



Bylaws*

Article 1 – General

1.1 Name.

The name of this organization shall be North Carolina Peace Corps Association (NCPCA).

1.2 Purpose.

NCPCA shall be a non-profit organization of returned Peace Corps Volunteers, their families, friends and anyone interested in the Peace Corps, who join together for the following objectives:

- a. To operate exclusively for charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes by engaging directly in the support of such purposes, or by making distributions to other organizations for use by the distributees in the support of such purposes.
- b. To promote public awareness and support of the Peace Corps.
- c. To promote cooperation and understanding between the United States and developing countries.
- d. To promote specific projects in developing countries that will promote their continued development.
- e. To act as a resource for newly returned Peace Corps Volunteers and prospective trainees through the local Peace Corps recruiter.
- f. To provide social and recreational opportunities among returned Peace Corps Volunteers, their families, and friends.
- g. To engage in any and all lawful incidental to the foregoing purposes, except as restricted herein.

Article 2 - Members

2.1 Eligibility.

- a. Any individual who has been a Peace Corps Volunteer is eligible to become a voting Regular Member of NCPCA upon payment of the annual membership dues.
- b. Any individual who has not been a Peace Corps Volunteer is eligible to become a voting Associate Member of NCPCA upon payment of the annual membership dues.
- c. Family Membership: A family membership to NCPCA shall be available. A family membership allows a person qualified for Regular membership to designate friends and family membership privileges with the following exception: the family shall be treated as a single entity for the purposes of NCPCA publications.
- d. Prospective Membership: This membership is free for six months for an individual who has never been a NCPCA member and who wishes to investigate NCPCA membership. It can be exercised once and cannot be renewed.
- e. First Year Free: This membership is free for one year if the individual's record indicates that s/he returned from Peace Corps Volunteer service (not other volunteer service or staff) within the previous year from the date requested. This membership can be renewed as a regular dues-paying membership.
- f. First Time Free: This membership is free for one year if the individual's record indicates that s/he was a Peace Corps Volunteer (not other volunteer service or staff) at any time in the past and has never before been a member of the NPCA. This membership can be renewed as a regular dues-paying membership.
- g. Current Volunteer: This membership is free if the individual's record indicates that s/he is currently a Peace Corps Volunteer (not other volunteer service or staff). This membership can be renewed as a First-Year-Free membership upon completion of her/his Peace Corps service.

2.2 Membership Dues.

- a. The annual membership dues shall be \$15 for individuals and \$25 for families.
- b. Dues cover one year and are renewable one year after the most recent dues payment. NPCA membership is optional for NCPA members. Dues cover the year following NCPA's receipt of the dues payment. NCPA members may pay for multiple years at one time. Members with expired membership will be mailed a dues notice and will be shifted from active to inactive membership status if their dues payment is not received in a reasonable period of time.

2.2 Rights and Privileges.

- a. All Regular Members of NCPA shall have the right to attend any meetings of the NCPA governing body or its committees, to vote on any measure brought before it, and to receive any publications or other services provided to the general membership. Regular members can serve as officers of the NCPA.
- b. All Associate Members of NCPA shall have the right to attend any meetings of the NCPA governing body or its committees, to vote on any measure brought before it, and to receive any publications or other services provided to the general membership. An Associate Member of NCPA that has served on the steering committee for a period of one year or more shall be eligible to become an officer of the organization.

Article 3 - Elections and Leadership

3.1 Governing Body.

The governing body of NCPA shall be called the Steering Committee and shall be composed of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Coordinator, and up to 15 other NCPA members for a maximum of 20 members.

3.2 Term of Office. Each Steering Committee member shall serve a term of one year and may be re-elected.

3.3 Duties of Officers.

- a. The President shall be the executive officer of the organization and shall preside over all meetings, serve as an ex-officio member of all committees, and delegate duties not otherwise provided for herein. The President shall not have a vote at committee meetings other than the Steering Committee.
- b. The Vice-President shall assist the President in providing leadership, perform such duties as may be assigned by the President or Steering Committee and in the absence or disability of the President shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of that office.
- c. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all General Meetings and Steering Committee meetings, shall send copies of such minutes to the Steering Committee, shall issue notices of all meetings, and shall perform all other duties incident to the office of Secretary.
- d. The Treasurer shall have custody of all funds of the organization and shall be responsible for keeping adequate records of income and expenditures which shall at all times be open for inspection by the members. The Treasurer shall disburse funds only in payment of bills approved by the Steering Committee and shall present an annual report to NCPA members. Checks drawn against the general funds of the organization shall be signed by one of the following officers: President, Treasurer.
- e. The Membership Coordinator shall maintain the information about the members and distribute this information to other officers. The membership coordinator shall invoice members for annual dues as needed. The membership coordinator shall report and distribute membership dues to Treasurer during each meeting of members.

Article 4 - Meetings

4.1 Types and Frequency.

- a. An Annual General Meeting shall be held in each calendar year for the purpose of conducting NCPA business. This Meeting shall include elections for Steering Committee membership and other such business as called for by the bylaws and the Steering Committee. The time, date, and place of any Annual Meeting shall be set by the Steering Committee.
- b. Other General Meetings may be called from time to time by the Steering Committee.
- c. Special Meetings to amend these bylaws may be called by the Steering Committee.
- d. The Steering Committee shall meet at least once during each quarter of the calendar year for

the purpose of conducting NCPA business and activities. A quorum for conducting business shall be five Committee members. Either the President or the Vice-President must be present. Decisions shall be made by the majority vote of those Committee members attending.

e. Notification. The Secretary of the Steering Committee shall be responsible for notifying all NCPA members at least two weeks in advance of the Annual General Meeting. One-week advance notice is required for any Special Meeting that may be called by the Steering Committee.

Article 5 - Amendment of Bylaws

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Regular Association Members at any General Meeting for that purpose. A proposed amendment must be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Steering Committee prior to the Annual General Meeting. A proposed amendment must be circulated to all Regular and Associate Members in writing prior to the vote.

Article 6 - Dissolution

This organization may be dissolved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Regular and Associate Members at any General Meeting, provided that written notice of such proposed action has been given to all members prior to the meeting in which it is to be considered. Such a proposal must be accompanied by the written endorsement of at least 10% of the membership before notice is sent. In the case of proposed dissolution, ballots received from Members unable to attend the General Meeting shall be considered valid, provided such members are verified in good standing by the Secretary. Further, this organization shall be automatically dissolved if it fails to hold two successive Annual General Meetings. Any funds left in the Treasury shall be donated to one or more non-profit organizations with similar goals.

Article 7 - Effective Date of Bylaws

These bylaws shall be in full force and effect upon adoption at the first Annual General Meeting held on October 31, 1987.

***Revised to incorporate all previous amendments September 24, 2018**

Previous Amendments

- **Amendment 1: Article 2.1c - A family membership allows a person qualified for Regular membership to designate friends and family membership privileges with the following exception: the family shall be treated as a single entity for the purposes of NCPA publications**
- **Article 2.2 - Membership Dues - The annual membership dues shall be \$10 (family=\$15), payable to North Carolina Peace Corps Association (NCPA), with the exception of those members who maintain their membership through the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA). For NPCA members, \$15 will be paid to the NCPA in the form of a dues rebate from NPCA. NPCA membership is optional for NCPA members. Dues cover the year following NCPA's receipt of the dues payment. NCPA members may pay for multiple years at one time. Members with expired membership will be mailed a dues notice and will be shifted from active to inactive membership status if their dues payment is not received in a reasonable period of time.**
- **Article 2.3 – Rights and privileges - An Associate Member of NCPA that has served on the steering committee for a period of one year or more shall be eligible to become an officer of the organization.**
- **Amendment 2: Article 3.1 – Governing Body - The governing body of NCPA shall be called the Steering Committee and shall be composed of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Coordinator, and up to 15 other NCPA members for a maximum of 20 members.**
- **Amendment V: Article 3.1e - The Membership Coordinator shall maintain the**

information about the members and distribute this information to other officers. The membership coordinator shall invoice members for annual dues as needed. The membership coordinator shall report and distribute membership dues to Treasurer during each meeting of members.

- **Amendment IV – Officer Eligibility: Article 2.3d - Any Associate Member that has served on the steering committee for a period of one year or more shall be eligible to become an officer of the organization. (Approved at the Annual General Meeting on December 7, 1996)**
- **Amendment V: Article 3.3e – Membership Coordinator: At the Annual General Meeting held on December 13, 2003, the membership approved the following: 3.3e. The Membership Coordinator shall maintain the information about the members and distribute this information to other officers. The membership coordinator shall invoice members for annual dues as needed. The membership coordinator shall report and distribute membership dues to Treasurer during each meeting of members.**
- **Amendment VI – Membership Dues At the Annual General Meeting held on December 15, 2007 the membership approved the following: The annual membership dues shall be \$10 (family=\$15), payable to North Carolina Peace Corps Association (NCPCA), with the exception of those members who maintain their membership through the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA). For NPCA members, \$15 will be paid to the NCPCA in the form of a dues rebate from NPCA. NPCA membership is optional for NCPCA members. Dues cover the year following NCPCA's receipt of the dues payment. NCPCA members may pay for multiple years at one time. Members with expired membership will be mailed a dues notice and will be shifted from active to inactive membership status if their dues payment is not received in a reasonable period of time.**
- **Amendment VII – Members: At the Annual General Meeting held on December 6, 2014 the membership approved the following: 2.1 Eligibility. 2.1 d Prospective Membership: This membership is free for six months for an individual who has never been a NCPCA member and who wishes to investigate NCPCA membership. It can be exercised once and cannot be renewed. 2.1 e First Year Free: This membership is free for one year if the individual's record indicates that s/he returned from Peace Corps Volunteer service (not other volunteer service or staff) within the previous year from the date requested. This membership can be renewed as a regular dues- paying membership. f First Time Free: This membership is free for one year if the individual's record indicates that s/he was a Peace Corps Volunteer (not other volunteer service or staff) at any time in the past and has never before been a member of the NPCA. This membership can be renewed as a regular dues-paying membership. g Current Volunteer: This membership is free if the individual's record indicates that s/he is currently a Peace Corps Volunteer (not other volunteer service or staff). This membership can be renewed as a First-Year Free membership upon completion of her/his Peace Corps service.**
- **Amendment VIII - Membership Dues: 2.2 c The annual membership dues shall be \$15 for individuals and \$25 for families. 2.2 d Dues cover one year and are renewable one year after the most recent dues payment.**