

# CONSTITUTION

## *THE ROUND TABLE CLUB OF EUGENE*

(Revised October 1999)

### ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this club shall be the ROUND TABLE CLUB OF EUGENE, OREGON

### ARTICLE II OBJECT

The object of this club shall be the social and intellectual enjoyment of its members.

### ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

#### Section 1. Active Members

The active membership shall consist of not more than seventy members of which thirty shall be from the "town" and thirty from the campus of the University of Oregon. The remaining ten may be from either the Town or the Campus. Degrees from accredited universities or colleges shall be required as proof of scientific or scholarly achievement, except that not more than twelve members at any time may be chosen on the basis of distinguished citizenship and talents equivalent to those indicated by academic degrees. These seventy shall be known as the Active Members.

#### Section 2. Inactive Members

Inactive membership status may be granted to any member who will be unable to attend meetings during a club year due to absence from Eugene or whose duties or responsibilities do not permit attendance on meeting nights, upon application to the membership committee and payment of an inactive membership fee of an amount set by the Executive Committee for the year. Inactive membership status shall not be granted for more than three consecutive years.

#### Section 3. Reelection

If an active member who has resigned from the club because of expected permanent departure from the Eugene community returns to the area, that member may be re-elected to active membership in exactly the same manner as provided for the election of new members except that re-election may proceed without waiting for a vacancy. After such election, no other members shall be added until a vacancy occurs in the appropriate category.

#### Section 4. Honorary Members

Honorary memberships may also be extended by majority vote of the members present and voting at any regular business meeting of the club, on recommendation of the membership committee. Any active member who has participated for five years or more shall be eligible for transfer to the status of honorary membership. Honorary members shall not be required to pay dues but shall have all the privileges of active members when attending meetings. Honorary membership may also be extended by majority vote of the club to persons of distinction whose official duties may be such as to preclude active participation.

#### Section 5. Life Members

Any active member with a long record of active participation shall be eligible for consideration for transfer to life membership if it is desirable that he or she take a somewhat less active part in the affairs of the club. Upon recommendation by the membership committee, life membership may be accorded by a majority vote of the members present and voting at any regular business meeting of the club. Beginning at age 65, members may, at their request, be advanced to life membership provided they have served as active members for a minimum of five years. A life member may vote, and shall have all the privileges but none of the obligations of active membership. Life members may at their option pay annual dues, or pay only for meals when present. They may present papers and shall be eligible to hold office, but shall not be obligated to do either.

#### Section 6. Number of Members

Only active and inactive members shall be counted in determining the number of new members to be elected to membership.

#### Section 7. Termination

Any active member who has been absent for more than three meetings of the Club during the club year may be considered for termination of membership. The membership committee shall first ascertain the reasons for the absences and the interest of the member in continued participation. By a vote of not less than seven members of the committee, the membership committee may recommend that the member be dropped from the roll. A two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at any regular business meeting of the club shall be required to ratify the recommendation. The secretary shall notify the member if his or her membership is terminated.

### **ARTICLE IV OFFICERS**

The officers of this club shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Treasurer, and a Secretary, each of whom shall perform the duties usually belonging to such officers. They shall be chosen by ballot at the April meeting of the club and, together with all appointed officers, shall hold office for one year beginning at the close of the May meeting.

## ARTICLE V COMMITTEES

### Section 1. Executive Committee

There shall be an executive committee composed of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and two members appointed by the President. It shall be the duty of this committee to provide a place of meeting for the club, to select subjects for discussion, to appoint speakers or writers for each meeting, except as shall be otherwise provided for in this constitution and by-laws, and in general to have charge of the affairs of the club.

### Section 2. Nominating Committee

There shall be a nominating committee of three appointed by the President whose duties shall be to nominate candidates for the office of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary at the April meeting of each year.

### Section 3. Membership Committee

There shall be for each year a membership committee whose duty will be to examine the qualifications of candidates for membership. This committee shall be composed of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary, ex officio; the preceding year's President, Treasurer, and Secretary, and four members at large to be appointed by the President. If one or more of the preceding year's President, Treasurer, and Secretary is an ex-officio member of the committee pursuant to the provisions of the preceding sentence or for any other reason is unable or ineligible to serve, the President shall appoint an additional member or members at large to provide a full roster of 11 members of the committee. The President shall designate a member of the committee to serve as chairman. No member at large shall serve in any two consecutive years.

### Section 4. Nominations for Membership

All nominations for membership must be submitted to the Secretary of the club in writing and must state the academic degree or distinction of the candidate and the candidate's accomplishments in business, professional and civic affairs. Each nomination must be signed by not less than three active or life members not more than two of which shall be on the membership committee, and who shall be designated as sponsors. A nomination may be initiated at any time by any active or life member. At the first regular meeting after the filing of any nomination, it shall be read to the membership by the Secretary and the matter shall then be considered officially before the membership committee. It is expected that any member or members having objections will make them known, either by oral statement to any committee member, or in writing. The committee shall then make an investigation of the candidate's qualifications and of members' objections in such manner as a majority of the committee shall deem wise. By a majority vote of not less than seven members of the committee, an

application shall be considered “approved.” Names approved shall be placed on the eligible list in their proper classification –town or campus – and report made at the next regular meeting of the club. From this list, names shall be submitted for final election by the membership and acted upon in the order in which presented by the committee as vacancies occur, but in case final action shall not have been taken on any recommended name within two years, the sponsors shall be notified that the name will not receive further consideration unless it is resubmitted. A two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at any regular business meeting of the club shall be sufficient to ratify the recommendation of the membership committee and shall constitute election to the club. Voting shall be by secret ballot on each name separately and not otherwise, and the result shall be announced without figures. The President shall inform new members of their acceptance to membership and the Treasurer informs them of their prorated dues.

## **ARTICLE VI        MEETINGS**

The club shall meet the second Tuesday of each month beginning with October and ending with the following May, which shall constitute the club year. It shall meet at such place as the executive committee may select, but the executive committee shall have power to appoint another time of meeting. Special meetings may be held at the call of the President and Secretary.

## **ARTICLE VII        MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Section 1.        Dues**

The annual membership dues shall be determined from time to time by a majority vote of the members present and voting at a regular business meeting of the club. The prescribed sum shall be pro-rated for a member’s initial year.

### **Section 2.        Quorum**

One-half of the active membership of the club shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

### **Section 3.        Representation**

The general policy shall be to maintain the “town” and campus element on a substantial equality as to representation in the club, and with each candidate or set of candidates recommended to the club for election, the membership committee shall be prepared to give the club the facts as to the relative representation mentioned above.

### **Section 4.        Constitutional Amendment**

Proposals for amending the constitution or by-laws may be made at any regular business meeting of the club. Such proposals may be considered at any subsequent business meeting and adopted by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting on the proposed amendment.

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## BY-LAWS

1. The business of this club shall be conducted under Robert's Rules of Order.
2. The order of business shall be under control of the presiding officer in the chair.
3. Any member may invite one or more visitors as guests for any meeting, but a member shall pay for the dinners of guests.
4. Guests may sit through all proceedings of the club except that the presiding officer may, as a matter of judgment or at the request of any member, isolate guests from any business meeting.
5. The Secretary shall notify members of each approaching meeting at least four days in advance. In the case of the May meeting, the Secretary shall require a return reservation for the members and invited guests.
6. Names of persons put into nomination shall not be included in the permanent minutes. The same is to apply to names receiving an unfavorable vote at elections of members.
7. The Executive Committee will have an organizational meeting each September at the call of the President.