

BYLAWS of
THE TRIDENT KNIGHTS, INC.
Amended and Adopted January 2011

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I. NAME & PURPOSE

A. The name of the organization shall be the Trident Knights, Inc., hereafter referred to as the "Club."

B. The purpose of the Club is to provide for the promotion, development and support of the leather/levi community through hospitality, camaraderie and social and educational activities that are beneficial to the community at large.

II. CONTACT DATA

A. Proposed amendments in Section II may be made at any General Business Meeting to change the Club's contact information only and become effective with a majority vote of the members present.

B. The headquarters of the Club shall be within the counties of Charleston, Dorchester or Berkeley within the state of South Carolina, within the United States of America.

The addresses of the Club shall be, as follows:

mailing:	Trident Knights	billing:	Trident Knights
	P. O. Box 30514		78 Sycamore Ave.
	Charleston, SC 29417-0514		Charleston, SC 29407

The e-mail address is: tridentknights@aol.com

The web site address (URL) is: www.tridentknights.com

III. MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS

A. Membership classifications will be Charleston-Area Full, Lifetime Associate, Alumni, Honorary Full, Honorary Lifetime Associate, En Memoriam and Pledge.

B. Membership requirements for each classification will be established in the Club Policies and Procedures of the Trident Knights.

IV. OFFICERS

A. Nominations for electing Club officers shall be made within 90 days prior to the end of the calendar year.

B. The officers shall be elected within 30 days of the end of the calendar year and installed at the meeting in January.

C. At any meeting or function, in the absence of the President, secession of authority shall move downward in the following order: Vice-President, Secretary / Treasurer and Sergeant-at-Arms.

D. All active Charleston-Area Full Members, as of June 30 of the current year, may serve as an officer in the following year.

E. There are no term limits however no officer is required to place his/her name into nomination.

F. Duties of the Officers

1. President

a. The President will preside at all meetings and have general supervision of all work and activities of the Club.

b. The President will appoint Committees and Committee Chairpersons and be a non-voting Member of all committees.

c. The President may vote on all secret-ballot (membership) issues, but may vote in any voice or roll call vote only to break a tie (general votes).

d. The President will be deemed the only official representative of the Club unless another person is designated by the Club.

e. The outgoing President will make a “status of the Club” report at the meeting in January.

2. Vice President

a. The Vice President will assist the President and be the Club’s Run Coordinator.

b. The Vice President will perform the duties of Director of Activities.

c. The outgoing Vice President will present a report of the year’s activities at the meeting in January.

3. Secretary/Treasurer

a. The Secretary/Treasurer will keep minutes of all meetings and provide a written copy of those minutes for approval at the next general business meeting.

b. The Secretary/Treasurer will be the custodian of all minutes and financial records of the Club except for those records that are in the possession of other officers or appointed officials.

c. The Secretary/Treasurer may request a copy of any club records from any club member.

d. The Secretary/Treasurer will provide, to anyone who may request it, a copy of the minutes of any previous General Business Meeting of the Club.

e. The Secretary/Treasurer will collect, hold and disburse all funds of the Club and maintain proper financial records. Other Club Officers may utilize the Club’s debit card with approval of the Secretary/Treasurer.

f. At a minimum, the Secretary/Treasurer will present a verbal financial statement at all general business meetings and a written financial statement at the general business meeting following the end of the quarter.

g. The Secretary/Treasurer will present an annual report at the annual meeting at the meeting in January.

4. Sergeant-at-Arms

a. The Sergeant-at-Arms will be familiar with all Club documents and ensure adherence by all Members.

b. The Sergeant-at-Arms will provide and maintain an attendance roster at each meeting and club event.

c. The Sergeant-at-Arms or their appointed designee at each meeting and function shall administer the attendance roster. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall archive these attendance rosters and compile an annual attendance report 30 days prior to the annual meeting.

d. The Sergeant-at-Arms will be the Chair of the Membership Committee and oversee all induction meetings.

e. The Sergeant-at-Arms will supervise all pledges and coordinate with sponsors once a pledge application is accepted, according to the Pledge Manual of the Trident Knights.

f. The Sergeant-at-Arms will maintain a roster of all Members, their contact information, membership dates and other relevant membership information. The roster of Trident Knights is a confidential document and is not shared with the public

g. The Sergeant-at-Arms will maintain and review the Pledge Manual of the Trident Knights for timely updates.

h. The Sergeant-at-Arms will maintain the property of the Club.

V. MEETINGS

A. General Business Meetings

1. General Business meetings will be held monthly at a time and place designated in the Policies and Procedures of the Trident Knights.

2. Location of the general business meeting will be known to the membership or, if changed, will be announced to the public at least 10 days in advance.

3. The Sgt. at Arms will compile a list of those physically present and those in attendance electronically.

B. Board Meetings

1. Board meetings are not required but may be called by the President with at least 24 hours notice. They are open to all Full members and the General Public. They may also be held electronically.

C. Special Meetings

1. All special meetings must be announced by phone calls and/or e-mail at least 24 hours in advance of holding them. Meetings may also be held electronically.

2. Unannounced votes may be taken if at least 75% of the membership is present in person or electronically.

D. Closed Sessions

1. Closed sessions can be called at any time by a Full Member to discuss items pertinent to the Club.

2. Only Charleston-Area Full, Alumni and Honorary Full Members may attend Closed Sessions. All other persons present will be excused until the session is completed.

E. Annual Meeting

1. The January General Business Meeting is designated as the Annual Meeting.

2. Each outgoing officer will present an annual report.

3. The newly elected officers will be installed at this meeting after the annual reports.

4. The previous officers will pass on their records to the new officers at this meeting or within 60 days or as soon as possible thereafter.

VI. RULES OF ORDER

A. Robert's Rule of Order, latest edition, shall be recognized as a Parliamentary reference document, to which the Club may utilize only in times of conflict or dispute when a procedural solution cannot be found in existing Club documents.

B. Upon resolution of the conflict, amendments will be made to the Club's documents within 90 days to remove the potential of conflict in the future.

VII. VOTES & VOTING

A. All Charleston-Area Full Members "in-good-standing," as defined in the Policies and Procedures of the Trident Knights, may vote on issues before the Club.

B. Proxies, in a confirmable form, may be accepted by members of the Board for absent Full Members.

C. All open votes require a majority vote of Full Members present (or by proxy) to pass. A majority vote will be >50% of the Full Members voting in the affirmative.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

A. The Club will maintain separate administrative/ governmental documents that may be amended at any General Business or Special Meeting. The amendment takes effect immediately after the vote.

B. These administrative documents will include but are not limited to the following titles:

1. Policies and Procedures of the Trident Knights
2. Pledge Manual of the Trident Knights
3. Full Member's Induction Ceremony for the Trident Knights

IX. DISSOLUTION

A. The decision to dissolve the Club should not be made hastily. Therefore, to dissolve the Club requires written notification to all Charleston-Area Full Members that a motion-to-dissolve has been made. The motion-to-dissolve is then tabled 60 days, or until the second General Business Meeting following the proposal. This notice to the Full members about the motion-to-dissolve must be made within 7 days of the motion having been tabled.

B. At the first General Business Meeting following the proposal, the motion is read to the members in attendance and every attempt is made to make verbal contact with the absent members. Members are given notice that the vote will be taken at the next General Business Meeting.

C. At the second General Business Meeting following the proposal, DISSOLUTION FAILS only if (1) 90% of the Full membership is present, and (2) 75%

of those members present vote in support of remaining as a Club. DISSOLUTION CARRIES if 90% of the Full membership is not present. In this case, the motion-to-dissolve is automatically passed.

D. In the event of dissolution of the Club, the residual assets will be turned over to one or more Clubs or Organizations which are exempt from Federal Income Tax. These Clubs or Organizations must have similar interests for promoting the welfare of the leather/levi community. The Secretary/Treasurer will complete this duty.

E. In the event of dissolution, the Registered Agent (as listed on the incorporation papers) will retain/archive all records if said Agent is found and agrees to such; otherwise, a designated Full Member may assume this duty.

F. Club property not necessary for the archived records, not desired by an individual Club member or not passed to another organization will be delivered to the Leather Archives and Museum if desired and financially practical. Residual items may be sold or donated as determined by the Secretary/Treasurer.

X. CHANGING THE BYLAWS

A. Proposed amendments in Section II may be made at any General Business Meeting to change the Club's contact information only and become effective with a majority vote of the members present.

B. All votes on amendments to other sections of this document will be tabled for consideration by the membership for 60 days from the date the motion was made.

C. The vote on a motion to amend will be called at the General Business Meeting 60 days following the meeting at which the motion to change this document was tabled.

D. Amendments will be incorporated with each full revision to the Bylaws, with the date of the change noted in each amendment below until such time.

XI. AMENDMENTS

See attachments.