

BY-LAWS OF KANSAS CITY COUPLES

NAME

The name of the organization shall be known as Kansas City Couples (KCC), located in Greater Kansas City, MO.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of KCC is to provide a social venue for couples in the gay/lesbian community in the form of a monthly function known as Snak 'n Yak.

FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year shall commence on January 1 and terminate on December 31.

REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

The couple must be in a committed relationship, pay annual KCC dues. Members are required to host or co-host a Snak 'n Yak function, at least once per calendar year, within a 30 mile radius of downtown Kansas City.

DUES

There shall be annual, non-refundable dues assessed per couple, payable at the beginning of each fiscal year. A couple whose dues has not been collected at the January Snak 'n Yak will have a grace period lasting through the following March during which they may attend Snak 'n Yak and receive the newsletter, but will have no voting rights. After the March Snak 'n Yak, any couple who has not paid their dues for that year will be removed from the roster of KCC. New members after March of the fiscal year are relieved from hosting responsibilities until the following year. Annual dues shall be determined by the Officers and approved by the membership.

MEMBERSHIP

NUMBER OF MEMBERS

There shall be no limitation to the number of couples who may join KCC.

APPLICATION

Application for membership shall be submitted on a Kansas City Couples Membership Application form to an officer of KCC. The application shall be accompanied by the dues for the year in progress. By signing an application of membership, the member agrees to indemnify and hold KCC harmless from and against any and all claims, counts, causes of actions and demands of every kind and nature asserted against KCC. KCC agrees not to release the roster to any person, group or organization outside of KCC membership.

VOTING

Each member shall have one vote. A legal vote may only take place at a Snak 'n Yak at which a quorum of twenty-five (25%) or more of the members on the roster are present. A simple majority carries.

MEMBERSHIP SUSPENSION

Any member may request a suspension of a member in writing to the Officers. The Officer will present a copy of the request to the member in question. The Officers will make every attempt to arbitrate the action. The act of suspension must be presented to the membership at a Snak 'n Yak in the presence of the requesting party and a vote will be taken. The vote must pass by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the quorum. Upon a vote to suspend, the member and thus the couple will be notified of their suspension for a minimum of one year. A couple who does not fulfill their membership commitment and wishes to remain or rejoin the KCC shall be reviewed by the officers for acceptance.

GUESTS

A guest is a non-member visiting a Snak 'n Yak. A guest may attend a maximum of three Snak 'n Yaks within 3 months without joining KCC.

NEWSLETTERS

All couples shall receive a newsletters as published. Prospective couples shall receive newsletters for a period of 3 months from their first Snak 'n Yak. Contents of the newsletter shall be at the discretion of the editor and officers.

HOSTING/CO-HOSTING A SNAK 'N YAK

A hosting/co-hosting sign-up sheet will be made available for each member couple to select the month they wish to host for the following year. Snak 'n Yaks shall be held on the third Saturday of every month unless the membership votes to cancel a meeting or reschedule a meeting a minimum of one month in advance. Hosting /co-hosting couples shall provide name tags and markers for each Snak 'n Yak and they shall mark 'guest' tags with "Guest." If unsure of membership status, the hosting couple needs to check with the Treasurer couple. The host/co-host must:

-Notify the secretary in advance of the newsletter publication regarding any limitation or host requirements. In the event of space limitations, member RSVP's will take precedence over guests.

-The hosting couple(s) shall be responsible for non-alcohol beverages, napkins, eating utensils and plates. Alcoholic beverages and smoking preferences are at the discretion of the hosting couple(s).

-Notify the Vice Chair couple should they be unable to host the Snak 'n Yak and find a new hosting couple.

The members or guests:

-Shall RSVP to the hosting/co-hosting couple no later than the preceding Wednesday. The host may, because of space requirements, decline RSVP's after Wednesday.

-Are expected to bring Snaks or potluck dish.

OFFICERS AND DUTIES

An elected officer couple may not hold the office for more than two (2) consecutive terms unless there is no other available option. Each office is a one (1) year term. Officers of KCC shall approve all disbursements. The KCC bank account signature card will contain at least two signatures. Checks will require one valid signature. Officers will meet at least semi-annually. All officers shall encourage guests to join KC Couples.

CHAIR COUPLE - The Chair shall preside over all Snak 'n Yaks and receive all matters presented for consideration by members.

VICE CHAIR COUPLE - The Vice Chair shall preside in the absence of the Chair and shall act in the capacity of any other officer who is absent from the meeting. The Vice Chair shall perform all other duties as assigned by the Chair. Additionally, the Vice Chair Couple shall provide and monitor the monthly hosting calendar.

SECRETARIAL COUPLE - The Secretarial Couple shall be responsible for the publication of the newsletter and notice of Snak 'n Yaks. The newsletter shall be mailed no later than the first weekend of the month. The secretary shall take minutes at officers meetings and during Snak 'n Yaks. The Secretarial Couple shall maintain the organization mailing list which is comprised of members and eligible guests. This list will be periodically provided to members.

TREASURER COUPLE - The Treasurer shall receive all moneys and deposit them in an insured financial institution. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the record keeping of the assessment of the dues and will provide members with a copy of the current by-laws when membership dues are paid. The Treasurer shall be held financially accountable for the funds of KCC and shall provide financial statements as needed or requested and allow review of the latest bank statement. The Treasurer records shall be audited at members' request. The Treasurer Couple shall also keep a list of paid members to be supplied to the Secretarial Couple for updating the mailing list.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee shall submit a list of candidates for KCC officers at the October Snak 'n Yak. Nominations from the floor will be accepted and added to the list of candidates. Nominations will be closed before the end of this Snak 'n Yak. The Nominating Committee will be discharged. The list of candidates for office shall be published in the newsletter and sent to each couple not less than ten days prior to the November Snak 'n Yak. The election of officers shall be held at the November Snak 'n Yak. Ballots will be made available at the November Snak 'n Yak if multiple candidates for an office exist. A simple majority will elect. The new officers will take their office in January of the following year.

COMMITTEES

The Chair shall appoint committees as required.

STANDING COMMITTEES -Nominating Committee

The Chair shall chair the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall be appointed from volunteers from the membership, excluding other current officers, before the end of the second quarter. The purpose will be to prepare a list of candidates to be submitted at the October Snak 'n Yak to the membership.

AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

Request for By-law changes shall be sent to a By-law committee for review. Proposed amendments will be presented to members at least ten days before the date of the Snak 'n Yak at which they shall be voted upon. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members present at a Snak 'n Yak is required to amend the By-laws.

RATIFIED BY THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE KANSAS CITY COUPLES - JANUARY 19, 2002