

Georgia By-Laws

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of this organization shall be: Georgia Society Order of Confederate Rose.

ARTICLE II

OBJECT

Section 1

The Purpose of this organization shall be to assist the Sons of Confederate Veterans organization in its historical, educational, benevolent, and social functions, especially the preservation of Confederate symbols. This organization shall be a support group to the Georgia Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and to the local camps thereof.

Section 2

The Georgia Society Order of Confederate Rose functions as an organization thru the sponsorship of Georgia Division Sons of Confederate Veterans as a support group. Georgia Society Order of Confederate Rose chapters must be sponsored by a SCV Camp and cannot be formed without a signature of a current member of the Georgia Division Sons of Confederate Veterans and a current member of the Georgia Society Order of Confederate Rose.

Section 3

In respect for the Georgia Division Sons of Confederate Veterans ***under no circumstances*** does a member of the Georgia Society Order of Confederate Rose interfere with SCV business or express an opinion at a SCV meeting. We never ask what the SCV discusses in their meetings, how much money they have in their treasury, we never co-mingle our monies, or ask for a copy of the minutes to any of their meetings, and above all again we never interfere with SCV business.

Section 4

If any member of the Georgia Society of Order of Rose has a proposal / violation they believe needs to be brought to the attention of the SCV, the member will contact their state president or state vice-president with the proposal / violation in question. In turn the officers will insure it is presented to the proper officer or staff member in the Georgia Division Sons of Confederate Veterans organization.

Under no circumstances does a member of the Georgia Society Order of Confederate Rose present a proposal / violation to an individual SCV Camp

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

Any woman, man, or child of the age of twelve who is recommended by a current member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and referred by a current member of this organization is eligible to become an active member. Any active Rose member shall have voting and other privileges with the following exceptions:

Age of child amended to "12" 6/5/2021

- a. As we are not a motorcycle club nor 1% club, we are by no means allowed to be affiliated with such groups.
- b. If you are affiliated with a 1% group or become affiliated with said group, you will no longer be allowed to be a member of the Georgia Society Order of Confederate Rose.
- c. At NO TIME shall any member of Georgia Society Order of Confederate Rose, wear any "rockers" with any OCR "Stainless Banner", emblem, logo, or other item that represents the Order of Confederate Rose in part or whole.

CLAUSE "C" ADDED 06/20/2020

DUES

C. Regular Dues

1. Annual dues in the amount of \$20 per Regular Member are due and payable as of August 1 of each year, with ½ of that amount to be forwarded to the Society by the Chapter by September 1. Dues received after that date must include a \$5.00 late fee per member. Payment to the Society must include a full roster of members, including Life Members. Rose buds and petals pay a onetime \$5 application fee upon joining the Society. Each Chapter agrees to pay \$10 per year to help with the cost of the Rose bud program.

[5/3/08]

D. Life Member Dues

1. Dues of \$150 for Life Membership may be paid, with ½ of that amount forwarded to the Society.

[5/3/08]

2. Members-at-large will pay dues of either \$20 annually or \$150 for Life Membership directly to the Society. If a member-at-large transfers to a chapter, no monies will be transferred to the chapter.

[5/3/08]

3. The amount of dues may be changed through amendment to the bylaws. (See Section IX)

[5/3/08]

Amendments to Article X Dues with unknown reference are as follows:

Section 1 "Regular dues" 05/03/08; **Section 1 "Life Member dues"** 05/03/08; **Section 2** 5/03/08
Amendment to Section 1 "Life member dues" amount changed from \$100.00 to \$150.00 on
06/08/2019, 06/04/22 Amended in reference to Rose buds/petals

Section 2

Five members are required to start a chapter. All chapter membership certificates, and chapter charters are issued and signed by the State President and or the Vice President to be valid. An individual chapter or member may not issue certificates or charters in the name of the Georgia Society Order of Confederate Rose. It is the responsibility of the members of the GA OCR to know the content (rules and regulations) contained in the Bylaws of the GA OCR.

1. **Regular** - Member of an established chapter who pays dues annually.
2. **Life** – member of an established chapter, or member-at-large, who pays one-time dues of \$150. Should the chapter dissolve, membership is moved to the Rambling Rose (member-at-large) Chapter.
3. **Member-at-Large** - Regular or life member who is not located near an existing chapter or is a former member of a chapter that has dissolved. If you transfer your membership from an existing chapter to the Rambling Rose Chapter Members-at-large you are still bound to the by-laws of the GA OCR. Instead of answering to a chapter president you are now under the State President and/or Vice President. Regular members pay annual dues. Membership is placed with the Rambling Rose (member-at-large) Chapter.
4. **Associate** – A regular or life member of one chapter (other than Rambling Rose) may also become an associate member of a second chapter. An associate member must pay one-half of the total GAOOCR annual membership dues, which remains with the associate chapter (this also applies to life members who wish to be an associate member of another chapter). The associate member has no voting rights in the associate chapter and does not receive any additional certificate of membership from the GAOOCR.
5. **Honorary** – Honorary membership is awarded by the GA OCR Executive Committee to a non-OCR member in recognition of outstanding national or statewide support of the Southern Cause. Nomination for honorary membership must be submitted in person by a chapter president at a quarterly GA OCR Executive Committee meeting. An honorary member shall receive a special certificate from the GAOOCR and the state newsletter. An honorary member cannot participate in any official GA OCR capacity or vote with any local chapter and is excluded from joining the Society of the Black Rose.
6. **Society of the Black Rose**– A special, volunteer order within the GA OCR to perpetuate the persona of a War Between the States widow at SCV functions, memorial services, grave dedications, interments and re-enactments. Must be a regular, life, or at-large member of the GA OCR to participate. No additional dues are required for membership in this order.
7. **Rose Bud** -any child of 12 years of age or younger. Girls shall be referred to as "**Petals.**" Boys will be

referred to as “Buds.”

8. **Thorns** – a Thorn is a male member of the Order of Confederate Rose. Usually the spouse of a Rose but may also be any male who is interested in supporting the OCR. SCV members in good standing pay no additional dues. Thorn is not meant to be interrupted in a derogatory manor, on the contrary, the thorns of a rose bush protect the roses as we trust our Thorns protect and assist us.
9. **Golden Rose** – a Golden Rose is a lady who has reached the age of 75. She is then eligible to be a Golden member of the OCR. She will pay no more dues and be issued a special membership certificate. She will retain full voting and office holding privileges.
Amendment to Article III Section 2 to include clause “a” and subsections 1 thru 6 on 06/09/2007
Amendment to Article III Section 2, subsection 1 to change amount from “\$100.” To “\$150.” In subsection 2 on 06/08/2019
Amendment to Article III, Membership, Section 1, to include clauses “a” and “b” 12/12/2020
Amendment to Article III, Membership, Section 2, subsection 7. 12/12/2020, Amended age to 12 6/5/2021
Amendment to Article III, Membership, Section 2, subsection 8 & 9. 12/12/2020, Added descriptions of a Thorn and a Golden Rose 6/5/2021

Section 3

Membership in this organization may terminate by voluntary written withdrawal or by non-payment of annual dues.

Section 4

- a. Local chapter and/or executive committee should handle suspensions and expulsions. Any member or chapter can send a written grievance to the Executive Committee, which will consider the matter after giving the accused party fifteen days to reply to the charges. The Executive committee will then decide the matter, and a two-thirds majority of the executive committee is required for either suspension or expulsion.
- b. If expelled from the GA OCR after you may never be granted membership in this organization again. You may never join another chapter or charter a new chapter. You may never file charges, either personal or monetary against the organization, individual member(s) or individual chapter(s).
- c. Conduct unbecoming a southern lady or gentleman, shall include but not be limited to malicious gossip / slander, bullying, harassment, intimidation of any kind, disrespecting of her chapter’s boundaries, as well as fraud. Whether you are an annual or lifetime member you can be expelled without reimbursement of dues paid.
- d. Social media, Facebook, Twitter, web pages, iPads, cell phones, etc. by written or verbal communications in an offensive manner.
- e. Communicating offensive statements about the Order of Confederate Rose.
- f. Wearing GAOOCR logo merchandise in an offensive or embarrassing manner.
- g. You must be a current member of the GAOOCR to wear the 12” round patch. You must sign a

statement to the effect that you will relinquish the 12" patch to whichever chapter/person you purchased it from. If the patch is undamaged you may be eligible to receive ½ of the cost refunded from the chapter/person you bought it from.

Amendments to Article III Section 3 added Clauses a, b, and c. 09/08/2012

Amendments to Article III Section 3 added Clauses d, e, f, and g. 03/08/2014

ARTICLE IV

Voting:

- A. Voting is one member, one vote for the election of President. Not a representation of a members vote cast by the Chapter.
 - 1. Thorn (adult male) members are ineligible to vote on any monetary, electoral, or regulatory business.
- B. ~~Now, how to accomplish this without disclosing who a member is voting for and address write in candidates.~~ The state incurs all cost; an envelope inside an envelope with a voting slip/ballot is mailed to each member. The return envelope can be pre-printed with the return address. If the ballot is printed on "red" paper, it can't be copied. If it is it comes out black. The Vice- President will receive the votes or Chapter Presidents or their designee can bring their Chapter member's ballots to the State Meeting, if they are coming.

In any year where the candidate is running unopposed the State will not be required to mail out ballots. In any year that there is no candidate and the incumbent no longer wishes to serve in her capacity as State President, nominations from the floor will be accepted and a vote taken at the State Annual Meeting.

- C. A member doesn't have to physically be at the State Meeting to cast their vote, that is why you are provided with a return envelope to mail your vote or have a representative bring those votes to the State Meeting for those that cannot attend the State Meeting. The date the ballots are mailed is the date that certified members are eligible to vote. One ballot will be mailed to each certified member. ~~Each ballot will have a unique number assigned to it.~~ The election information and procedure shall be printed on the ballot. The ballots are to be folded and inserted into the enclosed envelope and mailed to the Vice President. ~~Ballots not folded are to be discarded when opened. This ensures privacy, so the selected candidate can't be seen through the envelope.~~
- D. Robert's Rules of Order addresses the procedure to discard votes. The ballots are brought to the State Meeting unopened. Two or three volunteers are needed to count the votes consisting of one State Officer and 2 non officers and discard unfolded ballots or ballots that are not marked clearly. ~~After the pledges,~~ These members remove themselves and open the ballots, throw away the envelope and count the votes. The vote is announced at the State Meeting. The ballot includes anyone that has announced they are running for the office of President. This procedure ensures that each member's votes are represented fairly and privacy is allowed.
(Example) Ballot For President of the Georgia Society 2016 Voting instructions:
Select one candidate of your choice (check one) ABC [] XYZ []
~~Fold the ballot in half, Insert ballot into the enclosed envelope and return Ballots not folded will be~~

Discarded:

E. MAIL VOTE (MOVED AS ART. XI 3/10/2021)

The Executive Committee may submit any matter to the membership in writing by mail for vote and decision, and the question shall be determined by majority of the votes received by mail within four weeks after such submissions.

Amendments to Article IV Section 2 "Voting" have been added on the following dates with unknown references [5/02/98 & 6/27/98 & 5/3/08 & 1/14/12]

Amendment to add subsection "1". To Article IV Section 2, Voting, Paragraph A. 12/12/2020

ARTICLE V

OFFICERS

Section 1

The State President shall be elected by the membership of the Georgia Society of the Order of Confederate Rose at the Annual Meeting held in even numbered years. The elected President, in turn, shall appoint the Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Communications Director, Chaplain, Black Rose Director, Membership Recruiter, and Rosebud Director. To be fair to all members there will be no nominations from the floor. A candidate must declare her intentions by mail or email and must include the following information. Biography of your qualification to be State President. Where you would like to see our state OCR to go in the future.

Amendment Article V, Section 1-combined Secretary/Treasurer, Combined Reporter Virtual Rose Coordinator and Webmaster position to form Communications Director, Deleted Aide de Camp, Combined the Keeper of the Rites & Black Rose Secretary to Black Rose Director 6/5/2021

1. Keep a good working relationship the GA SCV Commander as well as the Commander and Chief-of-staff of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.
2. To attend all "National" Conventions to represent the GA OCR at the Friday Presidents Planning Meeting or your appointed designee (this is done at your personal expense.) Your intentions to run for the GA State President must be mailed or emailed to the current Vice President and received by the deadline of January 10th at 6pm of the election year. All nominations will be published in the February edition of the "Georgia Newsletter" and/or by other Georgia OCR Communications methods.

Section 3

- a. **Local Chapter-** The Chapter President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected by the member of the local Chapter.
5/15/2004
- b. If a Chapter President steps down, her Vice President takes over, the new President appoints a new Vice President for the remaining term.
[5/15/04 & 5/3/08]

Section 4

The officers shall serve two-year terms, which may run concurrently with any other post held. The Executive Committee may fill vacancies for the balance of their term.
[6/27/98]

Section 5

The State President

Shall be the chief officer of this organization and shall conduct the meetings of the organization. The President shall be a member ex-officio of all committees and shall perform such duties as are necessarily incident to the office. She shall issue the proper display of colors at all functions of the organization and will lead members in salutes to the colors. She shall be responsible for the procurement of meeting sites and arrangements incident to preparation for regular, special, or social meetings of the organizations, such sites and arrangements subject to approval of the Executive Committee. She shall account to the Treasurer as to expenditures.

Amended description of duties 6/5/2021

Section 6

The Vice President

Shall perform all the duties of the State President during the absence of the President. She shall serve as program chairman, securing guest speakers and presentations for State functions. She shall be responsible for the enlistment of new members. She shall maintain an adequate supply of OCR brochures and applications to accomplish the recruitment of new members. She shall constantly strive for an active, growing membership. She shall prepare and distribute to the membership in good standing-a roster of members, their addresses and telephone numbers.

[6/27/98]

Amended description of duties 6/5/2021

Section 7

The State Secretary/Treasurer

Shall keep an accurate account of all monies received and expended for the use of the organization, and shall make a report at the Annual Meeting or when called upon by the State President. There will be no co-mingling of monies of state and chapter funds. It will also be addressed as to what is and is not acceptable for a legitimate expense. She shall keep an accurate account of her transactions and render a detailed report to the membership at any meeting when requested. She shall present a detailed report, in writing, of income and expenditures at the Annual meeting. Bills paid by the Treasurer shall have received approval by the Executive Committee. She shall be responsible for collection of dues and fees, taking proper note of the paying member, his/her address and other information necessary in the maintenance of Organization records. She shall handle any insufficient funds received from members and collect the appropriate reimbursement. She shall keep the minutes

of the meetings, handle all correspondence of the Executive Committee, and maintain and update the Bylaws. The Secretary shall conduct all official correspondence pertaining to the proper preparation of Member Certificates and forwarding of all reports required of the State. She shall notify all members of special meetings. She shall keep a true record of all meetings of the Organization and have custody of the books and papers of the Organization. She shall be responsible for the ordering of all items necessary for Operations of the Organization.

[1/14/06]

Amended by combining with duties of Secretary and defined duties 6/5/2021

Section 8

The Secretary

~~Shall keep the minutes of the meetings, handle all correspondence of the Executive Committee, and maintain and update the Bylaws.~~

[6/27/98]

Amended by combining with duties of Treasurer 6/5/2021

Section 9

Communications Director

She shall publish the State Newsletter quarterly (when information is provided by the Chapters when requested). She will keep a current list of email addresses for our members. When requested she will send an email to all members with information of interest to our members. It is the responsibility of our individual members to keep your email addresses current with her. She is responsible for maintaining our website and Social Media Pages (Facebook, Twitter etc). She shall act as historian and shall keep and maintain a written record of the Organization, its officers and members, and its accomplishments during her tenure of office. She shall be responsible for the collection of photographs, newspaper clippings, and sub other items as necessary in the proper recording of State history. All items will be affixed in a bound volume to insure preservation.

[6/27/98]

Amended by combining duties of Reporter, Virtual Rose and Webmaster position 6/5/2021

Section 10

The Aide de Camp

~~Shall send appropriate cards and messages to members and others on behalf of the Society at the request of the President or other members~~

[5/3/08]

Deleted duties being performed by the Secretary/Treasurer 6/5/21

Section 11

Black Rose Director

She shall be familiar with the ceremonies performed by the Black Roses and shall encourage membership in the Society, maintain a list of members, and coordinate participation of members at

suitable events. She will keep a roster of members in Georgia, as well as other states in the Confederation of State Societies. Reporting once per year with updated rosters to the Keeper of the Rites in other states within the Confederation of State Societies. She will also coordinate membership certificates and membership pins.

[5/3/08]

Amended by combining with duties of Keeper of the Rites & Black Rose Secretary 6/5/2021

Section 12

The Membership Recruiter

She shall assist local chapters with recruiting new members, and work to establish new chapters for SCV camps requesting them. She shall be the point of contact for the Rambling Roses of the Order notifying them of all events.

[5/3/08]

Amended 6/5/2021

Section 13

The Chaplain

Attends council meetings and state conventions giving our opening prayer, blessing at lunch, and our closing prayer. She may write her own prayers. If we are participating in memorial services with the SCV they usually have their own Chaplain, but she will offer her services as needed.

[3/8/14]

Deleted pledge duties and pronoun he from description 6/5/2021

Section 14

The Virtual Rose

~~Coordinator will keep a current list of email addresses for our members. When requested she will send an email to all members with information of interest to our members. It is the responsibility of our individual members to keep your email addresses current with the Virtual Rose Coordinator.~~

[3/8/14]

Amended by combining duties of Reporter, Virtual Rose & Webmaster changing title to Communications Director 6/5/2021

Section 15

The Black Rose Secretary

~~will keep a roster of members in Georgia, as well as other states in the Confederation of State Societies. Reporting once per year with updated rosters to the Keeper of the Rite in Georgia as well as states with in the Confederation of State Societies. She will also coordinate membership certificates and membership pins. The Founder of the Black Rose Society shall appoint the Black Rose Secretary.~~

[3/8/14]

Amended by combining with duties of Keeper of the Rites & Black Rose Secretary 6/5/2021

Section 16

The Little Rose Bud Director

She shall keep a current record of our Rose Buds. Reporting activities as reported by their parents, suggest books and providing educational facts and activities.

[3/8/14]

Section 17

The Webmaster

She is responsible for maintaining our web site and Social Media pages. IE Facebook, Twitter

[4/27/14]

Amended by combining duties of Reporter, Virtual Rose & Webmaster changing title to Communications Director 6/5/2021

COMMITTEES

The State President shall appoint such ad hoc committees as are deemed necessary.

Amendments to Article IV Section 3 through 17 without references as follows:

Section 3 clause a. 5/15/2004, **clause b** 5/15/04&5/3/08; **section 4** 6/27/98; **section 6** 6/27/8; **section 7** 01/14/06; **section 8** 06/27/98; **section 9** 06/27/98; **section 10** 05/03/08; **section 11** 05/03/08; **section 12** 05/03/08; **section 13** 03/08/14; **section 14** 03/08/14; **section 15** 03/08/14; **section 16** 03/08/14; **section 17** 04/2714.

ARTICLE VI

MEETINGS

A. All meetings shall be governed by the use of :

PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY (PREVIOUSLY ART VIII)

Parliamentary authority shall be the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 1

There shall be an Annual Meeting of the organization in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Georgia Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. This meeting shall be open to all active members. Each member present shall have one vote, regardless of number of positions held.

[5/3/08]

Section 2

GA State Convention Chapters that are hosting a state convention and the members of that chapter are still required to register and pay the full registration fee to the GA OCR. Whether we eat with the SCV or not we will write one check for our lunch.

1. **Registration Fee:** Pays for our lunch, whether we eat with the GA SCV or provide our own lunch. It helps cover the cost of our award including plaques, paperweights, frames for certificates, envelopes, name badges, paper, ink, etc.
2. **Head Count:** It is important we get an accurate head count for lunch as we write one check our lunch. We still have to pay for the head count we committed to. We understand sometimes emergencies do come up and you have to cancel, however if we commit to 20 lunches and only 15 show up we still have to pay for 20 lunches.
3. **Deadlines:** Time and date restrictions for (1) Printing Material (2) Getting awards engraved will be announced
. [6/14/14]

Section 3

A quorum shall be constituted by those active members present at a duly called meeting.
[6/27/98]

Section 4

The order of business at the annual meeting shall be as follows:

1. Call to order.
2. Opening Prayer/Pledge to Flags
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting
4. Receiving of Communications
5. Reports of Officers
6. Reports of committees.
7. Unfinished business
8. New Business
9. Election of Officers

10. Closing Prayer

11. Adjournment The order of business may be altered or suspended at any meeting by a majority vote of the members present. The usual parliamentary rules as laid down in the current version of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern.

Section 5

There shall be four (4) General Meetings held quarterly each year. These meetings shall be open to all active members. Each member present shall have one vote, regardless of number of positions held.

[5/3/08]

Section 6

Special meetings of the organization may be called at any time by the State President or in the President's absence by the Vice President, or by written request of a majority of the Executive Committee, or by written request of not less than five percent of the active members. Ten days notice of any special meeting must be given to the members.

Amendments to Article V Meetings of unknown reference are as follows:

Section 1 05/03/08; **Section 2, Subsection 3, "deadlines"** 06/14/14; **Section 3** 06/27/98; **Section 5** 5/03/08.

ARTICLE VII

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1

The Executive Committee shall be a standing committee consisting of the State President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Communications Director, Black Rose Director, Membership Recruiter, Chaplain, and Rosebud Director. The State President shall chair these meetings, or in the President's absence, the Vice President. If a person holds more than one office they one get only vote.

[5/3/08] [9/8/12] [6/14/14] [6/5/21]

Section 2

The Executive Committee shall execute policies and decisions of the organization, direct the disbursement of funds, and formulate the goals and objectives of the organization. The Executive Committee shall report to the membership on its activities at the annual meeting.

Section 3

The Executive Committee shall meet on demand of the State President, or in the President's absence, the Vice President, or on demand of a majority of the Committee itself.

[6/27/98] [9/8/12]

Amendments to Article VI Executive Committee of unknown reference are as follows:

Section 1 05/03/08, 08/08/12, 06/14/14; **Section 3** 06/27/98, 09/08/12

ARTICLE VIII

AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

These bylaws may be amended in whole or in part by a majority vote at any duly authorized meeting of the organization.

ARTICLE IX

LIABILITIES

No member, officer, employee, or the Georgia Society OCR, shall be liable for the act of any member, officer, agent, or employee for their acts or failure to act under these bylaws, excepting for only acts of omissions arising out of willful malfeasance. A member may NEVER file charges, either personal or monetary against the organization, individual members, or individual chapters.

[6/14/14]

Amendment to Article XIII of unknown reference are as follows:

***"liabilities"** 06/14/14*

ARTICLE X

INSIGNIA

The Executive Committee may adopt any insignia, etc., colors, badges, and flags for the organization, as it deems desirable.

ARTICLE XI

DISSOLUTION

The State organization may be dissolved by a vote of two-thirds of the active members. In the event of dissolution, the property of the organization shall be distributed to the Georgia Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. A Chapter may be dissolved and its charter permanently revoked by a majority vote of the Executive Committee after a joint discussion ~~with the president's advisory team~~ if said action would serve to protect the integrity and good name of the Order of Confederate Rose. A local Chapter may also be dissolved by a vote of two-thirds of the active members of said Chapter. This decision shall be final with no right of appeal. Minutes of these meetings along with signatures of members present should be turned in to the State President. In the event of a Chapter dissolution, any merchandise of the organization would be distributed to the Georgia State OCR any funds could be distributed by a two-thirds vote of the Chapter to the State of Georgia OCR or any SCV Sponsored Fund.

Amended 06/04/2022

By signature below I assert I have read, understand and agree to comply with these Bylaws of the Georgia Society Order of Confederate Rose.

DISSOLUTION (FOR MEMBER SIGNING)

Printed Name _____
Chapter _____
Signature _____
Date _____

Printed Name _____
Chapter _____
Signature _____
Date _____

Printed Name _____
Chapter _____
Signature _____
Date _____

Printed Name _____
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