

Bylaws of EriCan Cycling Club

Introduction

We, the members of the Eritrean Canadian Cycling Club (EriCan), recognizing the vital role of cycling in fostering physical fitness, health, and well-being do hereby establish these Bylaws. The club is established as a not-for-profit corporation and is not organized for personal gain. All resources of the club shall be exclusively utilized to advance its stated objectives.

Article I: Name

The name of the organization shall be "EriCan Cycling Club / Eritrean Canadian Cycling Club / EriCan" (hereafter referred to as "the Club").

Article II: Duration

The duration of the corporation is perpetual, unless dissolved according to the laws of Ontario and Canada.

Article III: Objectives

The purpose of the EriCan Cycling Club is to:

- Promote cycling as a means of enhancing physical wellness and cultivating social connections
- Promote cycling as a healthy and environmentally friendly mode of transportation and recreation.
- To bring people together in a peaceful and harmonious environment through cycling, fostering friendships, community, and shared experiences.
- Organize group rides, training sessions, and educational programs focused on cycling safety, maintenance, and advocacy.
- Encourage participation in local, regional, national, and international cycling events.
- Promote inclusivity and diversity within the cycling community.
- Support charitable causes and community initiatives through cycling-related events and partnerships.
- Participate and play an active role in promoting Eritrean cycling culture in Canada, and engaging in Eritrean cultural and sports community-organized activities to represent and promote EriCan.
- Create opportunities for collaboration with other cycling clubs and organizations, thereby advancing the collective aspirations and future endeavors of the Club members.

Article IV: Membership

1. **Eligibility: Membership** is open to any individual who supports the purpose of the Club.

2. **Membership:**

A Cycling Club Member is an individual who has officially registered with the club and has fulfilled all required membership obligations, including the payment of membership dues. Registered members typically gain access to club benefits, such as participation in organized rides, events, training sessions, and other exclusive activities. They are expected to adhere to the club's rules, regulations, and code of conduct while representing the club in cycling-related activities.

Members:

- Be entitled to receive notice of and attend all meetings.
- Hold one vote at each meeting.
- Be eligible for election to the Board of Directors after completing 12 months of continuous club membership.

3. **Dues:**

The Board of Directors shall determine the annual membership dues, which shall be subject to approval by the members at the Annual General Meeting.

Any revisions to the membership fees shall take effect at the beginning of the calendar year. Members are required to remit the approved membership dues by the end of January each year to maintain their active membership status.

4. **Registration Period:** Registration for membership in the Club is open year-round, allowing individuals to register at any time throughout the year.
5. **Registration Fee Payment Terms:** The registration fee is structured as follows:
 - **Early Bird Rate:** \$100.00 per year. Payment must be made by the end of February.
 - **Standard Rate:** \$120.00 per year. Payment must be made between the end of February and the end of September.
 - **End-of-Season Rate:** \$25.00 per year. Payment must be made between October 1st and December 31st.
Note: "Per year" refers to a twelve-month period beginning on January 1st and concluding on December 31st.
6. **Rights:**

All members have the right to participate in Club activities and events, vote in general elections (observing Membership Categories) propose initiatives and receive communications.
7. **Responsibilities:**

Members are expected to:

 - Uphold the values and objectives of the Club,
 - Pay annual membership fee on time; and
 - Respect the values and objectives of the club and promote its activities in a positive and inclusive manner.

Article V: Structure and Governance

1. **Executive Committee:** Shall be responsible for managing the affairs of the Club, making policy decisions, and ensuring the Club's mission is fulfilled.

The Club shall be governed by an Executive Committee, consisting of the following elected officers:

 - **President:** Responsible for overall leadership, representing the EriCan at external events, and overseeing the implementation of community objectives.
 - **Vice President:** Assists the President and stands in their place in case of absence. Responsible for organizing events and initiatives.
 - **Secretary:** Handles communication, records minutes of meetings, and maintains membership records.
 - **Treasurer:** Manages the Club finances, including fundraising, donations, and financial planning.
 - **Communication administrator:** Responsible for maintaining EriCan's communication platforms including online digital presence. This role involves ensuring effective communication with members and the broader cycling community by providing updates, scheduling events, and sharing activities of interest.
2. **Club Committee:** The Club shall establish additional committees responsible for managing and coordinating all Club activities, including the organization of special events and volunteer coordination. Membership in these committees shall be open to all members in good standing, who may also assume leadership roles within the committees.

Event Coordinator

 - Responsible for organizing cycling events, races, and social gatherings.
 - Coordinates with volunteers and external partners to ensure the successful execution of events.

Sports Director

- Develops and oversees Club training plans.

Auditors / Advisors

- Comprise two members tasked with conducting an annual audit of the Club's financial status to ensure transparency and compliance.
- Advisory to the board of directors

3. Elections and Terms:

The Executive Committee and the other Committees listed above shall be elected every three years by a majority vote of the members. Elections shall be held during the Annual General Meeting (AGM), with all members in good standing eligible to vote and run for office.

- The term of office for each position is three years, with no limit to re-election, provided that the member remains in good standing.
- Special elections may be called if a vacancy arises during the year.

4. Quorum: A majority of the Board members shall constitute a quorum for conducting business.

Article VI: Meetings

1. Annual General Meeting (AGM):

The Executive Committee shall convene an Annual General Meeting (AGM) each year to provide an update to the members on the overall status of the Club. The AGM shall specifically address the following:

- Presentation of the financial report.
- Presentation of the progress report.
- Consideration and amendment of bylaws and code of conduct as necessary.
- Conducting a general election, if the term of the current Executive Committee is nearing its conclusion.

Notice of the AGM shall be issued to all members no less than 30 days prior to the meeting date.

- 2. Regular Meetings:** The Executive committee shall meet regularly, at least quarterly, to oversee Club operations.
- 3. Special Meetings:** Special meetings may be called by the President or most of the Board, or upon written request by at least 51% of the members.

Article VII: Fiscal Matters

- 1. Fiscal Year:** The fiscal year of the Club shall align with the calendar year.
- 2. Financial Records:** The Treasurer shall maintain accurate financial records. An annual financial report shall be presented at the AGM.
- 3. Revenue Sources:**
The Club will raise funds through membership fees, donations, sponsorships, fundraising events, and grants.
- 4. Financial Accountability:**
The Treasurer is responsible for ensuring transparency and accountability in the management of the Club's finances. All financial records shall be available for review by the membership at the Annual General Meeting.
- 5. Audit:** The Audit Committee shall conduct an annual audit of the club's financial status.
- 6. Use of Funds:** Funds raised by the club will be utilized to cover expenses incurred in advancing the club's objectives.

Article VIII: Activities and Events

1. **Cycling Rides and Fitness Events:**

The Club shall organize regular cycling rides and fitness events, such as group rides, training sessions, and health-focused rides, aimed at promoting fitness, improving cycling skills, and fostering social connections.

2. **Cultural and Social Events:**

The Club will organize get together events, such as summer picnics and formal dinner to provide members, their families, and friends with opportunities to connect, share experiences, and celebrate. These gatherings will foster a sense of community through cycling.

The club actively participates in various cultural and sports events to promote its objectives of fostering community, encouraging social connections, and promoting a healthy and active lifestyle through cycling. By engaging in these events, members have the opportunity to interact with diverse groups, share their passion for cycling, and strengthen friendships in a peaceful and harmonious environment. Additionally, the club's involvement in such events helps raise awareness about the benefits of cycling, supports local initiatives, and reinforces the spirit of teamwork and inclusivity among members and the broader community.

3. **Cycling Competitions and Races:**

The Club shall organize cycling races open to both Club members and non-members. These events will foster a supportive and friendly environment for competition, inspire participants, and provide opportunities for networking. Additionally, these races will serve as a platform to promote the Club's objectives and strengthen community engagement

Article IX: Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at any regular or special meeting, if notice of the proposed amendments has been given to the membership at least fourteen days prior to the meeting.

The amendments can be proposed by a member or the Board of Directors.

Any amendment to this Bylaw shall take effect immediately upon its approval unless otherwise specified.

Article X: Dissolution of the Club

In the event of the dissolution of the Club any remaining assets or funds shall be donated to a charitable organization that supports the objectives of the Club.