

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

(FORD) THUNDERBIRD GO-KART CLUB

REVISED 2006

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ARTICLE I

Name and Objectives

SECTION 1

The Organization, governed by this Constitution, is named the “(FORD) THUNDERBIRD KART CLUB” and may be referred to hereinafter and in other proceedings and records of the organization as the “Club” or “(F) TKC”.

SECTION 2 INCORPORATED

The “(FORD) Thunderbird Kart Club” is a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Michigan.

SECTION 3 USE OF INCOME OR ASSETS

Any income or assets of the Club shall not be used, in whole or in part, to the direct or indirect Benefit of any individual and shall be employed only in pursuit of the Club’s objectives as set forth herein.

SECTION 4 OBJECTIVE

The objective of the club is to develop good fellowship and understanding among (employees of the Ford Motor Company) the members of The Club through the promotion of a sound program of meetings, competitions, and displays of go-karts.

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1 MEMBERSHIP SUBJECT TO ASSOCIATION RULES

Acquirement and maintenance of Club membership will be subject to the provisions set forth herein and in the Club by-laws and rules.

SECTION 2 CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Club may be Regular, Invitational, Associate or honorary class.

SECTION 3 (REGULAR) MASTER MEMBERSHIP

(Any employee or retiree of the Ford Motor Company and the members of the immediate families of such employees or retirees are eligible for regular membership.) Master membership is open to any head-of-household.

SECTION 3-(2) 1

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

An associate member shall be a member of the immediate family or a ward of Master member, and if over 18 years of age must reside in same household.

SECTION 3-(1) 2 INVITATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

The Executive Board may confer membership upon a reasonable number of those otherwise ineligible for regular membership.

SECTION 3-3 HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

The Executive Board may, upon its own motion or pursuant to petition by Club member, confer Honorary Membership upon those qualifying through extraordinary contribution to the pursuit of the Club's objectives.

SECTION 3-4 MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING

A member in good standing is one who participates in 75% of club functions which include meetings, races, shows, and other club events. A list identifying Members that are found to be "NOT IN GOOD STANDING" will be read at monthly General Membership Meetings.

SECTION 4 SUSPEND, EXPEL, CAUSE

The membership of the Club or a subdivision of the Club will be limited to those endorsing and fostering the objectives of the Club and any act, whether of commission or omission, tending to obstruct, subvert or be otherwise injurious to the pursuit of the Club's objectives, may be considered reasonable cause for suspension and will, when such act is deemed deliberate or malicious in nature, be considered reasonable cause for expulsion of any member, or members found reasonable for such act.

SECTION 4-1 SUSPENSION OF MEMBER

Any member may, for cause, be suspended or expelled from such membership by action by the Executive Board.

SECTION 4-2

SUSPENSION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

Any member of the Executive Board may, for cause, be suspended or expelled from such membership by a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote of general membership.

SECTION 4-3 RECORD OF ACTION

Written notice of a suspension or expulsion action, including statement of the cause leading to such action will, if taken by a member, be transmitted to the General Membership, and if taken by the General Membership, will be read into the business of the General Membership meeting.

SECTION 4-4 VOTING TO SUSPEND

Any action to suspend or expel taken by the Executive Board will require $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote affirming such action in the presence of a quorum.

SECTION 5 SUSPENSION APPEAL

Any appeal arising out of any action to suspend or expel will be submitted in writing to the Executive Board for consideration. The Executive Board will render a written report of its findings and recommendations to the appropriate body originating the action to suspend or expel, as well as to the appellant, except that, in the event that any such appeal be deemed dilatory, absurd, frivolous, or repetitious, the Executive Board may not be required to render a report.

SECTION 6 PROPERTY RIGHTS UPON RESIGNATION OR EXPULSION

If any member shall resign or be expelled from the Club for any reason whatsoever, all of his/her rights, title and interest in or to the assets or property of the Club shall revert and be forfeited without further action.

SECTION 7 DELINQUENT PAYMENTS (DUES & ASSESSMENTS)

Any member in arrears for dues or assessments after they become due and payable shall be so notified at his/her last given address by the Treasurer and shall be barred from all Club privileges and be regarded as not in "GOOD STANDING" until such dues or Special assessment is paid. If the dues or accounts due the Club remain unpaid for 60 days, the Treasurer shall so announce at the next Executive Board meeting. At the end of 90 days, should the dues, assessments, or accounts remain unpaid, it shall be the duty of the Executive Board to expel such members.

**SECTION 8
PROPERTY DAMAGE**

Member of the Club shall be directly responsible to the Club for all the damage done to the Club by themselves or their guests and for the conduct of their guests, and shall pay such sum as assessed by the Executive Board to compensate the Club, within 30 days of such bill.

**ARTICLE III
OFFICERS**

**SECTION 1
EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

The Executive officers of the Club will include a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

**SECTION 1-1
ELIGIBILITY OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

(The President and Vice-President must be full-time employees of Ford Motor Company or its subsidiaries at the time of election to such office, an employee who retires while holding an executive office may continue in said office until the next regularly scheduled election. If a Ford employee is not available to fill said position at the time of nominations, then a qualified individual through FERA guidelines will be considered.)

The Executive Officers must be or have been board members for one full term and must be a member in good standing.

**SECTION 2
TERM OF OFFICE**

The Executive Officers of the Club are elected for terms of one calendar year, or until their successors are elected.

**SECTION 3
ELECTION AND SUCCESSIVE TERMS**

The President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Board members shall be elected individually by the active membership as provided in article IV. All elected officers shall take office on January 1st of each year.

**SECTION 4
PRECESSION AND RANK**

The order of precession, when applicable, and rank of offices is:

First: President
Second: Vice-President
Third: Secretary
Fourth: Treasurer

Fifth: Board members with less than one year to serve.
Sixth: Board members with one year or more to serve.

SECTION 5 PRESIDENT'S ABSENCE

If the President is absent and thereby unable to fulfill the duties of his/her office, the Vice-President will assume the duties of the Presidency until such absence is terminated, or will succeed to the Presidency if such absence is determined to be of a permanent nature, as determine by the Executive Board.

SECTION 6 ABSENCE OF PRESIDENT, AND VICE-PRESIDENT

In the absence of both President and Vice-President, Chairmanship of any General meeting or Board meeting of directors will be assumed by that officer or those officers present, ranking in highest order of precession, and the executive and administrative functions of the Presidency will devolve upon the Board of directors which will act formally as an executive committee, until either of such absence is terminated.

SECTION 7 ABSENCE OF SECRETARY

In the absence of the Secretary, the President may assign any necessary function of the office to others, until such absence is terminated.

SECTION 8 ABSENCE OF TREASURER

The President and Secretary will assume any necessary function of the Treasurer, in his/her absence, until such absence is terminated.

SECTION 9 PERMANENT ABSENCE

If the absence of any officer is determined by the Executive Board to be of a permanent nature, any vacancy thereby created will be filled by the presidential appointment with approval by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 10 DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT

The President is the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Administrative Officer of the Club, and the duties of this office will include;

Presiding Officer – To preside as chairman over all meetings of the General Membership and Board of Directors.

Call meetings – to affect the call for all meetings of the General Membership and Board of Directors except as otherwise provided here in or in the Clubs by-laws.

Execute contracts – Authority to execute contracts or other instruments in the name of the Club upon approval and direction of the Executive Board.

Sign drafts – Authority to co-sign drafts on the Club funds as endorsed by the Treasurer or Vice President.

The President votes on the Executive Board only in cases where there is a tie breaking vote required.

- Emergency – Authority in emergency and in the absence of the Executive Board, to carry on the affairs and business of the Club.
- Appoint Committees – The appointment of committees except as otherwise provided herein, in the Club’s by-laws, or the resolution creating a committee.
- Audit Committees – The appointment of an auditing committee for the purpose of auditing the Club’s accounts and assets at the end of the fiscal year.
- Presidential Appointees – Authority to appoint, subject to the provisions of the Club’s by-laws, personal representatives whose duties, assigned by the President, will not conflict with the duties or privileges of any other officer or member.
- Other Duties – The Performance of such other duties as may be provided for herein, or in the Club’s by-laws.

SECTION 11 DUTIES OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT

The Vice-President is the second executive and administrative officer of the Club, and the duties of office will include;

- Assumption of Presidential duties – The assumption of, or succession to, the duties of the President, as provided by the rules of precession.
- Co-sign drafts – Authority to co-sign drafts on the Club’s funds as endorsed by either the Treasurer or the President.
- Rules Committee-Chairmanship of the “Rules Committee” with responsibility for preparing and presenting, for the General Membership consideration, any reports or drafts pursuant to such proposals as involve any alteration of the Club’s Constitution, By-laws, or Rules.
- Other Duties – The performance of such duties, as may be provided for herein, or in the Club’s by-laws.

- Maintain attendance of members at Club meetings, races, shows, and other club events and report at Board meetings any members that are no longer in good standing.

SECTION 12 DUTIES OF HISTORIAN

The Historian shall be responsible for accountability of and transfer to his/her successor all documents relating to the history and progress of the Club. The President shall appoint the Historian.

SECTION 13 DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY

The Secretary is the chief corresponding officer of the Club and the duties of this officer will include;

- Council proceedings record – Responsibility for the preparation of an accurate record of the proceedings of the General Membership and the Executive Board meetings.
- Preservation of records – Responsibility for the preservation and maintenance of all records, reports, and documents of the Club during term of office except as provided otherwise herein or in the Club’s by-laws.
- Correspondence – The preparation, at the direction of the President, of such correspondence, reports, statements, or other matter as may be required in the conduct of the Club’s affairs and business, and the receiving and handling of any correspondence directed to the Club.
- Documents at meetings – The provision, at all General Membership and Executive Board meetings, of accurate copies of the Club’s Constitution, By-laws, Rules and General Membership roll.
- Other duties – The performance of such other duties as may be provided for herein, or in the Club’s By-laws.

SECTION 14 DUTIES OF THE TREASURER

The Treasurer is the financial officer of the Club, and the duties of this office include;

- Records – Responsibility for the preparation of accurate records relative to the acquisition and disposition of the Club’s assets.
- Preservation of records – Responsibility for the preservation and maintenance of all records relative to the Club’s assets.
- Reports – The rendering of any reports, as may reasonably be required by the General Membership or Executive Board, relative to the functions of this office.
- Co-sign drafts – Authority to co-sign drafts on the Club’s funds as endorsed by the President or Vice-President.
- Custodian of assets – Responsibility, as custodian of the Club’s assets and the Club’s funds, for the collection and safekeeping of funds in the name of the Club and for the maintenance, welfare, and disposition of the Club’s assets.

- Disbursements – Responsibility, as disbursing officer, for the verification of all bills, invoices, and vouchers presented for the payment, and for issuing drafts against the Club’s funds to satisfy any such verified bills, invoice, and vouchers.
- Annual statement – To prepare a written year and financial statement for presentation no later than February’s General Membership meeting.
- Other duties – The performance of such other duties as may be provided herein, or in the Club’s By-laws.

**ARTICLE IV
ELECTIONS**

**SECTION 1
REGULAR ELECTIONS**

Any and all nominations shall be accepted in writing by July 31 of calendar year.

**SECTION 1-A
ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS**

The election of officers shall consist of a mail in ballot sent out by the election committee no later than August 31st and returned to the election committee with a post marked no later than October 1st. The ballots shall be compiled **no later than (at)** the November General Membership meeting of that calendar year.

**SECTION 1-1
SPECIAL ELECTIONS**

Special elections of any officers, when required may take place during any club meeting provided that notification of intent to conduct such election has been included in the summons or call for such meeting.

**SECTION 2
CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS**

For the business of electing officers, the President will appoint an Election Chairperson who will be an elector other than the candidate and who will, as Chairperson, and who will be an elector other than the candidate and who will, as Chairperson, preside over the meeting during the conduct of such business and who will, upon becoming a candidate subsequent to such appointment, surrender such chairmanship to a similarly qualified successor as appointed by the President.

**SECTION 3
NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Prior to any election of officers, the President will appoint a nominating committee of at least three members and all members of which will be qualified members.

**SECTION 3-1
COMMITTEE'S NOMINATION**

The nominating committee will present a panel of eligible candidates, including at least one for each vacancy, to the general membership.

**SECTION 3-2
DISSOLUTION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The nominating committee will stand dissolved following notification of all successful candidates of their nomination acceptance and following General Membership acceptance of its final report.

**SECTION 4
ELIGIBILITY-COMMITTEE NOMINATION**

Any candidate to be eligible for nomination by the Nominating Committee shall be presented by a qualified member **in good standing**.

**SECTION 5
VOTING-ELECTORS**

The members qualifying as electors must be in good standing.

**SECTION 5-1
ELECTORS VOTE**

Each elector may cast one vote on each ballot for the election of an officer.

**SECTION 5-2
SEPARATE BALLOTS**

Balloting to elect any officer will be conducted separately from the balloting to elect any other officer.

**SECTION 5-3
PRECESSION**

Balloting to elect more than one officer will be conducted according to the rules of precession with the highest-ranking vacancy being filled first.

**SECTION 5-4
SECRET BALLOT**

If there are two or more candidates for a vacancy, election will be determined by a written ballot **mailed to all members in good standing.**

SECTION 6 ELECTION-MULTIPLE CANDIDATES

When more than one candidate is nominated to fill a vacancy, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes is elected to the vacancy.

SECTION 6-1 SINGLE CANDIDATE

If there is only one candidate for a vacancy, that candidate will be declared elected and no ballots will be distributed or collected.

ARTICLE V THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

SECTION 1 FUNCTION

The Executive Board functions as a committee acting for the General Membership in the interim between General Membership meetings.

SECTION 1-1 INTERIM AUTHORITY

The Executive Board is empowered to act for and in the name of the Club in carrying out the will of the General Membership and for such purpose is vested with the authorities and responsibilities of the General Membership.

SECTION 1-2 EMERGENCY AUTHORITY

The Executive Board, during an emergency or when there is insufficient time in which to convene the General Membership, is empowered to act for the Club and in the name of the Club in promoting the objectives of the Club and for such purpose is vested with the authorities and responsibilities of the General Membership.

SECTION 1-3 REPORTS

The Executive Board will render reports relative to its actions and make recommendations relative to its functions, to the General Membership.

**SECTION 1-4
APPEALS FROM SUSPENSION**

The Executive Board will consider all written petitions involving suspension or reinstatement of a Club member and report its findings to the General Membership.

**SECTION 2
COMPOSITION**

The Executive Board is composed of the Officers of the Club, eight directors, and the Race Director.

**SECTION 2-1
TERM OF OFFICE**

Four Directors shall serve a term of office for two years and be elected on the odd years. The other four Directors shall also serve for two years. And they will be elected on the even years.

**SECTION 2-2
RACE DIRECTOR**

The Race Director shall be a member of the Club in good standing and shall be chosen by a vote of the Executive Board.

**SECTION 2-3
RACE COMMITTEE**

The Race Committee shall be made up of the Race Director and three (3) Board Officers chosen by the Race Director on Race Day.

**SECTION 2-4 (3)
RACE DIRECTOR DUTIES**

The Race Director shall be in charge of racing events and shall have authority to direct the efforts of all on track personnel. The Race Director shall receive written protests with regard to racing disputes. (The Race Director shall have the authority to enforce all rules, regulations and matters for safety, which may arise and eject persons from racing area for infractions.)

**SECTION 2-5
RACE COMMITTEE DUTIES**

The Race Committee shall have the authority to enforce all rules, regulations and matters for safety, which may arise and eject persons from racing area for infractions.

SECTION 3 VOTE

Each Member of the Executive Board may cast one vote on any question before the Executive Board **except for the President who votes only in cases where there is a tie breaking vote required.**

SECTION 3-1 VOTING MAJORITY

At least five affirming votes will be required to authorize any action by the Executive Board.

SECTION 4 QUORUM

A minimum of seven officers shall constitute a quorum of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES

SECTION 1 STANDING COMMITTEES

Standing committees will be created for the functions of a continuing or permanent nature and will serve until the conclusion of the first Annual meeting subsequent to their appointment.

SECTION 2 SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Special committees will be created for particular functions of a short-term nature and any such committee will serve from the time of its appointment until the function for which it was created has been discharged or until the conclusion of the first Annual Meeting subsequent to their appointment.

SECTION 3 APPOINTMENT

The President will appoint committees unless otherwise provided herein, in the Association's by-laws, or by the resolution creating a committee.

SECTION 4 COMMITTEE EXPENSE

Committee may be allowed cash disbursements from the general funds to cover reasonable and actual expenses incurred in discharging their functions. Committee expenses will be regulated by the Club's by-laws or by the resolution of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VII MEETINGS

SECTION 1 ANNUAL MEETING(S)

The annual meeting of the General Membership will convene upon each calendar year at a place, **to be determined by the Executive Board** and on a date in the month of November, to be determined by the Executive Board.

SECTION 2 REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the General Membership will convene upon call of the President and will convene at least once a month during each calendar year. During the months of May through August, the meetings **(are) may be** held at one or more of the scheduled race events. **The specific time and location of all General Membership Meetings will be determined and agreed upon by the Executive Board. If a vote of the General Membership meeting is required only Members in good standing may vote.**

SECTION 3 SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings of the General Membership will convene upon call of the President, either on his/her own motion, or on petition of the Executive Board, the General Membership, or others petitioning with reasonable interest or cause.

SECTION 4 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

Executive Board meetings will convene upon call of the President, either on his/her own motion, or upon petition of the Executive Board, the General Membership, or others petitioning with reasonable interest or cause, as determined by the Executive Board. They shall convene at least once a month.

SECTION 5 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee meetings will convene upon call of the appropriate chairperson.

**SECTION 6
PLACE AND TIME OF MEETINGS**

All meetings will convene in such places and at such times as may be reasonable and adequate for their purpose and will be subject to review for such reasonableness and adequacy by the Executive Board.

**SECTION 7
NATIONAL EMERGENCY**

In the event of National Emergency, or local condition tending to prohibit or otherwise render impractical the convening of any meeting, the President or appropriate chairperson will use the best communications available to effect the provisions of the Constitution and the Clubs by-laws in the pursuit of the Club's objectives.

**ARTICLE VIII
AMENDMENTS**

**SECTION 1
AMENDMENTS**

The provisions of this constitution may be altered, revised, added to, or rescinded only by the process of Amendment, as provided herein.

**SECTION 2
ADOPTION MEETINGS**

Amendments to this constitution may be adopted at any regular or special meeting of the General Membership provided that the summons for such meetings. Wherein the proposed amendments are either read or acted upon, will have notification of such purpose.

**SECTION 3
INTRODUCTION**

Any proposed amendment to this constitution will be introduced into the business of General Membership meeting in writing.

**SECTION 3-1
TWO READINGS REQUIRED**

No proposed amendment to this constitution may be voted upon unless it has been read into the business of the General Membership during any two (2) separate meetings in the presence of a quorum; vote may be taken any time after the second reading.

**SECTION 3-2
ADOPTION VOTE**

Any amendment to this constitution will require two-thirds affirmative majority of the votes cast, in the presence of a quorum, for its adoption. A quorum of General Membership is defined as at least one-half of the average attendance at the previous three meetings.

**ARTICLE IX
PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

**SECTION 1
RULES OF ORDER**

The rules contained in “Roberts Rules of Order” of the edition prescribed by the Associations By-laws will govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution, By-laws and Rules of the Association.

**ARTICLE X
ASSETS**

**SECTION 1
DESCRIPTION**

The assets of the Club consist of all properties, weather real or personal, all equipment, all accounts, funds, or securities held in the name of the (Ford) Thunderbird Kart Club.

**SECTION 2
EMPLOYMENT OF ASSETS**

The Club will employ its assets in the pursuit of its constitutionally stated objectives and will not employ them otherwise, nor will the Club suffer them to be employed otherwise.

**SECTION 3
FINAL DISPOSITION**

Upon dissolution of the Club, no dividend, or other distribution of its assets will be made to any member or officer thereof; but all assets will, in such case, be applied toward accomplishing the Constitutional objectives for which the Club was organized.

**ARTICLE XI
DUES, FEES, AND ASSESSMENTS**

SECTION 1

The Membership fees and dues for the first year are to determine by the Charter Members. The Membership fee and annual dues are to be determined by the Executive Board.

SECTION 2

Annual dues are payable in advance at the beginning of each fiscal year and shall be paid to the Treasurer by Cash, Check or Draft. Issuance of the membership card shall be contingent upon such payment.

SECTION 3

Special assessments may be proposed by any member or by the Executive Board at any General Membership or Board meeting. Thereupon, a notice thereof containing the proposed assessment shall be mailed by the Secretary to each regular or invitational member not less than ten days prior to the next General Membership meeting or special membership meeting called for that purpose. If said proposed assessment is approved by a two-thirds majority of the members present, it shall become effective and payable by each member.

SECTION 4

The Executive Board shall determine entry fees and the like.

ARTICLE XII FISCAL YEAR

SECTION 1

The fiscal year of this organization, except for the year 1959, shall be January 1st to the last day of December of each year.

SECTION 2

Membership cards shall be issued upon payment of fees, dues, or assessments. Unauthorized use or reproduction of a membership card for whatever reason is forbidden.

ARTICLE XIV LIABILITY

SECTION 1

The **(Ford Motor Company and Ford)** Thunderbird Kart Club does not accept responsibility or assume any liability for injuries or loss to any individual participating in the Club sponsored activities.

SECTION 2

All participants will sign appropriate waivers as a condition of entry in any race, time trial, or similar competition sponsored by the Club.

**(FORD) THUNDERBIRD KART CLUB
CONSTITUTION BY-LAWS**

- 1) Invitations of non-members to the annual banquet may be extended at the direction of the President with the concurrence of the Executive Board.
- 2) The President shall present all committee reports to the Executive Board for appropriate recommendations.
- 3) The President shall submit presidential appointments to the Executive Board for ratification.
- 4) Rule changes, which affect the Competition Handbook, may be proposed at the December or January meetings only and be voted on at the February meeting. The proposed changes are to be published in the January and February editions of the Gazette. In the event that compelling circumstances necessitating (a) mid-season rule changes arise, the Executive Board may make such (a) changes with a three-fourths majority vote of the Executive Board after discussing the proposed revision at the monthly General Membership meeting.
- 5) Rules that affect safety and finance shall be the sole responsibility of the Executive Board and may be modified as required at the discretion of the Executive Board.
- 6) The latest edition of "Roberts Rules of Order" is to be used.
- 7) The Executive Board is empowered to authorize expenditures as necessary to maintain operation of the Club and its functions.
- 8) Club dues shall be waived for the President.
- 9) A Competition Handbook shall be published annually prior to the first race of the season.
- 10) Any Executive Board member missing three (3) consecutive meetings of the Board will be subject to expulsion from the Executive Board by a majority vote of the Executive Board.