

**HAPPY SAMERS
IDAHO GOOD SAM CHAPTER
STANDING RULES
MARCH 2013**

NAME:

As Chartered by the Good Sam Club, this Chapter shall be known as **HAPPY SAMERS** organized in American Falls, Idaho, on July 20, 1999. The aforementioned shall recognize the Good Sam Club's Constitution and By-Laws as their ultimate body of law.

The **HAPPY SAMERS** will always use the terminology "Chapter" when referring to its Chapter, "Organization" when referring to the State and "Club" when referring to the Good Sam Club.

This Chapter will only use the Good Sam name and logo in good taste and will promote the Good Sam Pledge and Chapter activities in a manner consistent with the Club's Constitution, By-Laws, and general policies of the Club. The Chapter agrees to cease and desist from all use of the Good Sam name and logo upon loss of its charter from the Club for any reason.

PURPOSE:

It is the purpose of this Chapter to operate a social organization to promote the use and enjoyment of recreational vehicles and outdoor fellowship among its members through trips and group activities. This Chapter shall maintain an attitude which is strictly non-sectarian, non-partisan, non-sectional, and non-racial and shall be dedicated to bringing together people interested in the ideals and principles of the Club.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP:

All people who are members in good standing with the Club, and who are interested in the promotion of good recreational vehicle camping and the purpose for which this Chapter was formed, are eligible for membership. Each membership includes one couple or single person and any dependent children.

It is now the role of the Club to track and verify that all members are in good standing. The Chapter Secretary will ask for Club identification when enrolling a new member in the Chapter. New candidates seeking membership to the Chapter will be encouraged to attend a meeting or campout to meet the members prior to submitting an application for membership.

Joining the Chapter does not require ownership of an RV; that is, if a member in good standing (meaning dues are current with the Club) who does not own an RV, can still be a Club and Chapter member with all privileges—voting, attendance, etc.

Annual dues of \$17.00 must be paid to the Chapter Treasurer within 30 days of receipt of acceptance of application for Chapter membership and paid each July thereafter.

The conduct of each Chapter member during Chapter activities shall be at all times a credit to the Chapter and to the Club.

Membership in this Chapter will be forfeited for failure to comply with the above-stated requirements. Members shall be notified in writing, signed by three elected Chapter officers, that their Chapter membership has been terminated, listing the cause for termination.

Membership in this Chapter will be reinstated by unanimous agreement of the elected Chapter Officers.

CHAPTER OFFICERS:

Officers of this Chapter shall include: President, President-Elect, Secretary and Treasurer. Wagon Master, Legislative Representative, and such additional officers as deemed necessary by members of this Chapter are optional.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

At the September Chapter meeting, the Chapter President shall appoint an Election Committee of not more than five (5) but no less than three (3) Chapter members (not currently Chapter officers) for the purpose of preparing ballots and tallying election votes.

Nominations can be made by any Chapter member in good standing, either in person at the designated meeting or in writing to the Chapter President of the designated election meeting.

Election of Chapter officers will take place at the Chapter's October meeting and new officers will take office beginning the following January for a term of two (2) years.

All Chapter members in good standing, as verified by the current Chapter Secretary, are entitled to vote. After nominations have been made, the voting shall take place at the October meeting. The Election Committee shall provide absentee ballots to any absentee members in good standing. All ballots must be returned to the Election Committee by a previously established date in order to be considered valid. The ballots will be tallied and the results reported at the next scheduled Chapter meeting.

No officer may hold the same office for more than two (2) consecutive terms or more than one (1) office concurrently.

Members of the same family (excluding siblings or cousins) may not hold any of the above-elected positions concurrently unless special permission is obtained from the membership.

In the event of the resignation or removal of a Chapter Officer, the President may, at his/her discretion and with the approval of the other members of the Executive Committee, appoint an officer pro tem to fill the vacancy until the next scheduled election or until a special election can be held.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS:

President: Presides at all meetings, appoints all committees, supervises all Chapter activities, and represents the Chapter as a member of the State Committee at State Committee meetings.

President-Elect: Conducts meetings in the absence of the President, coordinates activities of all committees, and is in training to accept the office of President.

Secretary: The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings of the Chapter with the time and place of the meeting, type of meeting, take roll call, and reads and answers all correspondence after action taken by the membership at meetings, or at the direction of the Chapter President.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be elected by the Chapter members and shall have custody of all funds, securities and assets of the Chapter; shall be responsible for keeping full and accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements, and report to Chapter members all such receipts and disbursements made on a monthly basis. The Treasurer shall forward a copy of a quarterly itemized Financial Report to the Executive Committee. A committee will be appointed by the Chapter President to audit the accounts of the Treasurer at least once annually and submit their report of findings to the membership. Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping the Roster updated on the State website and furnish a copy to Chapter officers.

Wagon Master: The Wagon Master is responsible for getting Chapter campouts organized as directed by the Chapter President, including responsibility for managing Chapter members who volunteered to organize a campout and making sure all necessary arrangements for outings have been made. Wagon Master is also responsible for any arranged tours, activities at campouts, and assist with parking, collecting fees, and coordination of activities at campouts.

Executive Committee: The Executive Committee will consist of all elected Chapter officers.

Legislative Representative: The Legislative Representative shall be responsible for keeping track of potential legislation affecting RV owners in Chapter’s geographical area, and notifying Chapter officers and the State Director and State Legislative Representative of such, and other duties as required.

Publicity Chairman: The Publicity Chairman is responsible for submitting news of Chapter activities to the Club for publication, and generating publicity for the Chapter from local media and other duties as required or requested by Chapter officers.

CHAPTER TREASURY:

All money received by the Chapter from dues or any other sources shall go into the Chapter Treasury.

All expenditures of money from the Chapter Treasury shall be ratified by the membership at a regular business meeting. Expenditures requiring immediate action may be authorized by the Chapter President after conference with the Executive Committee and then to be ratified by members at the next meeting.

All disbursements from the Chapter Treasury shall be by check, co-signed by the Treasurer or Chapter President after ratification by the membership. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the Chapter President in cases where the expenditure is less than \$20.00. These disbursements may be made from available cash on hand, but will be duly recorded in the Financial Records of the Chapter.

The Chapter President shall appoint two (2) members of the Chapter (non-officers) to act as an Audit Committee with the Chapter President acting as Chairman. This audit will be conducted annually in conjunction with the relief of outgoing officers and installation of new officers. It will be carried out regardless of whether the Treasurer is re-elected. The outgoing and incoming Treasurer will participate in this annual audit to attest to his/her own satisfaction as to the validity of the audit. Special audits shall be initiated by the Chapter President whenever a change in the Chapter occurs.

COMMITTEES:

The Chapter President shall be empowered to appoint such special committees as he/she deems needful at any time, or on the majority vote of the members at any meeting.

DUES:

Chapter dues shall be established by a simple majority of all Chapter members.

State dues: if the State Committee of which this Chapter is a member has established state dues, said Chapter members will be required to pay such dues no later than October 30th of each year.

VOTING:

Each family member shall be entitled to one (1) vote, except the President, who shall only vote to break a tie.

A simple majority of the Chapter members will constitute a quorum.

MEETINGS:

Chapter meetings shall be held on the third Wednesday of each month, or as voted by a majority of members at monthly meetings.

Special meetings may be called at the discretion of the Chapter President.

All Chapter meetings shall be conducted in the following order:

- Call to order
- Roll call
- Introduction of guests
- Reading of minutes from prior meeting
- Treasurer's report with presentation of any bills
- Reading of any correspondence received

- Reports of committees
- Unfinished business
- New business
- Announcements
- Adjournment

MEMBERSHIP IN THE STATE COMMITTEE:

It is the Chapter’s responsibility to have a delegate present at all scheduled state committee meetings. The Chapter must fully participate in the state committee and meet all requirements thereof.

EMBLEM:

The Chapter emblem must either include the words “Good Sam” or include a reasonable facsimile of the “Good Sam” logo, in order for it to meet the requirements established by the Club. The emblem must be approved by the State Director before it is recognized as official.

AMENDMENTS/CHANGES TO STANDING RULES:

A proposed amendment or change to the Chapter’s Standard Operating Procedures shall be presented to the President, in writing, and shall be read to the membership at the next regular meeting. Written proposed amendments and changes shall then be given to all members at least thirty (30) days prior to voting on said amendment or change, and shall be approved by a three-quarters (3/4) vote of the Chapter membership.

Only members in good standing may address the Chapter on matters of policy.

A copy of any amendments or changes to the Chapter’s Standard Operating Procedures must be submitted to the State Director for approval.

The Good Sam Club’s Constitution and By-Laws supersedes this Chapter’s Standing Rules at all times.

DISBANDMENT:

The Executive Committee must notify the State Director, and all members listed on the current Chapter Roster, of the Chapter’s intention to disband. Objections need to be voiced by Chapter members to both the State Director and the Executive Committee within thirty (30) days of receipt of notice.

Upon official dissolution of Chapter, the Chapter Charter must be forwarded to the State Director.

If this Chapter should decide to disband, all money remaining in the Chapter treasury shall be distributed as follows: contributed to a charitable organization of the Chapter’s choosing.

President

Date: _____

State Director

Date: _____

Regional Director

Date: _____