

Constitution of TNG-Arizona

Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be “The Next Generation of Kink in Arizona.”

This may be abbreviated to “TNG-Arizona,” “TNG-AZ,” “TNG: AZ,” or “TNG.”

Article II: Purpose and Principles

Section 1. Purpose:

(a) The primary purposes of this Club are

- i. To provide a safe environment where people between the ages of 18 and 39 who are interested in BDSM and the kink and fetish lifestyles can have fun discovering and exploring alternative lifestyles, and can meet like-minded people, and
- ii. To provide education and instruction about BDSM and the kink and fetish lifestyles and to teach the skills needed to engage in these lifestyles in a safe manner.

(b) When not in conflict with paragraph (a), the secondary purposes of this Club are

- i. To foster ties with other BDSM, kink and fetish organizations, and
- ii. To promote public understanding and acceptance of BDSM and the kink and fetish lifestyles.

Section 2. Principles: TNG is not a dating service or a sex Club, and in no way promises or provides any type of personal interaction. TNG welcomes people of all lifestyles, sexual orientations and genders. TNG is a RACK (Risk-Aware Consensual Kink) organization.

Article III: Membership

Section 1. Classes of Membership: There shall be two classes of membership in TNG: Regular and Honorary. The terms “member” by itself and “membership” by itself shall be used to encompass both classes of membership.

Section 2. Regular Members: Regular Members are full members of the Club, with full rights to attend meetings and events and to run for office and vote in elections.

(a) Eligibility: Regular Membership is open to anyone who

- i. Is interested in the aims of this Club,
- ii. Has reached his or her eighteenth birthday,
- iii. Has not yet reached his or her fortieth birthday, and
- iv. Is able to demonstrate that he or she is present in Arizona frequently enough to be an active participant in the Club.

(b) Dues: Annual dues for Regular Members shall be set by the board.

(c) Expiration:

- i. A Regular Membership shall expire at the end of the twelfth calendar month following its purchase.
- ii. Notwithstanding paragraph (a)
- iii., a Regular Member who turns forty years old shall remain a Regular Member until such time as his or her Regular Membership expires, at which time he or she may petition the Board to become an Honorary Member.

Section 3. Honorary Members: Honorary Members shall have the same rights to attend meetings and events as do Regular Members, but shall not be entitled to run for office or vote in elections.

(a) Eligibility: The Board may at its discretion offer Honorary Membership to anyone who

- i. Is interested in the aims of this Club,
- ii. Has reached his or her eighteenth birthday, and
- iii. In the Board’s judgment would be a positive asset to the Club. In determining this the Board may take into consideration factors including, but not limited to, active participation at Club events, standing in the broader fetish community, and the degree to which the person fits into the Club’s social dynamic.

(b) Dues: Honorary Members shall pay no membership dues.

(c) Annual Review: The Board shall conduct an annual review of the Honorary Members. To those the Board deems it in the interests of the Club to retain, it shall extend invitations to renew Honorary Membership. Any remaining Honorary Memberships shall expire at the close of the annual review.

Section 4. Resignation: Any member may resign from the Club by submitting a resignation in writing to the Membership officer. Membership dues are not refundable.

Section 5. Removal: Any Member's membership may be terminated by the Board with or without cause. It shall be the responsibility of the Board to take disciplinary action against any Member whose conduct is found to be unbecoming that of a Member of TNG. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to, any that tends to injure the good name of the Club, disturb its well-being, or hamper it in its work.

Article IV: Officers

Section 1. Officers: The Club shall have a Board of Directors comprising the following seven Officers:

(a) President: The President shall serve as chief executive officer of the Club, call and chair meetings of the Board of Directors, and oversee the general activities of the Club. He or she may sign any contract or agreement which the Board of Directors has authorized to be executed. The President shall make an annual State of the Club report to the members, is responsible for ensuring that Officers meet their obligations in a timely fashion, and shall perform such additional duties as the Board may from time to time direct.

(b) Membership: The Membership Officer shall keep and maintain the membership list, application, and orientation forms, shall moderate the forums and manage member accounts, and shall train those authorized to give orientations. He or she shall be the primary contact for complaints against members. The Membership Officer shall assist the other board members in their duties as necessary and shall be responsible for developing such additional services for the Membership as are not already the responsibility of another officer. He or she shall serve as liaison between the Membership and the Board, communicating Members' concerns and complaints to the Board. The Membership Officer shall chair board meetings when the President is absent and shall perform such additional duties as the Board may from time to time direct.

(c) Treasurer: The Treasurer shall have charge of the funds of the Club, shall keep a record of all receipts and disbursements and shall be responsible for filing the Club's tax returns. He or she shall make payments only when duly authorized by the board, and shall render a written report at each board meeting. He or she shall post quarterly finance reports to the members and shall perform such additional duties as the Board may from time to time direct.

(d) Programming: The Programming Officer shall organize and coordinate TNG's events and social functions, shall arrange for hosts and presenters, shall chair meetings of the Programming Advisory Committee, and shall perform such additional duties as the Board may from time to time direct.

(e) Marketing & Outreach: The Marketing & Outreach Officer shall be responsible for organizing and coordinating recruitment efforts and for public outreach, and shall perform such additional duties as the Board may from time to time direct.

(f) Secretary: The Secretary shall render a written report at each board meeting. The Secretary shall maintain a copy of all official correspondence and be custodian of all documents of the Club except membership forms, shall take board meeting minutes, and shall maintain a current list of rules and policies. He or she shall post the meeting minutes and list of rules/policies on the Member's forum, and shall perform such additional duties as the Board may from time to time direct.

(g) All Board members shall be responsible for training their respective successors.

Section 2. In performing the duties of office each officer shall act in the best interests of TNG and abide by its Constitution. At any time that an officer believes that he or she can no longer adequately perform the duties of office, that officer shall notify the Board and tender his or her resignation.

Article V: Meetings

Section 1. Regular Board meetings:

(a) The Board shall have regular meetings every month. These shall be open to the membership except for any portion held in executive session.

(b) The Secretary shall announce regular Board meetings to the Members at least fourteen days in advance.

(c) The Secretary shall post all approved minutes to the Members' forum in a timely fashion.

Section 2. Town Hall meeting: The Board shall have at least one town hall meeting each calendar year for the purpose of hearing and answering Members' concerns. At this meeting the President shall make a State of the Club address. A transcript of this address shall be posted to the Members' forum by the Secretary and included in the archives of the Club's documents. The Town Hall meeting shall not count as a Board meeting.

Section 3. Business conducted online: The Board may transact such business on the Board forum as it deems cannot be delayed to the next Board meeting.

(a) Although the official vote takes place online, such business shall be reported at, and be included in the minutes of the next regular Board meeting.

(b) When a motion is proposed for online voting each Board member may vote in favor of the motion, in opposition to the motion, or may explicitly abstain by voting "present."

(c) The voting period shall remain open for seven days.

(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (c), if at any time a majority of Board members have voted in favor the motion passes immediately.

(e) If at the end of the voting period a quorum of Board members have not voted (including votes of "present"), the motion fails.

(f) If at the end of the voting period a quorum have voted and there are more votes in favor than opposed, the motion passes.

Section 4. Special Meetings: The Board may, by majority vote, call special meetings when requested to do so by any Board member. The Secretary shall post the announcement of the meeting to the Members' forum. The purpose(s) of the meeting shall be stated in the announcement, and no other business shall be transacted at the meeting. At least 48 hours' notice shall be given to the Board members except by unanimous consent. The Secretary shall post approved minutes to the Members' forum in a timely fashion.

Section 5. Quorum: A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum for all meetings.

Section 6. Board votes: Board votes can be made by telephone, teleconference, or online. Board votes shall not be made by secret ballot, except that at the Board's discretion secret ballots may be used for disciplinary proceedings and for the election of officers.

Section 7. Executive Session: The Board shall not go into executive session except when absolutely necessary for reasons of confidentiality to discuss behavioral, disciplinary or legal issues. Notwithstanding any previous section, minutes to meetings held in executive session shall

not be posted to the Members' forum, and the announcement of a special meeting held entirely in executive session shall not be posted to the Members' forum.

Article VI: Board of Directors and Elections

Section 1. Board of Directors: The Board of Directors shall consist of the five officers.

(a) Term of office: The term of each office shall be from January 1 through December 31.

(b) Eligibility for the Board: A candidate for the Board of Directors

i. Must be a Regular Member in good standing with dues fully paid throughout the whole of the voting period, and

ii. Must not reach his or her fortieth birthday by the first day of his or her term of office.

iii. Must have obtained membership at least 6 months prior to elections.

(d) Standing: Each board member must remain a member in good standing throughout his or her term of office and must renew his or her Regular Membership as necessary. A board member who reaches his or her fortieth birthday during the term of office shall have his or her Regular Membership extended until the term ends or he or she leaves office.

Section 2. Elections:

(a) Nominations: The nomination period for elections shall start at 12 noon on the second-to last Sunday in October and end at 12 noon on the last Sunday in October. Any eligible Regular Member may nominate him- or herself for no more than two offices, and may only serve in one.

(b) Elections: Voting shall open at 12 noon on the first Monday in November and close at 12 noon on the second Monday in November. Regular Members are eligible to vote. Vote counts shall remain secret until the election closes. Votes cannot be changed once cast.

(c) Ballots: Elections shall be held online and shall be by secret ballot. The ballot for each office shall list each candidate nominated for that office and the option "None of the Above," with instructions to select no more than one option.

(d) The election shall be resolved by using, in order, the steps of the following algorithm:

i. Each race starts out Unresolved.

ii. If None of the Above wins a race, that race is considered Vacant. A Vacant race is not considered Unresolved.

- iii. The option None of the Above is removed from each Unresolved race.
 - iv. In each race, any candidate that is not winning or tied for winning is removed.
 - v. Any candidate receiving more votes than any other in a race wins that race and enters the Board-elect.
 - vi. Any candidate that wins more than one race selects which race they wish to win, and that candidate is removed from the other race.
 - vii. Any races with no candidates at this step are considered Vacant.
 - viii. The Board-elect (see step v. above) shall meet to break ties in any remaining Unresolved races. Those selected by the Board-elect may not participate in the breaking of ties in other races.
 - ix. Any races that are Vacant shall be filled by the new Board upon taking office as in Section 3 below.
- (e) Results: The Secretary shall post vote counts and announce results on the Members' forum in a timely fashion.

Section 3. Resignations & Vacancies: Resignation from the board must be in writing and received by the Secretary. The board shall fill vacancies by appointing an eligible Regular Member.

Section 4. Removal: Any Board member may be removed from the Board at any time, with or without cause, by a two thirds vote of the Board, including the Board member that is the subject of the removal action. It shall be the responsibility of the Board to remove any Board member who is not active in Board duties, or who fails to carry out the responsibilities of his or her office.

Section 5. Recall: Any Board member may be recalled with or without cause by the Regular Membership. Upon submission to the Board of a petition signed by thirty (30) Regular Members or one third of the Regular Members (whichever is less), the Board shall put the recall question to an online vote of the Regular Membership. A majority of votes cast shall be sufficient to recall a Board member, whereupon that office becomes vacant. The Board shall fill it as in Section 3. above, except that they shall not reappoint the recalled Board member. Regular Members may sign recall petitions using their TNG forum names.

Section 6. Charitable Donations: The Board shall not make charitable donations without the approval (by a majority of votes cast) of the Regular Members.

Section 7. Voting Periods: For the purposes of Section 5 and Section 6 above the motion to be considered shall be posted to the Members' forum and then seven days allowed for discussion

before the polls open. Regular Members shall be notified of the opening of the polls by e-mail. Seven days shall be scheduled for voting before the polls close. The motion to be considered shall be posted to the Members' forum and then seven days allowed for discussion before the polls open. Regular Members shall be notified of the opening of the polls by e-mail. Seven days shall be scheduled for voting before the polls close.

Article VII: Committees

Section 1. Programming Advisory Committee: The Programming Advisory Committee shall meet at least twice a year at the discretion and call of the Programming Officer. The Committee shall consist of all members attending, and shall offer advice and suggestions to the Programming Officer.

Section 2. Others: The Board shall have power to create new standing committees, and to disband standing committees except for Programming Advisory Committee.

Article VIII: Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern TNG in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with this constitution and any special rules of order the organization may adopt.

Article IX: Amendments

The Board may by a vote of two thirds submit amendments to this Constitution. Such submissions shall be posted to the Members' forum and shall include the full text of the amendment. After the posting thirty days shall be scheduled for discussion before the polls open for ratification. Regular Members shall be notified of the opening of the polls by e-mail. One full week shall be scheduled for ratification before the polls close. The ballot shall include the full text of the amendment followed by the question, "Shall the amendment above be adopted?" together with the two options "Yes" and "No". Regular Members may vote, and ratification shall require passage by two thirds of the votes cast.

Article X: Dissolution

Upon voluntary or involuntary dissolution of the Club all assets of the Club shall be transferred to one or more like purpose organization(s) selected by the Board at its final meeting.