Except for District dues, the Clubs in this District shall not be assessed for any purpose.

ARTICLE II. Elections

Section A. Each Club in good standing shall be entitled to one (1) of its members as a delegate to the District Convention for each ten (10) members or major fraction thereof; provided, however, that each member Club shall be entitled to at least two (2) delegates at any convention. Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote in the proceedings of the District Convention. In the absence of any delegate from the floor of the District Convention, his alternate shall be entitled to vote in his place. The voting members of the District Cabinet shall be delegates at large to the District Convention and shall be entitled to participate and vote therein. There shall be no voting by proxy.

Section B. A majority of the votes cast shall decide any issue, except as otherwise provided in the Constitution or Bylaws.

Section C. The District Governor shall be elected as follows:

1. The Governor shall appoint a nominating committee, consisting of three (3) Ruritans, who will nominate a candidate or candidates for Governor and all District Officers which the District may see fit to elect as provided in Article II. Section C. paragraph 5 for the following year.
2. The nominating committee, after hearing representatives of the member Clubs, shall make its nomination to the annual District Convention.
3. After the report of the nominating committee has been accepted, the floor shall be declared open for further nominations by any Club Delegate.
4. The person receiving a majority of the votes cast shall be declared elected. In the event there are more than two (2) candidates and no election is had on the first ballot, the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped on each succeeding ballot until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast.
5. The District Governor shall appoint his Zone Governors, his District Secretary and District Treasurer, or District Secretary-Treasurer and any other officers or committees that he may deem necessary for the work of the District. All District Officers shall take office January 1st. However, as a recommendation to the District Governor, each District may elect its own District Secretary and/or District Treasurer or District Secretary-Treasurer, and each Zone may, at the discretion of the District Cabinet elect its own Zone Governor.

Section D. No person shall be elected or serve as a District Officer who is not an active member in good standing of a Club within the District. A member shall be deemed to be a member in good standing when his dues are current and he meets the rules for Club attendance.

Section E. In the event of a vacancy in any District Office, other than District Governor, the unexpired term shall be filled by appointment of the District Governor. In the event of a vacancy in the office of District Governor, the National President shall appoint a member to fill the unexpired term subject to confirmation of the National Board of Directors at their next regular meeting.

Section F. Any officer may be removed from office by a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of the entire District Cabinet at any regular Cabinet meeting, after a hearing before the Cabinet, for which meeting due notice shall have been given to the officer in question.

ARTICLE III. Duties of Officers.

Section A. The District Governor shall preside at all District meetings, including the cabinet meetings, and shall perform such other duties as may pertain to his office.

Section B. The Lieutenant Governor shall assist the District Governor in the discharge of his duties and perform his duties in his absence, and such other duties as shall be assigned to him.

Section C. The Zone Governors shall supervise the Clubs within their respective Zones, shall be responsible for calling and arranging at least two (2) Zone meetings a year, and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the District Governor, the District Cabinet, or by Ruritan National.

Section D. The Secretary shall keep the records of the District, send out notices of meetings, record and preserve the minutes of meetings, and perform such other duties as pertain to this office.

Section E. The Treasurer shall have custody of all funds of the District, and pay out only such funds as authorized by the District Cabinet or the District Governor. He shall account for same at District meetings and at such other times as requested by the Governor or the Cabinet.

Section F. The District Cabinet shall pass on all policies essential to the welfare of the District.

ARTICLE IV. Committees

Section A. The Governor shall appoint an Auditing Committee and such other committees as are deemed necessary to carry out the work of the District.

Section B. Each committee shall transact such business as is delegated to it by the Governor or the Cabinet.

ARTICLE V. Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended at any regular convention of Club Delegates in the District by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present at such convention, and after approval by the National Board of Directors.