

# York Singles Club

*<A Volunteer Based, Not for Profit, Social Club, based in York Region, Ontario, Canada>*

Established May 1999

REVISED AND APPROVED BY MEMBERSHIP IN APRIL 2015

AMENDED APRIL 2019 AND APRIL 2023

## 1. Name of Club

York Singles Club

## 2. Objectives of the Club

To provide opportunities for members

2.1 to meet new people.

2.2 to share interests and expertise;

2.3 to enjoy socializing together in a respectful and supportive environment.

We will do this by providing a variety of group social activities, suggested and organized by the members and their elected executive.

## 3. Membership

3.1 New membership is open to: Only those men and women, over the age of 50 who are single, divorced, widowed or separated, not cohabiting or in a committed relationship, and is not limited to residents of York Region.

3.2 Memberships are granted for one year, beginning on June 1 to those who have:

3.2.1 completed and signed the required application and waiver;

3.2.2 been approved by two members of the current executive;

3.2.3 paid the required annual dues.

3.3 **Should** an existing member become married or cohabit they will continue as a member until May 31 of their membership year. The executive will designate events they are invited to attend.

#### **4. Administration**

- 4.1 The club shall be guided by its bylaws and policies, administered by an executive consisting of 11 paid up members, voted in at the annual meeting of members of the Club, or a general meeting, and are accountable to the membership, their term beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>. The executive will meet at least monthly, where and when at their discretion. The term of office is 2 years, with no restriction on consecutive terms. Quorum for executive meetings shall be 7 members in person or present by phone/internet.
- 4.2 Positions vacated during the year may be filled by giving advance notice to membership of the vacancy and when filled, ratified by membership at the next monthly general meeting. Three positions on the executive (not including chair or vice-chair) may be held by those with less than six months membership.
- 4.3 The executive shall be made up of a chair and vice-chair, treasurer, secretary, membership, publicity, three social directors and two directors at large.

#### **5. Meetings of members**

- 5.1 General meetings will be held monthly at a location within York Region, agreed by and communicated to, members well in advance of the meeting, with the exception of an emergency that might arise. The executive will report to membership on financial matters, review minutes, new upcoming social events, review past events, introduce new and potential new members, review and vote biannually on bylaw and governing policy changes, and annually in April for constitutional changes.
- 5.2 The annual general meeting will take place in the month of May at the discretion of the executive and agreed by and communicated to the membership at least 30 days prior to the date chosen. The main purpose of the meeting is to hold elections to fill open executive committee positions. Members each hold one vote and quorum is met by simple majority of those present. Open positions, if acclaimed, require only a majority of hands raised. Should more than one candidate be nominated for a particular position, ballots will be required and supervised by at least one executive member who is not running for re-election plus two members in good standing. Should all current executive members be running for re-election, three supervising members will be chosen from the membership who are present and who have agreed to supervise. Should a full executive not be voted in at this meeting, the process may be repeated at the next general meeting. Executive members may choose to request a different executive position for the second year of their term, if open, but must stand for election. Potential candidates for executive position are not required to be present at the meeting but are required to submit a signed and dated letter of "Agreement to be Nominated", indicating the position(s) they would agree to fill if elected. Such letters will be submitted to a member of the executive.

## 6. Amendments to Governing Documents

6.1 The constitution may be amended annually by a two-thirds majority of members who are either present at the April general meeting or have submitted a written ballot or a ballot emailed from their personal account to the executive. Note that written ballots should be delivered in two envelopes to maintain the secrecy of the ballot--the outer envelope identifies the voter, and the inner envelope contains the ballot. Club members should be aware that emailed ballots cannot be secret. Written and/or emailed ballots must be received 7 days prior to the date of the April general meeting.

Suggested proposals and/or suggestions are to be submitted to the executive along with signed and dated support by five members in good standing on or before the 1st of February and published, for member consideration, at the February general meeting. Alternative proposals with signed and dated support by five members in good standing are to be submitted to the executive on or before the 10th of March and published, for member consideration, at the March general meeting. The wording of the amendment(s) will be finalized at this time. Amendments will be voted on as outlined above at the April general meeting.

6.2 The bylaws may be amended biannually at the April and November general meetings. Supported (written and dated) proposals/suggestions are to be submitted to the executive using the procedure outlined for constitutional amendments in 6.1 above by the 1st of February and September and publicized to the membership at the general meeting of the same month. Alternative proposals are to be submitted to the executive by the 10th of the following month and publicized at that month's general meeting voting procedures are the same as stipulated in 6.1. The one exception is that a proposal to change the annual membership fee is to be submitted to members at the January general meeting, communicated to those not in attendance and voted on by members at the March general meeting.

6.3 The Club Bylaws may be amended biannually at the April and November general meetings. Supported (written and dated) proposals/suggestions are to be submitted to the executive using the procedure outlined for constitutional amendments in above by the 1st of February and September and publicized to the membership at the general meeting of the same month. Alternative proposals are to be submitted to the executive by the 10th of the following month and publicized at that month's general meeting voting procedures are the same as stipulated in 6.1.

6.4 Governing policies such as financial, membership (veto criteria and list), and code of conduct are to be adopted/revised biannually on the same schedule as bylaw changes and by two-thirds majority present.

6.5 Operating policies (policies other than governing policies) may be implemented by the executive and communicated to members at the following general meeting.

The COVID pandemic (2020—) required the club to consider its approach to COVID, particularly because vulnerability to COVID increases with age. Based on the authority granted to the executive in clause 6.5, a policy was put in place in 2020 that all members

must provide proof of double vaccination to attend York Singles' events. [This was the official Government of Ontario vaccination standard at the time.]