

RANCHO SIMI TRAIL BLAZERS

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be Rancho Simi Trail Blazers.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purposes of the Rancho Simi Trail Blazers are to: (1) Promote resource sharing for cutting of new trails, clearing and marking of existing trails and general trail maintenance; (2) Promote cooperation and spirit of sharing of multi-use trails, with emphasis on proper use; (3) Provide forum for community input into planning of trail system expansion; (4) Provide volunteers who are trained to assist the Park District naturalist with nature hikes and interpretive classes for residents of the Park District.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership shall be open to any person whose personal goals are consistent with the purposes of this organization as set forth in Article II, and pay their dues shall be eligible for membership.
2. Each active member shall have with one vote on any issue that comes before the organization. To be eligible to vote, the member must be present and in good standing when the vote is taken.
3. To be a member in good standing, dues of \$10 shall be due September 1st of each calendar year. After September 30th, dues shall be \$15, which includes a \$5 late fee for renewals. New members will be assessed \$10 plus \$5 initiation fee and will be charged one-half after April 1st, which equals \$5 plus \$5.

4. To be a member in good standing, an application for volunteer status must be on file in the volunteer office at Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District.
5. In the event of a dues-paying member who abuses the rights or privileges of the Rancho Simi Trail Blazers, a two-thirds vote of the membership attending a general membership meeting shall be needed to remove said member from current files, and said member will be asked to leave the meeting.

ARTICLE IV: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. Powers: The management of Rancho Simi Trail Blazers shall be entrusted to the Executive Committee, which shall have and exercise all the powers permitted by law and are consistent with these bylaws.

All actions of the Executive Committee shall be reported at the general meeting following the Executive Committees meeting. The membership shall have the right to rescind any Executive Committee action by a majority vote.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of Chairman, Vice-chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. Additionally, six members at large representing the standing committees shall each have one vote per issue for a total of ten votes on the Executive Committee.

2. Duties of each officer shall be:

The Chairman shall be the executive officer of Rancho Simi Trail Blazers and shall preside at all meetings of the membership and the Executive Committee. The Chairman shall not vote except in the case of a tie. The Chairman shall sign all contracts or documents authorized by the Executive Committee.

The Vice Chairman shall assume all the powers and duties of the Chairman in the absence of said officer and shall be in charge of membership and notification of all meetings.

The Secretary shall record Executive Committee meetings and general membership meeting, and shall conduct the general correspondence of the Rancho Simi Trail Blazers.

The Treasurer shall be custodian of the funds of Rancho Simi Trail Blazers, be responsible for the collection, deposit and accounting of all monies, and shall make a financial statement at each general membership meeting.

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ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS

1. The annual meeting of Rancho Simi Trail Blazers will be held in September of every year on the second Wednesday of the month. Additionally, a minimum of five general membership meetings will be held per year.
2. A notice of each meeting will be mailed to all members in good standing and shall be included with the minutes of the previous meeting.
3. An agenda will be prepared by the Executive Committee and will allow time for comments from members and the ^{general} public.
4. The Executive Committee will meet prior to all general membership meetings to set an agenda and vote on issues to be presented to the general membership. ~~The agenda will always allow time for comments from members, and the public.~~
5. If a special meeting is required, either general membership or Executive Committee, notification will either by mail or phone five days prior to such meeting.

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ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES

1. The standing committees shall be:
Bylaws, Outdoor Education, Hiking, Work Parties, Finance and Communications/Public Relations.

- A. Bylaws: Shall be responsible for establishing and reviewing of Bylaws on an annual basis and as directed by the Executive Committee or a vote of the general membership.
- B. Outdoor Education: Serves to provide outdoor education as needed and deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee or general membership.
- C. Hiking: Serves to provide as an opportunity for members and the general public to hike.
- D. Work Parties: Serves as an opportunity to provide members and the general public to get together and to do volunteer work.
- E. ~~Finance~~ ^{Ways & Means:} Serves to provide ^{adequate} and correct financial records ^{and} opportunities for fund-raising, ^{and} soliciting of charitable donations, ^{and}
- F. Communications/Public Relations: Serves to provide information to general public as well as general membership. May include news releases, newsletters, etc.

- G. A nominating committee shall be voted on by the general membership attending a general membership meeting with notification of said meeting by mail or phone at least five days in advance.

- I. Special Committees may be appointed by the Chairman with the approval of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VIII: FINANCES

- 1. All expenditures ^{under \$50} must be ^{authorized} approved by ² an officer(s) of the Executive Committee ~~plus one member of the finance committee.~~ Additionally, all expenditures ^{over \$50} must be presented to the Executive Committee and brought before the general membership meeting. ^{for approval.} ^{all expenditures will be reported to the general membership.}
- 2. This organization believes that its most important function is meeting its goals as set forth in Article II. Our policy is that dues should not be saved, accumulated, or invested for future use, but that all revenue from dues, donations and fundraisers should be used to

provide constantly improving opportunities for members (and the general public) to learn, be involved and to provide continuous communication with its members.

ARTICLE IX: TERMS OF OFFICE

- 1: Executive Officers: The term of office shall be one (1) administrative year, which shall be from October 1 through September 30. No officer shall be elected to the same office for more than two (2) consecutive terms, excluding an unexpired term. Requisite for holding an office in Rancho Simi Trail Blazers shall be membership in good standing according to ARTICLE III, Sections 3 and 4.
- 2: Committee Chairmen: The term of office shall be one (1) administrative year, which shall be from October 1 through September 30. No officer shall be elected to the same office for more than two (2) consecutive terms, excluding an unexpired term. Requisite for holding an office in Rancho Simi Trail Blazers shall be membership in good standing according to ARTICLE III, Sections 3 and 4.

Committee chair

ARTICLE X: ELECTIONS

1. Time of Elections: Officers of Rancho Simi Trail Blazers shall be elected at the annual meeting in September, as described in ARTICLE V, Section 1.
2. Procedure: The Nominating Committee will recruit eligible members for the ~~vacant~~ positions on the Executive Committee in July and will notify membership in August to be voted on at the annual meeting in September.
3. Consent: All nominations, whether made by the Nominating Committee or from the floor, must be made with the prior consent of the candidate.
4. Vacancies: Should the office of the ~~Chairman~~ become vacant, the Vice ~~Chairman~~ shall become ~~Chairman~~. All other vacant positions shall be filled by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. Persons so elected shall serve until the expiration of the original term of office.

5. Vote Necessary to Elect: The vote necessary to elect any officer or chair~~person~~ of standing committees shall be a single majority of all members in good standing present at the general meeting in September.

ARTICLE XI: AMENDMENTS AND RULES OF ORDER:

These bylaws may be changed or amended by vote at any regular or special meeting.

The text of all proposed changes shall be mailed to the members in good standing at least ten days in advance of the meeting. A single majority vote of all members in good standing is necessary to approve the changes at any meeting. *after review of exec. mtg.*

A quorum shall consist of the members in good standing at any general membership meeting.

A quorum for the Executive Committee meetings shall consist of seven (7) members in good standing present.

Robert's Rules of order, Revised, shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not covered in these bylaws.

ARTICLE XII: DISSOLUTION

If this organization shall be dissolved, its assets shall be distributed to another organization or organizations qualified under Section 501-C-3 of the Internal Revenue Code. No assets may be distributed to individual members.