### **BY-LAWS**

#### ARTICLE I LAND OF LINCOLN P.E.T.S.

The name of the organization shall be Land of Lincoln PETS. Land of Lincoln PETS shall be a member of the Rotary Multi-District PETS Alliance. The Training Seminar is to be held each year on the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in March or as determined by the Board of Directors pursuant to Rotary International guidelines.

### ARTICLE II MISSION STATEMENT

Attendance at Land of Lincoln PETS will enhance the inherent leadership abilities of those selected to lead their Rotary Clubs in the coming year with a thorough grasp of the basic fundamentals of a successful Rotary Club. The Presidents-Elect will be inspired and capable of doing the best possible job as Club President.

## ARTICLE III MULTI-DISTRICT OWNERSHIP

A multi-district seminar provides an opportunity to expose the Presidents-Elect to a much broader array of talents and experiences in how Rotary Clubs are operating. Among the advantages of a multi-district seminar are that it provides:

- Largest possible attendance of Presidents-Elect.
- More favorable seminar budget with the advantage of scale.
- The ability to attract the very best speakers.
- The opportunity to reach more Presidents-Elect at one meeting.
- A meeting size that creates maximum enthusiasm.
- The ability to obtain favorable consideration from the hotel involved.
- · A broader base for Rotary fellowship and the exchange of ideas.

The Districts participating in the Land of Lincoln PETS are Districts located in Illinois and Indiana. Land of Lincoln PETS Owner Districts are Districts 6490 & 6510 from Illinois and District 6580 from Indiana. An Owner District may leave Land of Lincoln PETS by giving the other Owner Districts notice, at an Annual Meeting (as defined in Article V), of its intent to resign its ownership by certified letter signed by the Districts: DG, DGE, DGN, provided it has fulfilled its financial and other obligations to Land of Lincoln PETS. The Owner Districts leaving forfeits any right to funds held by Land of Lincoln PETS and will receive NO refund of capital or any other money.

If at any time the Ownership Districts decide to disband Land of Lincoln PETS, any monies in the bank account will be divided equally among those Ownership Districts which are still active members.

An Owner District's ownership interest in Land of Lincoln PETS may be terminated upon unanimous vote of the remaining Ownership Districts. Each Owner District is allowed one vote, with the vote being cast by each Owner District's District Governor after consulting with their own District Leadership.

# ARTICLE IV GUEST DISTRICT(S)

A non-Owner District may petition to participate as a <u>Guest District</u> by making a written request on, or before, the Annual Meeting prior to the year being trained and submitting a check for \$1,000 or current rate. If the Guest District makes this request after the May Annual Meeting, but before September 30<sup>th</sup> they will be liable for a \$500 late fee. The request will be considered by the Board of Directors at their next board meeting. If the Guest District is admitted for participation in the PETS seminar to be held during the subsequent March, the Guest District agrees that it is obligated to pay all associated fees and to abide by all regulations herein set forth.

Upon completion of its participation in the most recent March PETS seminar as a Guest District, a Guest District may submit a written request to again participate as a Guest District; at the May Annual Meeting or it may request to resign its membership by certified letter signed by the Districts: DG, DGE, DGN, provided it has fulfilled its financial and other obligations to Land of Lincoln PETS. This is to be acted on at the Annual Meeting in advance of their participation for the next year being trained.

A Guest District may petition to join Land of Lincoln PETS as an Ownership District by following this procedure:

- Submitting a certified letter to the Land of Lincoln PETS Board of Directors prior to the Annual Meeting stating its desire to be admitted as an Owner District, its leadership having endorsed joining as an Owner District, a majority its clubs have voted in favor of joining as an Owner District and its agreement to be bound by the By-Laws of Land of Lincoln PETS. This letter shall be signed by the Guest District's DG, DGE, DGN.
- 2 Payment of a non-refundable Ownership Fee of \$1,000 or current rate. A check for the stipulated amount shall be submitted at the time the referenced certified letter is submitted.

Such a request is to be acted on at the Land of Lincoln PETS Annual Meeting in advance of the applying Districts participation for the year being trained. Owner Districts unanimous approval to be an Owner District of the Land of Lincoln PETS is required. Each Owner District is allowed one vote, with the vote being cast by the Owner District Governor after consulting with their own District Leadership.

#### ARTICLE V ADMINISTRATION

1. Board of Directors: The governing body of this organization shall be a board of directors comprised of the District Governors-Elect (DGEs) for the year being trained from the Ownership Districts; General Chairperson; Vice-General Chairperson; Secretary; Treasurer. and immediate Past General Chairperson. The Secretary and Treasurer shall each be from different districts. The Board of Directors shall be ultimately responsible for all facets of Land of Lincoln PETS. The Board of Directors has veto power over decisions made by the Executive Committee and any of its subcommittees. They are the final authority for the Land of Lincoln PETS General Policy and Operational Guidelines. The General Chairperson will act as the chairperson of the Board of Directors, followed by the Vice-General Chairperson, if the General Chairperson is not available.

The General Chairperson and Vice-General Chairperson of Land of Lincoln PETS should attend the Multi-District PETS Alliance conference each year at Land of Lincoln PETS expense. Any other member of Land of Lincoln PETS committees may attend at their own (or their district's) expense.

2. Executive Committee: The overall operation of the Land of Lincoln PETS is handled by the Executive Committee, comprised of the General Chairperson, the Vice-General Chairperson, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Owner District Governors-Elect (DGEs), the Operations Committee Chairpersons and the immediate Past General Chairperson. Any Guest District will provide a person to serve on the Executive Committee. Budgetary matters and changes in policy shall be recommended to the Board of Directors for final approval.

#### 3. Operations Committee:

**Management:** The day-to-day operations of the Land of Lincoln PETS, is the responsibility of the Executive Committee.

Committees: The Operations Committees shall be comprised of a chair, which must be a Past District Governors from the Ownership Districts. The Operations Committees shall include: (1) Program & Training Committee, (2) Operation Committee and (3) Registration & Promotion Committee. All committee and subcommittee member shall be Rotarians in good standing from throughout the participating districts.

There are two ways members can be selected to serve on the Operations Committees: 1) by being recommended by their district, 2) by being assigned by the General Chairperson. These appointments are to be confirmed by the Board of Directors at the annual meeting held in May of every year. Any vacancies to be filled, removed appointments or additional appointments will be made by the General Chairperson and confirmed by the Board of Directors.

All positions require final approval by the Board of Directors.

4. Term of Office: The Secretary and Treasurer, which are selected by the Board of Directors, and the Operations Committee Chairs shall be appointed for a three-year term, with reappointment annually. The General Chairperson, the Vice-General Chairperson and Immediate Past General Chairperson shall serve for a one-year term only.

The process of rotating the leadership between Ownership Districts should always be considered in making the final decision for the top two leadership position assignments. If it is known in advance that an individual will be leaving a major leadership position, a "shadow" or understudy should work with that individual throughout the entire seminar to learn the specific duties required of that position.

- 5. Duties: The duties of the Operations Committees shall be to carry out the business agreed upon by consensus. The program and operations of Land of Lincoln PETS should be of the highest quality and should conform to the Rotary International Manual of Procedure.
- 6. Meetings: The Annual Meeting of the Executive Committee shall be held in May of each year (herein referred to as "Annual Meeting"). The meeting date will be decided at the post PETS meeting held directly after the PETS seminar.

The Executive Committee shall hold at least four meetings per year: May, August, November, and February.

Any special meeting may be called by the General Chairperson, with a 10-day notice.

- 7. Deadlines: An initial outline of the seminar program for the coming year will be presented at the August meeting of the Executive Committee. The final program and plenary speakers must be approved by the Executive Committee no later than the November meeting of the committee.
- 8. Training Location: The annual Land of Lincoln PETS training will be conducted in Effingham, Illinois. A location change, for whatever reason, will be determined based on merit (access, cost, availability, etc.). Final decision concerning training location will reside with a majority vote of the Owner Districts each of which is allowed one vote, with the vote being cast by the Owner District Governor after consulting with their own District leadership. The location decision shall be made a minimum of 18 months prior to the next scheduled event.

#### ARTICLE VI LEADERSHIP APPOINTMEENT AND SUCCESSION

All Ownership Districts in the Land of Lincoln PETS shall be given an opportunity to participate in leadership roles and as official host. The selection of the General Chairperson will be made by rotation among the Ownership Districts participating. When a Guest District is newly admitted as an Owner District, they will fall at the end of the current leadership rotation.

The General Chairperson will be a PDG, if each district will have a person qualified and willing to serve. The General Chairperson shall have served in the year immediately preceding appointment as General Chairperson as Vice-General Chairperson. It is strongly recommended that anyone selected be prepared to serve a three-year commitment first as Vice-General Chairperson, as General Chairperson and finally as Immediate Past General Chairperson and will have served at least one additional year in another Operations Committee, preferably as chair of that committee.

The Board of Directors will have the final approval as to the person selected by an Owner District to serve as the Vice-General Chairperson, if said Vice-General Chairperson can't serve then that Owner District will rename a person to replace. Again, that person will need the final approval of the Board of Directors.

If the then serving General Chairperson is unable to complete their duties, then the Immediate Past General Chairperson will step back into the General Chairperson position.

#### ARTICLE VII SEMINAR FORMAT

There are five core topics: Leading Rotary, The Rotary Foundation, Youth Services, Public Image and Growing Rotary. There are also at least two sessions, for the DGEs to meet with their Presidents-Elect, DGs, AGs, DGNs, and district team. Seminar content shall be recommended by a majority vote of the District Governors-Elect from the Ownership Districts pursuant to Rotary International guidelines.

Every effort shall be made to assign highly visible posts to DGEs, DGs, and DGNs so the Presidents-Elect begin to relate to the district officers with whom they will

be working. Instructors for sessions will be chosen from those with the knowledge and experience to effectively convey the message of Rotary and build the skills and enthusiasm necessary for an effective year for the club, the district, and for Rotary International.

#### ARTICLE VIII FINANCES

The activities of Land of Lincoln PETS are intended to be self-sustaining through registration fees, sponsorships and sales of materials. Districts are expected to collect and be responsible for registration fees for the Club Presidents-Elect regardless of their attendance at Land of Lincoln PETS. This is done to encourage attendance, to pay for materials furnished all presidents-elect and to provide for a known amount of revenue. A reserve balance of not less than 10 percent of a year's expenses nor more than 25 percent of a year's expenses should be kept on hand year to year.

A budget as prepared by the treasurer shall be presented to the Executive Committee at the August meeting to be reviewed, update and then a vote taken.

Any deficiency of accounts by Land of Lincoln PETS shall be absorbed by its Owner Districts in proportion to the number of clubs in each district.

Land of Lincoln PETS shall maintain its own records and funds under the general supervision of the Treasurer and at the direction of the Board of Directors. Regular reports shall be made to the Owner Districts and a detailed review of financial records shall be conducted annually. Checks will not be issued without expenditures being requested on the official Expense Reimbursement form. Receipts must accompany any Expense Vouchers submitted. Final approval of all expenditures is the responsibility of the General Chairperson.

The fiscal year of Land of Lincoln PETS is July 1 through June 30.

## ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be amended, altered, repealed and a new set of by-laws adopted by a two-thirds (2/3's) majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Any article, specification or suggestion not in compliance with the current Rotary International Constitution, Manual of Procedure, or with Rotary Code of Policies is hereby amended to be null and void and further amended to assure compliance.

These Amended By-Laws were approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors and become effective this day of June 2019.

General Chairperson Michael Nowobilski Vice General Chairperson Larry Howell Laura Carie Secretary & Immediate Past Chairperson Treasurer Wayne Gerlock Gary Hamm DGE District 6510 teli Julie Dobski DGE District 6490 Santhana Naidu DGE District 6580