

**South Carolina Society Order of Confederate Rose, Inc.
By-Laws**

I. NAME:

This organization shall be officially known as South Carolina Society, Order of Confederate Rose, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as the "Society." The society became a Nonprofit incorporation in the state of South Carolina effective August 27, 1999.

II. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this organization shall be to assist the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) in its historical, educational, benevolent, and social functions, and to educate the public and ourselves about Confederate History, and to honor and preserve its symbols.

The Society is organized exclusively for one or more of the purposes as specified in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, including for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

III. STRUCTURE:

- A. The state Societies of OCR have banded together to form a Confederation of States, each society having signed the Articles of Confederation. These articles are part of our bylaws.
- B. The Society will furnish its fair portion of the cost needed to publish a reasonable advertisement in the national SCV magazine, *Confederate Veteran*. This amount will not exceed \$600.00 for the next published ad (after July 2007). The "fair" amount for ads after that will be voted on by the Executive Council and included in the annual budget projections.
- C. The Society will furnish its fair portion of the cost needed to maintain a domain registration for a national website.
- D. The Society will furnish an amount annually to the host Society of the national OCR business meeting, held during the national SCV Reunion week. A vote to change the amount may be held at the national OCR business meeting. Currently it is \$100.00.
- E. The SC Society will host the national OCR Business Meeting when the SC Division SCV or an SC SCV Camp hosts the national SCV Reunion.

IV. MEMBERSHIP:

- A. The members of the Society will be the OCR chapters in SC, the members of those chapters, and independents (members-at-large). Each chapter will set its own membership eligibility rules. Members-at-large must be of the minimum legal age in this state eighteen (18).
- B. Duration of Membership: Membership in the Society may be terminated voluntarily by written withdrawal or by non-payment of annual dues. Local chapters will handle suspension or expulsion.
- C. Member-in-good-standing: A member is in good standing only when all chapter and society financial obligations are paid.
- D. At-large members will belong to Palmetto State Chapter.
- E. At-large Chair will act as Chapter Rep on Council.
- F. Conduct
 1. The members of the SCOCR Society will conduct themselves as ladies or gentlemen when at OCR, SCV, heritage or reenactment events when such behavior would reflect upon the OCR or host group. Language will be fit and becoming of a lady/gentleman.
 2. Conduct during SCOCR Executive Council meetings will be informal unless the president or any member requests that proper parliamentary procedure be followed.
 3. Conduct at the Annual Meeting will use Roberts Rules of Order as a guideline, including the appointment of a Sgt-at-arms.
- G. Attire
 1. Proper and respectable attire suitable to the occasion, either modern or period dress, will be required at all Society attended functions.
 2. When the host of an event requests a certain style of dress or behavior, SCOCR will honor that request (such as not wearing flag tee shirts or carrying flags in the Confederate Memorial Day parade in Columbia).
- H. Discipline
 1. Violations of conduct at the Annual Meeting will be handled by the Sgt-at-arms per RONR.

2. Breaches of conduct will be referred to the executive council. They may choose to have one council member discuss it with the offender to understand all sides of the issue. If further action is deemed necessary, the council may write a letter to the chapter president and suggest that they prefer charges against the chapter member and hold an investigation and trial as outlined in RONR (Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised, most current edition).

V. DUES:

- A. Annual member dues will be billed to the Chapters, and the Chapters are authorized to collect the funds and forward them to the Society. Each member of the chapters will pay \$10.00 when they first join and \$5.00 annually for renewal dues. New members will be given a Society pin and a membership certificate.
- B. There is no Life Membership available at this time.
- C. Each member-at-large will pay \$10.00 annually, and submit it to the Society. At-large will be given a Society pin and a membership certificate when they first join.
- D. Renewal dues are due to the Society by June 1.

VI. FISCAL YEAR:

June 1 to May 31

VII. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:

- A. The Society will be governed by an Executive Council. The Council will consist of one representative from each chartered chapter, and the elected President. If a Council member cannot be present at a meeting, a substitute should be sent and provided with credentials.
- B. Each member of the Council has one vote, with the President only voting as a tiebreaker, or to establish a quorum.
- C. The Chapter Representatives on the Council will elect the President by a mail-in/email ballot with ballots sent out 16 days following the Annual Meeting, with the results due within 30 days following the mailing. A quorum for this ballot will be a majority of Council Reps.
- D. Term of office is for two years, or when a successor has been elected or appointed. Any officer may serve up to three consecutive terms. After a break of one term, that office may be held again.
- E. In the event the office becomes vacant, the Council will choose an individual to assume the duties for the rest of the term, or until a replacement may be elected.
- F. Any elected officer may be removed from office for misconduct or willful dereliction of duty by a two-thirds vote by ballot of the Executive Council. The cause of this disciplinary action will be one or more of the following: disloyalty, neglect of duty, dishonesty, conduct unbecoming to a member of the Order of Confederate Rose, an act repugnant to the Sons of Confederate Veterans or the Order of Confederate Rose or detrimental to the objectives and purposes of these organizations.

VIII. COUNCIL DUTIES:

- A. President shall represent the society, conduct and call meetings as necessary, plan the Annual Meeting, appoint committees and chairs as needed to assist in the operation of the Society, and represent the SC Society OCR in the national Confederation of States activities.
- B. Other Representatives shall act on behalf of the Society and their chapter to further the purpose of the Society.

IX. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Council will meet during the year, as needed to accomplish the following:

(These meetings may be conducted in person or via phone, conference call, email, post or private chat room.)

- A. The first meeting after the Annual Meeting will be to set a budget for the coming year, and to act on resolutions made at the Annual Meeting. The charter, documents, checks and books will be turned over as needed, check writing authority will be established for the new President and Treasurer, and the Council will review the books (or an audit arranged). Projects for the Society may be discussed and planned as needed. Recruiting of chapters will be discussed/ targeted. Brochure reviewed for changes. Contact info for the Confederate Veteran will be reviewed for changes.
- B. The Council will discuss and decide if any issues need to be presented at a national level. Arrangements should be made to send a Society report and/or representative to national for the convention.
- C. Plans will be made to contact the host of the next SC Division SCV Reunion in order to incorporate the OCR Annual Meeting. Plans for the OCR business meeting and any programs or entertainment should be started.

- D. The final meeting should be in the first quarter of the year. The purpose is to finalize plans for the Society Meeting, and suggest nominations for president (as needed).
- X. ANNUAL MEETING:
- A. The Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Division Reunion, and that meeting will be open to all members of the Society.
 - B. Executive Council will bring the necessary business before the membership, and make reports.
 - C. Each chapter should present a brief report about their past and future activities.
 - D. Presentation of new members-at-large certificates may take place during the meeting.
 - E. Investiture of new chapters may take place during the meeting.
 - F. Introduction of new chapter members may take place during the meeting.
 - G. The quorum for business at the Annual Meeting will be the number of members present.
- XI. BY-LAWS:
- A. Proposed changes to these bylaws will be discussed at the Annual Meeting, and a ballot sent (mail/email) to all Chapter Reps in good standing within 16 days of the meeting. Each Chapter is allowed one vote, through the Chapter Rep or alternate. Ballots will be due back within 30 days following the mailing. A quorum for this ballot will be a majority of chapters in good standing.
 - B. Parliamentary reference is Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.
 - C. The Council may vote on Standing Rules as needed.
 - D. Any issues not covered by these bylaws that need immediate action will be addressed by the Executive Council.
 - E. The By-laws and Standing Rules may be re-numbered as necessary following the approval of amendments, provided it does not change the intent or meaning of any of its provisions.
- XII. VOTING:
- A. Every member-in-good-standing who has paid dues for the current year is eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting.
 - B. No proxy votes will be allowed.
 - C. Mail-in (& e-mail) votes will be allowed, provided proper notice can be given to members.
- XIII. COMMITTEES:
- A. The President or the Council may initiate a committee and name the Chair. Committee Chairs do not have to sit on the Council. Chairs may appoint their own committee members. Chairs must give a report to Council when requested. The President is a member ex-officio of all committees. Any appointment made by the President may be removed by the President. Any appointment made by the Executive Council may be removed by 2/3 vote of the Executive Council. Any committee members appointed by a committee chair may be removed by that chair. If further action is required, cause of this disciplinary action will be one or more of the following: disloyalty, neglect of duty, dishonesty, conduct unbecoming to a member of the Order of Confederate Rose, an act repugnant to the Sons of Confederate Veterans or the Order of Confederate Rose or detrimental to the objectives and purposes of these organizations.
 - B. Standing Committees:
 1. Budget and Finance Committee consists of all members of the Council.
 2. Registered Agent will file for a SC tax exemption and maintain these filings. (Any change in Registered Agent must be filed with the Secretary of State.)
 3. Contact Person will be shown in the OCR ad in the *Confederate Veteran* magazine, and on the SC Society's brochure. (The contact person is not necessarily on the Council.)
 4. Treasurer shall maintain a checking account; collect, protect and disburse funds of the society; and make reports to the Council. Treasurer shall also maintain a list of names and addresses of members in the Society.
 5. Webmaster will start and maintain a website for the SC OCR.
 - C. Optional Committees:
 1. Membership Committee shall recruit new chapters in the society; and assist in the chartering process of new chapters.
 2. Secretary shall act as secretary, keeping Minutes, correspondence and records of the Society.
 3. At-Large Committee will maintain a listing of the SCOCR members-at-large, correspond with prospective members, and assure that they receive Society mailings.

4. Society of the Black Rose will have a "Keeper of the Rite" to be the contact point for members and organizations wishing to have the presence of the Black Rose at an event.
5. Legislative/Heritage Committee will gather information about issues and disseminate it to members.
6. Editor will issue a bimonthly newsletter, as funds allow, one copy going to each chapter.
7. A Rose Bud Chairman may be appointed to coordinate Little Rosebud activities.
8. Confederation Representative may be appointed to represent our Society on a National/Confederation level.
9. A chairman may be appointed to make arrangements for the Reading of the SC Roll of the Dead each May.

XIV. WEBSITE:

- A. The Society will register a domain name and start and maintain a website. A Webmaster will be appointed.
- B. The cost of domain name registration will be considered an operating expense as long as there are Society funds to cover it.
- C. The cost of advertisement-free web space will be considered an operating expense as long as there are Society funds to cover it and the annual amount does not exceed \$150.00.

XV. SOCIETY of the BLACK ROSE:

- A. The Society of the Black Rose is formed to organize SCOCR members who have an interest portraying the persona of a widow or mourner. Also, this group provides a contact point for those who wish to have the presence of mourners at dedications and memorial services.
- B. The Society will act under the SCOCR Executive Council with a coordinator, the "Keeper of the Rite," as contact person.
- C. Membership requirements:
 - Be SC OCR chapter member or member-at-large to join.
 - Have a complete period mourning outfit (period appropriate partial mourning is also acceptable).
 - At present there is not a membership fee.
- D. Membership Benefits:
 - Receive a membership certificate to the Society of the Black Rose.
 - Receive or be able to purchase a black ribbon or pin with *Society of the Black Rose* on it to wear at events.
 - Special Ribbons may be given for the attendees for some events (*We will look into the pricing on the two ribbons.*)

XVI. DISSOLUTION:

In the event of dissolution of the Society, all assets are to be donated or sold, and the money received donated to the South Carolina Division SCV, and/or a qualified nonprofit historical cause chosen by a majority vote.

XVII. SOCIETY LOGO:

The Society logo will be the "SC Sovereignty" flag, the words "South Carolina Society", a rose (optional), the letters "OCR," or the name and/or logo of a local chapter in the SC Society in the quadrants.

XVIII. REINSTATEMENT AN INACTIVE CHAPTER

- A. There must be at least 4 paid members in the reinstating chapter. SCOCR must have their applications with the required recommendation and referral signatures.
- B. If a member is transferring from another chapter or at-large, SCOCR should have a letter or email stating the desire to transfer.
- C. SCOCR must have confirmation from the sponsoring SCV Camp that they wish to have a supporting OCR chapter.

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STANDING RULES and other votes that remain in effect:

6/99 (at organizational meeting):

The Registered Agent will be Anne Gelwicks until changed by the Council.

The Society will file and maintain a tax-exempt status with the Secretary of State's office.

The Society will start and maintain a checking account, with at least two Council members allowed to sign checks. One must be the Treasurer; the other may be the President. (This has been done.)

4/20/02 (at Annual Meeting, Aiken):

SCOOCR voted to sponsor the Columbia Confederate Memorial Day "Reading of the SC Roll of the Dead".

04/25/06 (via ballot):

If the SC Society Web Space allows for more than one domain at no extra charge, the Confederate-Rose.org may share the allotted space.

SCOOCR voted to purchase the current paperback edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (RONR). Approximate cost is \$18, not to exceed \$25.00 with S&H and tax.

SCOOCR voted to purchase the current short book that provides a simple introduction to parliamentary procedure, Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised In Brief. Approximate cost is \$7, not to exceed \$12.00 with S&H and tax.

04/25/07 (via ballot):

SCOOCR will make a one time donation \$195 to Palmetto Partisans to add to their \$300 so they can present a full scholarship to the winner of Palmetto Partisans' essay contest.

SCOOCR will purchase a door prize to take or send to the national OCR annual meeting in Alabama in 2007, not to exceed \$100.00.

03/15/08 (at Annual Meeting, Lexington):

SCOOCR will maintain an operating balance of no less than \$2,000. All funds over this amount will be denoted to one or more nonprofit worthwhile projects within South Carolina.

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