

**BY-LAWS OF  
BUTLER CREEK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**ARTICLE I**

**Registered Office**

BUTLER CREEK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., a Georgia non-profit corporation (the "Association,") shall have at all times within the State of Georgia a registered office and a registered agent. The Association may have other offices within the State of Georgia as may be determined from time to time by its Board of Directors (the "Board.")

**ARTICLE I (A)**

**Applicability**

These By-Laws provide for the self-government of the Butler Creek Homeowners Association, Inc., in accordance with the Georgia Property Owner's Association Act ("Act") the Articles of Incorporation filed with the Secretary of State and the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions and Easements for Butler Creek, recorded in the Cobb County, Georgia land records ("Declaration.")

**ARTICLE II**

**Membership in Association**

2.1 Eligibility. The Association shall initially have two classes of membership consisting of the owners of the lots located on the property described in, and any property otherwise dedicated to, the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions and Easements for Butler Creek Subdivision, which Declaration is recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Cobb County, Georgia at Deed Book 4616, Page 31. These terms and others are used in these By-Laws as they are defined in the Declaration. Class A members shall be all owners of lots, with the exception of the Developer of Butler Creek Subdivision. The Developer of Butler Creek Subdivision shall be the sole Class B member.

2.2 Succession. The membership of each lot owner shall automatically terminate when he ceases to be a lot owner; and upon the conveyance, transfer or other disposition of a lot, said lot owner's membership in the Association shall automatically be transferred to the new lot owner.

2.3 Regular Meetings. The lot owners shall annually hold a regular meeting, one of the purposes of which shall be to elect Directors. The first regular annual meeting of lot owners may be held, subject to the terms hereof, on any date, at the option of the Board, within one year after the incorporation of the Association. Subsequent to the first meeting, there shall be a regular annual meeting of lot owners held each year within thirty (30) days of the anniversary of the first regular, annual meeting. All such meetings of lot owners shall be held at such place in Cobb County, Georgia, and at such time as is specified in the written notice of such meeting. Subject to the terms of the Declaration, such notice shall be delivered to all lot owners at least ten (10) days and not more than

sixty (60) days prior to the date of such meeting. Such notice shall also state the purpose of the meeting.

2.4 Special Meetings. Special meetings of the lot owners may be called by the President or by a majority of the Directors, or by fifty (50%) percent or more of the lot owners. Subject to the terms of the Declaration, special meetings shall be called by delivering written notice to all lot owners not less than ten (10) days nor more than thirty (30) days prior to the date of said meeting, stating the date, time, place and purpose of the special meeting.

2.5 Delivery of Notice of Meetings. Notices of meetings shall be delivered by or at the direction of the Secretary of the Association and may be delivered either personally or by mail to a lot owner at the address given to the Board by said lot owner for such purpose, or to the lot owner's lot, if no address for such purpose has been given to the Board. Upon request, any holder of a first mortgage shall be entitled to written notice of all meetings and shall be permitted to designate a representative to attend and observe any such meeting.

2.6 Waiver of Notice. Waiver of notice of meeting of the lot owners shall be deemed the equivalent of proper notice. Any lot owner may, in writing, waive notice of any meeting of the lot owners, either before or after such meeting. Attendance at a meeting by a lot owner, whether in person or by proxy, shall be deemed waiver by such lot owner of notice of the time, date and place thereof unless such lot owner specifically objects to lack of proper notice at the time the meeting is called to order. Attendance at a special meeting shall also be deemed waiver of notice of all business transacted thereat unless objection to lack of notice is raised before the business, of which proper notice was not given, is put to a vote.

2.7 Voting. Each lot owner shall be entitled to vote as set forth in the Declaration, which vote may be cast by the lot owner, the lot owner's spouse or by lawful proxy as provided below. When more than one person owns a lot, the vote for such lot shall be exercised as they between or among themselves determine, but in no event shall more than one vote be cast with respect to such lot. In the event of disagreement among such persons and an attempt by two or more of them to cast such vote, such persons shall not be recognized and such vote shall not be counted. No lot owner shall be eligible to vote, either in person or by proxy, or be elected to the Board, if that lot owner is shown on the books or management accounts of the Association to be more than sixty (60) days delinquent in any payment due the Association.

The Developer may exercise the voting rights with respect to lots owned by it. The following matters shall be subject to the affirmative vote of not less than seventy-five (75%) percent of the votes of lot owners at a meeting duly called for that purpose: (a) the merger or consolidation of the Association; (b) the sale, lease, exchange, mortgage, pledge or other disposition of all or substantially all of the property and assets of the Association; and (c) the purchase or sale of land or lots on behalf of all lot owners.

2.8 Voting List. A list of names and addresses of lot owners entitled to vote shall be maintained at the registered office of the Association.

2.9 Quorum. Subject to the terms of the Declaration, a quorum of lot owners for any meeting shall be deemed present throughout such meeting if lot owners represented

in person or by proxy and holding more than one-third (1/3) of the votes entitled to be cast at such meeting are present at the beginning of such meeting.

2.10 Adjournment. Any meeting of the lot owners may be adjourned from time to time for periods not exceeding forty-eight (48) hours by vote of the lot owners holding the majority of the votes represented at such meeting, regardless of whether a quorum is present. Any business which could be transferred properly at the original session of the meeting may be transacted at an adjourned session, and no additional notice of such adjourned session shall be required.

2.11 Proxy. Any lot owner entitled to vote may do so by written proxy duly executed by the lot owner setting forth the meeting at which the proxy is valid. To be valid, a proxy must be dated and may be revoked only by written notice delivered to the Association. Presence in person at the meeting for which a proxy is given shall automatically revoke the proxy.

2.12 Action Without a Meeting. In the Board's discretion, any action that may be taken by the Association members at any annual, regular or special meeting may be taken without a meeting if the Board delivers a written consent form or written ballot to every member entitled to vote on the matter.

(a) Ballot. A written ballot shall set forth each proposed action and provide an opportunity to vote for or against each proposed action. Approval by written ballot shall be valid only when the number of votes cast by ballot equals or exceeds the quorum required to be present at a meeting authorizing the action, and the number of approvals equals or exceeds the number of votes that would be required to approve the matter at a meeting at which the total number of votes cast was the same as the number of votes cast by ballot. All solicitations for votes by written ballot shall: a) indicate the number of responses needed to meet the quorum requirements; b) state the percentage of approvals necessary to approve each matter other than election of directors; and c) specify the time by which a ballot must be received by the corporation in order to be counted. A written ballot may not be revoked. The Association shall maintain such ballots in its file for at least three (3) years.

(b) Written Consent. Approval by written consent shall be valid only when the number of written consents received equals or exceeds the requisite majority of the voting power for such action. Executed written consents shall be included in the minutes or filed with the Association's records. If an action of the numbers is approved by written consent hereunder, the Board shall issue written notice of such approval to all members who did not sign written consents. Membership approval shall be effective ten (10) days after written notice is issued; provided, however, if the consent is to an amendment to the Declaration of Bylaws which must be recorded, the effective date shall be no earlier than the date of recording such amendment.

2.13 Rules of the Meeting. The Board may prescribe reasonable rules for the conduct of all meetings of the Board and lot owners.

## ARTICLE III

### Board of Directors

3.1 Composition. The affairs of the Association shall be governed by the Board. The Board shall be composed of at least three (3) but no more than twelve (12) persons. The Directors shall be owners of lots or spouses of such owners; provided, however, that no owner and his or her spouse may serve on the Board at the same time. Notwithstanding the above, so long as there shall be a Class C member of the Association, the Directors need not be owners of lots. The precise number of Directors shall be fixed from time to time by resolution of the Board.

3.2 Term of Office. The Directors shall be elected as provided in Section 3.7 of this Article, except as designated otherwise herein. Each Director, except in case of death, resignation, retirement, disqualification or removal, shall serve for a period of three (3) years and thereafter until his successor shall have been elected and qualified, except that upon the first election of Directors one-third (1/3) of the Directors shall be elected for a one (1) year term, one third (1/3) of the Directors shall be elected for a two (2) year term and one-third (1/3) of the Directors shall be elected to a three (3) year term. Thereafter, in the event that additional Directors are added to the Board of Directors, any additions to the extent possible shall be done based upon terms so that (wherever possible) no more than one-third (1/3) of the Directors shall conclude their term of service at the end of each election period.

3.3 Removal of Directors. At any regular or special meeting of the Association duly called, any one or more of the Directors may be removed with or without cause by a majority vote of the members of the Association, and a successor may then and there be elected to fill the vacancy thus created. Any Director whose removal has been proposed by the members shall be given at least ten (10) days notice of the calling of the meeting and the purpose thereof and shall be given an opportunity to be heard at the meeting.

3.4 Vacancies. Vacancies in the Board caused by any reason, including the addition of a new Director or Directors, but excluding the removal of a Director by vote of the Association, shall be filled by a vote of the majority of the remaining Directors, even though less than a quorum, at any meeting of the Board for the remainder of the term of the Director being replaced. Said Director shall serve until a successor shall be elected at the next annual meeting of the Association to fill the unexpired portion of the term.

3.5 Compensation. Directors shall not be compensated unless the members of the Association so authorize by an affirmative vote of more than fifty (50%) percent of the votes of lot owners at a meeting duly called for that purpose.

3.6 Nomination. Nomination for election to the Board shall be made by a nominating committee which shall consist of three (3) members appointed by the President to serve from the close of one annual meeting to the close of the succeeding annual meeting. Such appointment shall be announced at the annual meeting. The nominating committee may nominate any number of qualified individuals, but not less than the number of Directors to be elected. The nominations shall be made at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the annual meeting, and a brief statement about the qualifications of each individual so nominated shall be included with the notice of the annual meeting. Nominations shall also be allowed from the floor at the meeting.

Failure to comply with the provisions hereof shall in no way invalidate the election of Directors so nominated.

3.7 Elections. Directors to be elected by the members shall be elected, from among those nominated, by a majority vote at the annual meeting, a quorum being present.

3.8 Regular Meeting. Regular meetings of the Board may be held at such time and place as shall be determined from time to time by the Board, but such meetings shall be held at least once every three (3) months. The Board shall meet within ten (10) days after each annual meeting of members.

3.9 Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President on three (3) days notice to each Director given by mail, in person, or by telephone, which notice shall state the time, place and purpose of the meeting. Special meetings of the Board shall be called by the President, Secretary or Treasurer in like manner and on like notice on the written request of at least two (2) Directors.

3.10 Waiver of Notice. Any Director may, in writing, waive notice of any meeting of the Board, either before or after such meeting, and such waiver shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of such notice. Attendance by a Director at any meeting of the Board shall also constitute a waiver of notice by him or her of the time and place of such meeting. If all Directors are present at any meeting of the Board, no notice shall be required, and any business may be transacted at such meeting.

3.11 Quorum. A quorum of Directors shall be deemed present throughout any Board meeting at which a majority of the Directors are present at the beginning of such meeting.

3.12 Conduct of Meetings. The President shall preside over all meetings of the Board, and the Secretary shall keep a minute book recording therein all resolutions adopted by the board and a record of all transactions and proceedings occurring at such meetings. Robert's Rules of Order (Latest edition) shall govern the conduct at the meetings of the Board when not in conflict with the Declaration or these By-Laws. Attendance at Board meetings can be arranged through the Board at the discretion of the Board.

3.13 Action Without a Meeting. Any action by the Board required or permitted to be taken at any meeting may be taken without a meeting if all the Directors consent in writing to such action. Such written consent or consents shall be filed with the minutes of the Board.

3.14 Powers and Duties. The Board shall exercise for the Association all powers, duties and authority vested therein by the Declaration or these By-Laws, except for such powers, duties and authority reserved thereby to the members of the Association or the Developer. The Board shall have the following powers and duties:

- (a) to elect and remove the officers of the Association as hereinafter provided;
- (b) to administer the affairs of the Association;

- (c) to engage the services of an agent (hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "Managing Agent") to maintain, repair, replace, administer and operate the Common Area or any part thereof for all of the lot owners, upon such terms and for such compensation as the Board may approve, including a Managing Agent which is affiliated with one or more Directors, or the Developer, or both;
- (d) to administer, manage and operate the Common Area, and to formulate policies therefor;
- (e) to adopt rules and regulations, with written notice thereof to all lot owners, governing the details of the administration, management, operation and use of the Common Area, and to amend such rules and regulations from time to time;
- (f) to provide for the operation, care, upkeep, maintenance, repair, replacement and improvement of the Common Area and payments therefor, and to approve payment vouchers or to delegate such approval to the officers of the Association or the Managing Agent;
- (g) to have access to each lot from time to time as may be necessary for the maintenance, repair or replacement of the Common Area therein or accessible therefrom, or for making emergency repairs therein necessary to prevent damage to the Common Area or to one or more other lots;
- (h) to obtain adequate and appropriate kinds of insurance, as provided in Article V of the Declaration, and in furtherance of the duties of the Association under Article VI hereof;
- (i) to engage or contract for the services of others, and to make purchases for the maintenance, repair, replacement, administration, management and operation of the Common Area, and to delegate any such powers to a Managing Agent (and any employees or agents of a Managing Agent);
- (j) to appoint committees and to delegate to such committees the Board's authority to carry out certain duties of the Board;
- (k) to determine the fiscal year of the Association and to change said fiscal year from time to time as the Board deems advisable;
- (l) to estimate the amount of, prepare, adopt and distribute the budget for the Association not less frequently than annually, to provide the manner of assessing, levying on and collecting from the lot owners the general and special assessments, and to levy fines against one or more occupants in accordance with the Declaration;
- (m) to keep detailed, accurate records of receipts and expenditures affecting the use and operation of the Common Area;
- (n) to enter into agreements or arrangements for premises suitable for use as apartments for maintenance or management personnel, upon such terms as the Board may approve;

- (o) to bid and purchase, for and on behalf of the Association, any lot, or interest therein, at a sale pursuant to a mortgage foreclosure, a foreclosure of the lien for assessments, special assessments or both, or an order of direction of a court, or at any other involuntary sale, upon the affirmative vote of not less than seventy-five (75%) percent of the votes of lot owners at a meeting duly called for that purpose, provided that the lot owners shall set forth a maximum price that the Board or its duly authorized agent may bid and pay for such lot or interest therein;
- (p) to make such mortgage arrangements and special assessments proportionately among the respective lot owners, and other such financing arrangements as the Board may deem desirable, in order to close and consummate the purchase or lease of a lot, or interest therein, by the Association; provided, however, that no such financing arrangements shall be secured by an encumbrance on any interest in the Property other than the lot, or interest therein, to be purchased or leased;
- (q) to act in a representative capacity in relation to matters involving the Common Area or more than one lot, on behalf of the lot owners, as their interests may appear;
- (r) to enforce by legal means the provisions of the Declaration and these By-Laws with respect to the Property;
- (s) to renew, extend or compromise indebtedness owed to or by the Association;
- (t) at its discretion, to authorize occupants to use the Common Area for private parties and gatherings; and, at its discretion, to impose reasonable charges for such private use;
- (u) unless otherwise provided herein or in the Declaration, to comply with the instructions of the lot owners as expressed in a resolution duly adopted at any annual or special meeting of the Association; and
- (v) in addition to, and in furtherance of, the powers referred to in these By-Laws, the Association shall (i) have all the powers permitted to be exercised by a non-profit corporation under the Georgia Non-Profit Corporation Code, as now in force or hereafter amended, and (ii) have and exercise all powers necessary or convenient to effect any or all of the purposes for which the Association is organized, and to do every other act not inconsistent with the law which may be appropriate to promote and attain the purposes set forth in the Declaration and these By-Laws.

3.15 Non-delegation. Nothing in this Article or elsewhere in these By-Laws shall be considered to grant the Board, the Association or to the officers of the Association any powers or duties which, by law, have been delegated to the lot owners.

3.16 Committees.

- (a) Architectural Control Committee. The Board shall establish an Architectural Control Committee for the purpose of establishing and maintaining

architectural standards in Butler Creek as provided in the Declaration. The Architectural Control Committee shall have a minimum of three (3) members. A member must be an owner of a lot or a spouse of an owner; provided, however, that no owner and his or her spouse may serve on the Architectural Control Committee at the same time. A member may also be a Board member or other committee member.

- (b) Other Committees. There shall be such other committees as the Board shall determine with the powers and duties that the Board shall authorize.
- (c) Service on Committees. Unless otherwise provided in these By-Laws or in the resolution authorizing a particular committee, the members of any committee shall be appointed annually by the Board and shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. Any committee member may be removed with or without cause at any time and with or without a successor being named.
- (d) Conduct of Committee Meetings. The Chairperson shall preside at their Committee Meetings and minutes of the meeting shall be kept. Attendance by owners who are not members of the committee can be arranged through the chairperson of the committee at their discretion.



## ARTICLE IV

### Officers

4.1 Designation. At each regular annual meeting of the Board after the lot owners elect the Board, the Directors present at said meeting shall elect the following officers of the Association by a majority vote:

- (a) a President, who shall be a Director and who shall preside over the meetings of the Board and of the lot owners, and who shall be the chief executive officer of the Association;
- (b) a Secretary, who shall keep the minutes of the Board and of the lot owners, and shall be designated as the officer to mail and receive all notices served by or upon the Board or the Association and execute amendments to the Declaration (including the Plat) and these By-Laws, and shall in general perform all the duties incident to the office of Secretary, and may be a representative of the Managing Agent;
- (c) a Treasurer, who shall be responsible for financial records and books of account and the manner in which such records and books are kept and reported; provided, however, that the duties of the Treasurer may be performed by an employee or independent contractor retained by the Board; and
- (d) such additional officers as the Board may see fit to elect.

Any two (2) or more offices may be held by the same person, except the offices of President and Secretary.

4.2 Powers. The respective officers shall have the general powers usually vested in such officers; provided that the Board may delegate any specific powers to any other officer or impose such limitations or restrictions upon the powers of any officer as the Board may see fit.

4.3 Term of Office. Each officer shall hold office for the term of one year and until his successor shall have been appointed or elected and qualified.

4.4 Vacancies. Vacancies in any office shall be filled by the Board by a majority vote at a special meeting of said Board. Any officer so elected by the Board to fill a vacancy shall hold office for a term equal to the unexpired term of the officer he succeeds.

4.5 Compensation. The officers shall receive no compensation for their services as officers unless the members of the Association so authorize by an affirmative vote of more than fifty (50%) percent of the votes of lot owners at a meeting duly called for that purpose.

4.6 Removal. Any officer elected by the Board may be removed from office, either with or without cause, by a majority vote of the Board.

## ARTICLE V

### Contractual Powers

No contract or other transaction between the Association and one or more of its Directors or between the Association and any corporation, firm or association in which one or more of the Directors are also directors, or are financially interested, is void or voidable because such Director or Directors are present at the meeting of the Board or a committee thereof which authorizes or approves the contract or transaction or because the vote or votes of such Director or Directors are counted toward such authorization or approval, if the circumstances specified in either of the following subparagraphs exists;

- (a) the fact of the common directorship or financial interest is disclosed or known to the Board, or committee and noted in the minutes thereof, and the Board or committee authorizes, approves or ratifies the contract or transaction in good faith by a vote sufficient for the purpose, without counting the vote or votes of such director or directors; or
- (b) the contract or transaction is just and reasonable as to the Association at the time it is authorized or approved.

Such common or interested Directors may be counted in determining the presence of a quorum at a meeting of the Board or a committee thereof which authorizes, approves or ratifies such a contract or transaction.

## ARTICLE VI

### Indemnification

6.1 General. The Association shall indemnify and hold harmless each of its Directors and officers, each member of any committee appointed pursuant to the By-Laws of the Association, the Board and the Developer against all contractual and other liabilities to others arising out of contracts made by, or other acts of, such Directors, Board, officers, committee members or Developer, on behalf of the lot owners, or arising out of their status as Directors, Board, officers, committee members or Developer, unless any such contract or act shall have been made fraudulently or with gross negligence or criminal intent. It is intended that the foregoing indemnification shall include indemnification against all costs and expenses (including but not limited to counsel fees, amounts of judgments paid and amounts paid in settlement) reasonably incurred in connection with defense of any claim, action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or other, in which any Director, officer, Board, committee member of Developer may be involved by virtue of such persons being or having been such Director, officer, Board, committee member of Developer; provided, however, that such indemnity shall not be operative with respect to (a) any matter as to which such person shall have been finally adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding to be liable or guilty of gross negligence or fraud in the performance of his duties as such Director, officers, Board, committee member or Developer, or (b) any matter settled or compromised, unless in the opinion of independent counsel selected by or in a manner determined by the Board, there is not a reasonable ground for such persons being adjudged liable for gross negligence or fraud in the performance of his duties as such Director, officer, Board, committee member or Developer.

6.2 Success on Merits. To the extent that the Board, Developer a Director, officer of the Association, or member of any committee appointed pursuant to these By-Laws has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in Paragraph 6.1 above, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, he shall be indemnified against expense (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonable incurred by him in connection therewith.

6.3 Expenses in Advance of Disposition. Expenses incurred in defending a civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding may be paid by the Association in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding, as authorized in the specific case, upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the Director, officer, Board, committee member or Developer to repay such amount, unless it shall ultimately be determined that he is entitled to be indemnified by the Association as authorized in the article.

6.4 Non-Exclusive Remedy. The indemnification provided by this Article VI shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification may be entitled under any statute, agreement, vote of members of the Association or disinterested Directors or otherwise, both as to action in his official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such office. Such right to indemnification shall continue as to a person or entity who has ceased to be Developer, a Director, an officer of the Association, or a member of such committee, and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors, administrators, personal representatives, successors and assigns of such person or entity.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Use Restriction and Rule Making**

7.1 Authority and Enforcement. The Property shall be used only for those uses and purposes set out in the Declaration. The Board shall have the authority to make and to enforce reasonable rules and regulations governing the conduct, use and enjoyment of Lots and the Common Area, provided that copies of all such rules and regulations be furnished to all Lot owners. The Board shall have the power to impose reasonable fines which shall constitute a lien upon the lot and to suspend an owner's right to vote or to use the Common Area for violation of any duty imposed under the Declaration, these By-Laws or any rules and regulations duly adopted hereunder.

7.2 Fining and Suspension Procedures. The Board shall not impose a fine or suspend the right to vote or to use the Common Areas (unless an Owner is shown on the books or management accounts of the Association to be more than sixty (60) days delinquent in any payment due the Association, in which case such suspensions shall be automatic) unless and until notice of the violation is given as provided in subsection 7.2(a) below. Any such fines may be effective or commence upon the sending of such notice as such later date as may be set forth in such notice, notwithstanding the violator's right to request a hearing before the Board to challenge such fine under subsection 7.2(b) below.

- a) Notice. If any provision of the Declaration or By-Laws or any rule or regulation of the Association is violated, the Board shall serve the violator with written notice sent certified mail, return receipt requested, which shall state: i) the nature of the alleged violation; ii) the proposed sanction to be

imposed; iii) a statement that the violator may challenge the fact of the occurrence of a violation, the proposed sanction, or both, by written challenge and written request for a hearing before the Board, which request must be received by the Board within ten (10) days of the date of the notice; iv) the name, address, and telephone number of a person to contact to challenge the proposed action. If a timely challenge is made and the violation is cured within ten (10) days of the date of the notice, the Board, in its discretion, may, but is not obligated to, waive any sanction or portion thereof. In the event of a continuing violation, each day the violation continues or occurs again constitutes a separate offense, and fines may be imposed on a per diem basis without further notice to the violator.

- b) Hearing. If the alleged violator timely challenges the proposed action, a hearing before the Board shall be held in executive session affording the violator a reasonable opportunity to be heard. The hearing shall be set at a reasonable time and date by the Board, and notice of the time, date (which shall not be less than ten (10) days from the giving of notice without consent of the violator) and place of the hearing and an invitation to attend the hearing and produce any statements, evidence, and witnesses shall be sent to the alleged violator. Proof of such notice shall be placed in the minutes of the meeting. Such proof shall be deemed adequate if a copy of the notice, together with a statement of the date and manner of delivery, is entered by the officer or director who delivered such notice. The notice requirement shall be deemed satisfied if the violator appears at the meeting. The minutes of the meeting shall contain a written statement of the results of the hearing and the sanction, if any, imposed. The Section shall be deemed complied with if a hearing is held and the violator attends and is provided an opportunity to be heard, notwithstanding the fact that the notice requirements contained herein are not technically followed.

7.3 Additional Enforcement Rights. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein contained, the Association, acting through its Board of Directors, may elect to enforce any provisions of the Declaration, the By-Laws, or the rules and regulations by self-help (specifically including, but not limited to, the towing of vehicles that are in violation of parking rules and regulations) or by suit at law or in equity to enjoin any violation or to recover monetary damages or both without the necessity for compliance with the procedure set forth in Section 7.2 of this Article. In any such action, to the maximum extent permissible, the Owner or Occupant responsible for the violation for which abatement is sought shall pay all costs, including reasonable attorney's fees actually incurred.

The Association or its duly authorized agent shall have the power to enter a Lot or upon any portion of the Common Area to abate or remove, using such force as may be reasonably necessary, any structure, thing or condition which violates the Declaration, the By-Laws, or the rules and regulations. All costs of self-help, including reasonable attorney's fees, shall be assessed against the violating Lot Owner and shall be collected as provided herein for the collection of assessments.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **Amendments**

These By-Laws may be amended, modified or rescinded, from time to time, in the following manner:

8.1 Notice. Notice of the subject matter of a proposed amendment shall be included in the notice of any meeting at which a proposed amendment is to be considered.

8.2 Adoption. These By-Laws shall not be amended unless the amendment is approved by a majority vote of those members of each class of membership of the Association who are present in person or by proxy and voting at a meeting of members duly held in accordance with the provision of these By-Laws.

8.3 Provisio. No amendment may be adopted which would eliminate, modify, prejudice, abridge or otherwise adversely affect any rights, benefits, privileges or priorities granted or reserved to the Developer or any mortgagee without the prior written consent of the Developer and/or said mortgagee(s), as the case may be. No amendment that is in conflict with the Articles of the Association or the Declaration shall be adopted.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **Miscellaneous**

9.1 Notices. Unless otherwise provided in these By-Laws, all notices, demands, bills, statements or other communications under these By-Laws shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given if delivered personally or if sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, first class postage prepaid:

- a) If to a lot owner, at the address which the lot owner has designated in writing and filed with the Secretary, or if no such address has been designated, at the address of the lot of such owner; or
- b) If to the Association, the Board or Managing Agent, at the principal office of the Association or Managing Agent, if any, or at such other address as shall be designated by the notice in writing to the lot owners pursuant to this Paragraph.

9.2 Severability. The invalidity of any part of these By-Laws shall not impair or affect in any manner the validity, enforceability or effect of the balance of these By-Laws.

9.3 Captions. The captions herein are inserted only as a matter of convenience and for reference and in no way define, limit or describe the scope of these By-Laws or the intent of any provision thereof.

9.4 Gender and Grammar. The use of the masculine gender in these By-Laws shall be deemed to include the feminine gender, and the use of the singular shall be deemed to include the plural, whenever the context so requires.

9.5 Fiscal Year. The fiscal year shall be set by resolution of the Board.

9.6 Audit. An Audit of the accounts of the Association shall be made annually as a common expense by a public accountant, and a copy of the report shall be furnished to each member who requests a copy in writing. Upon written request of any holder of a first mortgage, such holder shall be entitled to receive a copy of the annual audited financial statement within ninety (90) days after the end of each fiscal year.

9.7 Mortgagees' Notice. A first mortgagee, upon written request, will be entitled to written notification from the Association of any default by an individual lot owner, who is the mortgagee's mortgagor, or any obligation arising from the Declaration not cured within thirty (30) days.

9.8 Conflicts. In the event of conflicts between the Declaration and these By-Laws, the Declaration shall control.