

Membership Bylaws
FC Pineapple Supporters Group
OFFICIAL REGULATIONS AND BYLAWS
Created 05/19/2022

| ARTICLE I: NAME |

The name of the organization shall be “FC Pineapple Supporters Group” hereinafter referred to as “FC Pineapple” or “The Pineapples” or “Fire Club Pineapples”

FC Pineapple shall be a nonprofit corporation, incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois under with consideration with the IRS as 501(c)7 status.

| ARTICLE II: PURPOSE |

Section A. Mission Statement:

FC Pineapple exists to support Chicago Fire Football Club and the growth of soccer in Chicago and throughout the United States. We welcome all people to share our love for the game, passion for our city and our home Football Club, Chicago Fire.

Section B. Purpose:

FC Pineapple shall operate as a 501(C)7 nonprofit corporation, serving as an independent supporters’ group for Chicago Fire Football Club (hereinafter referred to as CFFC). FC Pineapple allows members to gather and enjoy the

supporter experience at CFFC matches home matches and watch parties and events at away matches. We strive to grow awareness and love for the game of soccer and CFFC. FC Pineapple will socialize with other community members who share a passion for Chicago and the sport of Football. FC Pineapple will contribute meaningfully to the community of CFFC supporters and the City of Chicago.

Section C Diversity,Equity and Inclusion:

FC Pinaepple is committed to a diverse, inclusive, and equitable environment where all board members, volunteers, members and staff feel respected and valued regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation or identity, disability, education, or any other bias. We're committed to nondiscriminatory activities and entertainment in all aspects and areas of our work. We respect the value that diverse life experiences bring to our members and leadership and we strive to listen to all views and give them value. We're committed to modeling diversity, inclusion, and equity and maintaining fair and equal treatment for all.

| ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP |

Section A. Eligibility for Membership:

Membership is open to any and all person's that supports the purpose statement in Article II, Section B. Preliminary Membership is granted after the completion and receipt of an official membership application, payment of dues, and an affirmation of FC Pineapple Code of Conduct.

Membership is open to persons of all ages with the understanding that some events FC Pineapple may be inaccessible due to venue requirements.

Section B. Responsibilities of Members:

Members of FC Pineapple (hereinafter "Members," collectively "the Membership") are required to abide by all requirements set forth within these bylaws as well as

FC Pineapple Code of Conduct and any other requirements set forth by the Board of Directors or vote of the Membership.

Section C. Annual Dues:

The Leadership maintains the right to amend the membership dues after passing a vote with majority vote of the leadership team and with 30 calendar days written notice to the Membership prior to the start of a new membership year. Continued membership is contingent upon being up-to-date on membership dues. Each paying member receives one vote. Membership dues shall be collected on the first day of membership and are required to be renewed annually so that a member may be considered in good standing and maintain voting rights. Dates for payment of annual membership dues shall be set by order of the Leadership team. The Membership Year shall run from January 1 through December 31. Annual Dues, when paid, are not prorated, and the full amount of the then-current Annual Dues shall be paid upon creation of or renewal of a Membership.

Section E. Privileges of Membership:

1. Access to all officially sanctioned FC Pineapple events
2. Speaking privileges at FC Pineapple meetings
3. Ability to propose motions, when appropriate, for voting by the Voting Membership
4. Right to vote during all proposed motions, referenda, Amendments to FC Pineapple
5. Right, subject to the requirements of Article V, Section E, to vote during all officeholder elections
6. Ability, if all other qualifications specified in Article V are met, to hold elected office within FC Pineapple.

Section F. Resignation and Termination of Membership:

Any member may request termination of his or her membership by written request to the Director of Membership or Secretary. A member may also have his

or her membership terminated by means of a lifetime ban in accordance with Article X of these bylaws.

Dues will not be refunded to any member following resignation or termination for any reason.

| ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS |

Section A. Membership Meetings:

FC Pineapple meetings shall occur quarterly and or as needed. Dates and location for a meeting shall be set by the Leadership team and published to the members at least Fifteen (15) days in advance.

1. Attendance: All voting members of FC Pineapple are encouraged to attend the meetings.
2. Agendas: The agenda for meetings shall be distributed to Membership, prior to the meeting, via reasonable methods of communication.

Section B. Special Meetings:

Special meetings may be called at the discretion of the Leadership team and/or Board of Directors. These meetings may be for any such purpose the Leadership team and/or Board of Directors seems fit and shall be open to all members of FC Pineapple.

Section C. Annual Meeting

An annual meeting of the members shall take place in the month of December, the specific date, time and location of which will be designated by the President. At the annual meeting the members shall elect directors and officers, receive reports on the activities of FC Pineapple, and determine the direction of FC Pineapple for the coming year.

Section D. Quorum:

For a membership meeting, a quorum will only exist if 1/3 of the leadership team or Board of Directors is present.

Section E. Voting:

All issues to be voted on shall be decided by a simple majority of those present at the meeting in which the vote takes place. Unless otherwise specified in these bylaws, voting for motions at meetings shall be by show of hands and a simple majority shall carry a motion that has been seconded.

| ARTICLE V: BOARD OF DIRECTORS |

Section A. Composition of the Board of Directors:

The Board of Directors of FC Pineapple shall be composed of initially 3 board members. If at a later date more Board Seats will be added, there must be a majority vote between the Leadership team and current Board of Directors.

Section B. Duties of the Board of Directors

The members of the Board of Directors shall enter upon the performance of their duties and shall continue in office until their successors shall be duly elected and qualified.

The Board of Directors shall supervise all activities of FC Pineapple. The Board of Directors shall exercise authority consistent with the wishes of the Membership and serve to facilitate the stated Purpose and Mission Statement of FC Pineapple contained in these bylaws.

Section C. Regular and Annual Meetings

An annual meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held at a time and day in the month of December of each calendar year and at a location designated by the Secretary and the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may provide by resolution the time and place for the holding of regular meetings of the Board. Notice of these meetings shall be sent to all members of the Board of Directors no less than ten (10) days prior to the meeting date.

Section D. Elections and Terms

FC Pineapple shall begin with a provisional Board of Directors which has been self- appointed and shall act as the Board of Directors for (2) years After which, elections to the Board of Directors shall take place at the Annual meeting. Each individual elected to the Board of Directors shall serve a term of two (2) years and will be installed to their elected office on January 1 of the year following the year in which the election takes place.

Section E. Quorum

The presence, in person of a majority of current members of the Board of Directors shall be necessary at any meeting to constitute a quorum to transact business

Section F. Forfeiture

Any member of the Board of Directors who fails to fulfill any of his or her requirements as set forth in Article V shall automatically forfeit his or her seat on the Board. The Secretary shall notify the Board Member in writing that his or her seat has been declared vacant, and the Board of Directors may forthwith immediately proceed to fill the vacancy. Members of the Board of Directors who are removed for failure to meet any or all of the requirements of Article V are not entitled to vote at the annual meeting or quarterly meetings.

Any member of the Board of Directors may resign at any time by serving notice, in writing to the President and Secretary. Resignations are effective the date of receipt of written notice.

Section G. Vacancies

Whenever any vacancy occurs in the Board of Directors, it shall be filled without undue delay by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors at a regular meeting. Vacancies may be created and filled according to specific methods approved by the Board of Directors.

Section H. Replacement of Board of Directors Members:

The President shall have the power to nominate a replacement to the Board of Directors to fill any vacancy that arises due to resignation or removal from office. The nomination must be seconded and approved by majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors and Leadership team. Following approval of the Board of Directors, the replacement Board of Directors member

shall have all powers and privileges of the office for which he or she has been appointed, but shall only serve until the next Annual meeting, at which time an election shall be held to determine a full replacement for the Board of Directors member's unexpired term. The replacement Board of Directors member may stand for election to the unexpired term.

Section I. Non-Liability of Board of Directors:

The members of the Board of Directors shall not be personally liable for any debts, liabilities or other obligations of FC Pineapple.

Section J. Breaking a Tie Amongst Board of Directors Votes

For most decisions, in the event of a tie amongst the Board of Directors the President's vote shall serve as the tiebreaker. If the decision is financial, discussion must resume until there is a legitimately majority on one side.

| ARTICLE VI: Leadership Team |

Section A. Leadership Positions

FC Pineapple shall begin with a self- appointed leadership team for a term of (2) years. After which, elections to the leadership team shall take place at the Annual Meeting after the (2) year terms have been served. Additional Leadership team positions can be added with a majority vote of current Leadership team.

1. **President:** The President of FC Pineapple shall be the leader of FC Pineapple Supporters Group. The President shall preside at all meetings and be responsible for setting meeting agendas and seeing that the agenda is followed. The President shall ensure that all members have the ability to speak at meetings and see that debate is orderly.

The President shall serve as the public face of FC Pineapple and serve as the official representative of FC Pineapple to supporters groups for other clubs.

2. **Secretary:** The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping the minutes and records of all meetings of FC Pineapple. Secretary shall also keep the records of FC Pineapple, be responsible for conducting all elections and votes at meetings, and function as the parliamentarian at all meetings of FC Pineapple to ensure proper order is followed.

3. **Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall be responsible for conducting all budgeting and financial matters for FC Pineapple and taking all reasonable actions required to keep FC Pineapple in good financial standing.

4. **Director of Marketing:** The Director of Marketing shall be responsible for the planning, development and implementation of all the FC Pineapple marketing strategies and communications.

Section B. Replacement of the member of the leadership team

Should the President resign or be otherwise unable to perform his or her duties, the Secretary shall assume the duties of the President and appoint a new secretary under the procedure described in Article V, Section G. Should the President and Secretary resign or be otherwise unable to perform their duties, the remaining members of the Board of Directors shall immediately call for special elections.

| ARTICLE VIII. DISCIPLINE |

Section A. Disciplinary Powers:

The Leadership team and Board of Directors shall have full authority over all disciplinary matters within FC Pineapple, including all violations of FC Pineapple Code of Conduct. Disciplinary options available to the Board of Directors include, but are not limited to: warnings, reprimands, suspensions, requirements to take corrective action, bans, and lifetime bans.

Section B. Disciplinary Actions:

Disciplinary action may only be brought by a motion of a member of the Leadership Team or a member of the Board of Directors, after a fair investigation on the basis of hearing a factual report from any member. Any member of FC Pineapple requesting disciplinary action be taken against another member must first submit his or her request to the President.

Once a motion to enact disciplinary sanctions against a member has been made and seconded, a 2/3 supermajority vote of the Board of Directors and Leadership Team is required to pass the motion. For a lifetime ban to be imposed, a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors and Leadership Team is required.

If a disciplinary action motion is passed, the Secretary shall note the vote and the sanction authorized in the official minutes of FC Pineapple and draft a letter or e-mail to the sanctioned party informing them of the decision made and the type of sanction imposed.

Section C. Disciplinary Enforcement:

The Board of Directors, and specifically the President, shall be responsible for seeing the discipline is enforced. The President shall make reasonable efforts to enforce activity bans and suspensions, understanding that certain events for FC Pineapple such as matchday gatherings at tailgates or seating section of FC Pineapple at Soldier Field, or similar events do not lend themselves to excluding individuals easily.

Section D. Appeals:

The decision of the Board of Directors and Leadership Team on matters of discipline other than bans lasting longer than one year is final.

For bans lasting longer than one year, the Board and Leadership Team may move for reconsideration of a ban by the Voting Membership at an FC Pineapple meeting. If the Board and Leadership Team so moves, the Board must present the case for lifting the ban, as well as the reasons for the ban initially, to the Membership for a vote. A ban lasting longer than one year may only be overturned by a supermajority 2/3 vote of all members present at the meeting as well as a 2/3 supermajority vote of the Board of Directors.

Should a ban be overturned, the Secretary shall note the vote in the minutes and draft a letter to the banned party, notifying them their ban has been overturned.

Section E. Reinstatement:

Any member who has served a term of suspension longer than six (6) months, or who has a lifetime ban or suspension lifted by means of a successful appeal, must re-apply for membership upon the conclusion of the suspension or lifting of the suspension or lifetime ban. Granting of the re-application shall be conditional upon payment of dues and a reaffirmation of FC Pineapple Code of Conduct.

| ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS |

Section A. Process of Amendments:

Amendments to the Bylaws may be proposed by any member of FC Pineapple prior to the Annual Meeting. The amendment shall then be distributed via normal communications channels to the Membership at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting.

Section B. Voting of Amendments:

Amendments to the Bylaws require a second and a 2/3 supermajority vote of both the Board of Directors and 2/3 supermajority of votes cast by the Membership.

All members of FC Pineapple who have been voting members in good standing for at least sixty (60) days shall be eligible to vote on proposed amendments to the bylaws.

Section C. Voting Procedure:

Voting shall be conducted by the Secretary and utilize a secret ballot format. Voting shall consist of a Yes or No question on the issue of adopting the proposed amendment.

| ARTICLE X. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS |

Section A. Review of Regulations and Bylaws:

The Board of Directors shall order review of the Regulations and Bylaws of FC Pineapple not less than once every three (3) years. The President shall appoint an ad hoc committee for the purpose of reviewing the Regulations and Bylaws and making any recommendations for changes.

Section B. Invalid Provisions:

In the event that any portion of these Bylaws is found to be in violation of any local, state, or federal regulation, ordinance, or statute, the remaining portion of these Bylaws shall be unaffected and remain in full force and effect.

Section C. Disposition of Assets:

Should FC Pineapple cease to exist, the remaining assets and funds of FC Pineapple shall be disbursed consistent with the Mission Statement and Purpose and the laws of the State of Illinois at the direction of the Board of Directors and Leadership Team prior to dissolution.

Section D. Statement of Independence:

FC Pineapple asserts and declares that it is a fully independent and autonomous supporters group and is answerable to no entities or individuals other than the Membership and any state, local or federal governmental agencies.

| ARTICLE XI. INDEMNIFICATION |

Section A. Mandatory Indemnification:

The Organization shall indemnify any board member and leader in a leadership position, who was wholly successful, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of any proceeding to which he or she was a party because he or she is or was a Director of the organization against reasonable expenses incurred by him or her in connection with the proceedings.

Section B. Indemnification of Officers, Agents, and Employees:

An officer of the Organization who is not a Director is entitled to mandatory indemnification under this Article to the same extent as a Director. The Organization may also indemnify and advance expenses to an employee or agent of the Organization who is not a Director, consistent with the law of the state in which the nonprofit is incorporated and public policy, provided that such indemnification, and the scope of such indemnification, is set forth by the general or specific action of the Board or by contract.