

**SAWGRASS SUBDIVISION HOMEOWNERS  
ASSOCIATION**

**An Illinois Not-For-Profit Corporation**

**BYLAWS**

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## BY-LAWS OF SAWGRASS SUBDIVISION HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

The administration of the Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association (“Association”), an Illinois Not-for-Profit Corporation, shall be governed by the following By-laws:

### ARTICLE I

#### Memberships

Section 1: Qualifications: Every person or entity who is a record owner of a lot in Sawgrass Subdivision (for purposes of these By-laws, Sawgrass Subdivision includes all sections or phases of Sawgrass Subdivision whether presently platted or to be platted in the future) or who is the beneficiary of a land trust holding title to a lot in the subdivision shall be a member of the Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association. Ownership of a lot shall be the sole qualification for membership. Additional property owners may become members of the Association as provided in the Owner’s Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions. If more than one person or entity is the record owner of or a beneficiary of a land trust holding title to a lot in Sawgrass Subdivision, all such persons or entities shall be members.

Section 2: Members: A member shall have no vested right, interest or privilege of, in, or to the assets, functions, affairs, or franchises of the Association, or any right, interest, or privilege which may be transferable or inheritable, or which shall continue after his membership ceases, or while he is not in good standing. The membership is appurtenant to and shall not be separated from ownership of a lot. Thus, membership shall automatically terminate upon the sale, transfer, or other disposition by a member of his ownership of a lot in Sawgrass Subdivision at which time the new owner shall automatically become a member of the Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association. Each member of the Association shall be bound by and shall observe the terms and provisions of the covenants and restrictions of Sawgrass Subdivision, the by-laws of the Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association and the rules and regulations promulgated from time to time by the Association or its Board of Directors. No member shall have the right or power to disclaim, terminate, or withdrawal from his membership in the Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association or from any of his obligations as such member by abandonment of his residence or for any other reason.

Section 3: Voting Rights: Each lot in the Sawgrass Subdivision shall be entitled to one vote, which may be cast, either in person or by proxy, by the owner of such lot. If more than one member is the record owner or beneficiary of the title-holding land trust of a lot in Sawgrass Subdivision, then the vote for that lot shall be exercised as those members amongst themselves determine. In no event shall more than one vote be cast with respect to any one lot. A lot owner may vote by written proxy, such proxy being invalid after eleven months from the date of its execution, unless otherwise provided in the proxy. Every proxy must bear the date of execution thereof.

Section 4: Suspension of Voting Rights: The Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association shall have the right to suspend the voting rights of any member for any period during which an assessment levied by the Association against the member's lot remains unpaid, upon the member's violation of the covenants and restrictions of Sawgrass Subdivision or upon the member's violation of any By-laws of the Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association. Any voting rights so suspended shall remain suspended until the unpaid assessments are paid in full or until the violation of the covenants and restrictions and/or the By- laws are cured.

## ARTICLE II

### Meetings of Members

Section 1: Initial Meeting: An initial meeting of the members of the Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association shall be held at such time the owner-developer, in its sole discretion, may call for an initial meeting of the members, but no later than June 30, 2004.

Section 2: Annual Meetings: After the initial meeting of the members has been held, there shall be an annual meeting of the members of the Association at such place as may be designated, on the second Thursday in November of each year, if not a legal holiday under the laws of the State of Illinois, and if a legal holiday then on the next succeeding business day, at 6:30 P.M., for the election of Directors and for the transaction of such business as may come before the meeting. Written notice of the Annual Meeting stating the date, place and the hour of the meeting shall be distributed by the Board of Directors or a representative designated by the Board. (Effective January 1, 2015).

Section 3: Special Meetings: Special meetings of the members shall be held whenever called by the Board of Directors or by the voting members having, in the aggregate, not less than twenty-five percent (25%) of the total votes of the Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association. Notice of each special meeting, stating the time, place and in general terms the purpose of purposes thereof, shall be sent by mail to the last known address of all members at least ten days prior to the meeting.

Section 4: Quorum: the presence in person or by written proxy at any meeting of the voting members having fifty percent (50%) of the total votes of the Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Unless otherwise expressly provided herein or required by the General Not-For-Profit Corporation Act or the Articles of Incorporation of the Association, any action may be taken at any meeting of the voting members at which a quorum is present upon the affirmative vote of the voting members having a majority of the total votes present at such meeting.

## ARTICLE III

### Board of Directors

Section 1: Number of Directors: The business and affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Board of Directors which shall consist of not less than three (3) persons. The initial Board of Directors need not be members of the Association. Thereafter, all of the Board shall consist of members of the Association or a designated representative or representatives of said member. At the inception of the Association, the Board shall consist of three (3) persons named in the Articles of Incorporation. After the initial meeting of the members of the Association, the number of Directors shall be fixed by the Board.

Section 2: Powers & Duties: The Board of Directors shall have the powers and duties necessary for the administration of the affairs of the Association and may do all such acts and activities as are, not by law or these By-laws, directed to be exercised and done by the members.

Section 3: Other duties: In addition to duties imposed by these By-laws, the Articles of Incorporation of the Association or by resolution of the Association, the Board of Directors shall be responsible for the following:

- A) Care and upkeep of the Subdivision including the common areas and facilities to the extent the same is not performed by members.
- B) Levying and collection of the annual assessments and any special assessments hereinafter provided for from the members.
- C) Designation and dismissal of personnel necessary for the accomplishment of the purposes of the Association.
- D) Expenditure of funds in accordance with the annual budget and amendments thereto.
- E) To enforce any and all covenants, restrictions and agreements applicable to lots within the subdivision and to adopt, amend and enforce rules and regulations.

Nothing herein shall impose any duty upon the Board of Directors to provide care, upkeep or maintenance upon any real property or improvement upon real property owned by any member of the Association which is not located upon the common areas of the Subdivision.

Section 4: Executive Committee: The Board of Directors may elect from their number an executive committee consisting of not less than three members of the Board, which committee shall have all the powers of the Board of Directors between meetings, regular or special. The President of the Association shall be a member of and shall be chairman of the Executive committee.

Section 5: Regular Meetings: The Board shall meet for the transaction of business at such place as may be designated from time to time. After the initial organizational meeting of the Board of Directors, a minimum of three regular meetings shall be held each calendar year.

Section 6: Special Meetings: Special Meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President or by three (3) members of the Board for any time and place, provided reasonable notice of such meeting shall be given to each member of the Board before the time appointed for such meetings.

Section 7: Quorum: The Directors shall act only as a Board, and the individual Directors shall have no power as such. A majority of the Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a majority of those present at the time and place of any regular or special meeting although less than a quorum, may adjourn the same from time to time without notice until a quorum be at hand. The act of a majority of Directors present at any meeting at which there is a quorum shall be the act of the Board of Directors, except as may be otherwise provided by law.

Section 8: Order of Business: The Board of Directors may from time to time determine the order of business at its meetings.

Section 9: Chairman: At all meetings of the Board of Directors, the President, or, in his absence, the Vice President, or in the absence of both, a chairman chosen by the Directors present, shall preside.

Section 10: Terms of Members of the Board: The initial Board of Directors named in the Articles of Incorporation and any additions thereto as permitted herein shall serve until their replacements are elected at the initial meeting of the members of the Association. Thereafter they shall be elected by the members of the Association at each annual meeting for the terms as determined by the Board.

Section 11: Compensation: Members of the Board shall receive no compensation for their services.

Section 12: Consent: Unless specifically prohibited by the Articles of Incorporation or By-laws, any action required to be taken at a meeting of the Board of Directors, or any other action which may be taken at a meeting of the Board of Directors, or of any committee thereof, may be taken without a meeting of Directors entitled to vote with respect to the subject matter thereof, or by all members of such committee, as the case may be. Any such consent signed by all the Directors or all the members of the committee shall be the same effect as a unanimous vote, and may be stated as such in any document filed with the Secretary of State or with anyone else.

Section 13: Annual Report: The Board of Directors, after the close of the fiscal year, shall submit to the members a report on the activities of the Association and shall submit an account of the financial transactions of the past year and a proposed budget for the ensuing year.

Section 14: Vacancies in the Board: Whenever a vacancy in the membership of the Board shall occur, the remaining members of the Board shall have the power, by a majority vote, to select a member of the association or a designated representative or representatives of said member to serve the unexpired term of the vacancy. If any Director fails to attend a majority of the number of meetings of the Board in any fiscal year, the Board may, in its sole discretion declare his office vacant.

## ARTICLE IV

### Officers

Section 1: Executive Officers: The Executive Officers of the Association shall include a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. All officers shall be elected annually by the Board of Directors, and they shall take office immediately after election. The officers of the Association for the first five (5) years from the date of incorporation need not be members of the Association. Thereafter, they shall be members of the Association or a designated representative or representatives of said member.

Section 2: The President: Subject to the direction of the Board of Directors, the President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association and shall perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him by the Board. The President shall be ex officio a member of all committees.

Section 3: The Vice President: The Vice President shall have such power and perform such duties as may be assigned to him by the Board of Directors or the President. In case of the absence or disability of the President, the duties of that officer shall be performed by the Vice President.

Section 4: The Secretary: The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all proceedings of the Board of Directors and of all committees and the minutes of the annual meetings and special meetings of the members, as well as the corporate seal and such books and papers as the Board may direct, and shall in general perform all the duties incident to the office of the Secretary, subject to the control of the Board of Directors and the President; further the Secretary shall also perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the President or by the Board.

Section 5: The Treasurer: The Treasurer shall have the custody of all the receipts, disbursements, funds, and securities of the Association and shall perform all duties incident to the office of the Treasurer, subject to the control of the Board of Directors and the President. He shall perform such other duties as may from time to time be assigned to him by the Board or the President. If required by the Board, he shall give a bond for the faithful discharge of his duties in such a sum as the Board may require.

Section 6: Subordinate Officers: The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, may appoint such other officers, agents and committee chairman as the Board may deem necessary, who shall hold office during the pleasure of the Board, and who shall have such authority and perform such duties as from time to time may be prescribed by the Board.

Section 7: Committees: The Board of Directors, by resolution adopted by a majority of the Directors in office, may designate one or more committees, which committees shall have such authority and perform such duties as from time to time may be prescribed by the Board. Each member of a committee shall continue as such until the next annual meeting of the members of the Association and until his successor is appointed, unless the committee shall be sooner terminated, or unless such member be removed from such committee, or unless such member shall cease to qualify as a member thereof. The Sawgrass Subdivision Architectural Committee shall not be subject to control of the Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association and shall operate independently of these By-laws, in accordance with the covenants and restrictions for Sawgrass Subdivision.

ARTICLE V

Loss of Property

Section 1: The Board of Directors shall not be liable for or responsible for the destruction or the loss of or damage to the property of any member or the guest of any member, or visitor, or other person.

ARTICLE VI

Maintenance and Special Assessments

Section 1: Creation of Assessments: The Board of Directors of Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association shall have the right and power to subject the property situated in all phases of Sawgrass Subdivision, except public streets, ways, and parks, to an annual maintenance assessment and to special assessments.

Commencing December 1, 2003, and on each December 1 thereafter, each owner of lots in Sawgrass Subdivision other than The Atkins Group (the original owner-subdivision) shall be assessed an annual maintenance charge against his lot or lots, and such annual maintenance assessment shall be used by the Association to create and continue a maintenance fund to be used by the Association as hereinafter stated. Until changed by further action of the Board of Directors as provided hereinafter, the annual maintenance charge shall be \$100 per address. (Effective November 10, 2016). The assessment charge shall be payable to Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association on January 1 the following year and will be delinquent when not paid by February 1 of the same year, with interest in the assessment accruing thereafter. (Effective November 1, 2012).

The annual maintenance assessment may be adjusted from year to year by the Board of Directors of Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association as the needs of the common areas in its judgment may require, but in no event shall the assessment in any year for any one address exceed the sum of Two Hundred Dollars, unless changed by a vote of the membership at an annual or special meeting. (Effective March 23, 2010).

Section 2: Special Assessments: Special Assessments may be levied by the Board of Directors, upon notice, to pay for capital improvements authorized by the members or to supplement any reserve established by the annual maintenance assessment.

Section 3: Use of Maintenance Assessments: The maintenance fund may be used:

- a) For lighting, improving and maintaining the street island and median areas, the common area easements, and dedicated right-of-way areas maintained for the general use of the owners and occupants of land included in such subdivision;
- b) For operating and maintaining any storm-water drains now or hereafter constructed in such subdivision that are not or will not be under the direct supervision of the City, or State, or drainage district; and
- c) For doing any other things necessary or desirable, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, to keep the property commons neat and in good order and which in the opinion of the Board of Directors may be of general benefit to the owners or occupants of the land included in such subdivision.

Section 4: Creation of Lien and Personal Obligation of Assessments: Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association shall have a continuing lien on each lot in Sawgrass Subdivision to secure the payment of maintenance or special assessments due and to become due, and the record owners of such lots shall be personally liable for all maintenance or special assessments.

Upon reasonable demand, the Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association shall furnish to any owner or mortgagee or person interested a statement showing the amount of any unpaid assessment charges against any address or addresses.

Section 5: Non-payment of Assessments: If any regular maintenance or special assessment is not paid on the date when due, then such assessment shall become delinquent and shall, together with such interest thereon and costs of collection including reasonable attorney's fees as hereinafter provided, thereupon become a continuing lien on the property and an equitable charge running with the land touching and concerning it, which shall bind upon property in the hands of the then owner, his grantees, heirs, devisees, administrators, executors, legal representatives, assigns and successors, and the limitation thereof shall coincide with the statutory limitation of the State of Illinois for an enforcement of oral agreements. The personal obligation of the then owner to pay such assessment, however, shall remain his personal obligation for the statutory period and shall not pass as a personal obligation to his successors in title unless expressly assumed by them. If title to a lot is held by an Illinois Land Trust, the

Trustee shall not have any personal liability for the assessment, but all beneficiaries of the Trust shall be jointly and severally so liable. In the event title to a lot is held by more than one owner, all owners shall be jointly and severally liable. The lien shall attach to rents due from parties in possession to the record owners, provided that it shall be subordinate to an assignment of rents held by a mortgagee delivered in connection with the first mortgage loan to purchase the property.

If the assessment is not paid within 30 days after the delinquency date, the assessment shall bear interest from the date of delinquency at the maximum rate of interest per annum permitted by the usury laws of the State of Illinois and the Association may bring an action at law against the owner personally obligated to pay same or to foreclose the lien against the property and there shall be added to the amount of such assessment all the costs of preparing and filing the complaint and maintaining and concluding such action, including the costs of the title reports, and in the event a personal judgment or decree of foreclosure is obtained, such judgment decree shall include interest on the assessment as above provided and a reasonable attorney's fee to be fixed by the court together with all costs of the action. The venue for all legal actions shall be in Champaign County, Illinois. The persons in possession shall be authorized to accept the summons for the owners of the lot.

No owner may waive or otherwise escape liability for the assessments provided for herein for any reason. In the event that title to any lot is conveyed to a land trust, upon the demand of the Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association, the Trustee shall furnish the Association with a certified copy of the trust agreement and any amendments thereto, so that the Association shall be advised of the identity of the beneficiaries entitled to vote and who will be personally liable for the regular and special assessments.

## ARTICLE VII

### Notice

Section 1: Notice: Whenever, according to these By-laws, a notice shall be required to be given to any member or director, it shall not be construed to mean personal notice, but such notice may be given in writing by depositing the same in a post office in Champaign County, Illinois, in a postpaid sealed envelope, addressed to such member, or Director at his address as the same appears on the books of the Association, and the time when such notice is mailed shall be deemed the time of the giving of such notice.

Section 2: Waiver of Notice: Whenever any notice is required to be given under the provisions of these By-laws or under the provisions of the Article of Incorporation or under the provisions of the Illinois General Not-For-Profit Corporation Act, a waiver thereof in writing, signed by the person or persons entitled to such notice whether before or after the time stated therein, shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of such notice.

## ARTICLE VIII

### Amendments

The provisions of these By-laws may be changed, modified, or rescinded by an instrument in writing setting forth such change, modification, or rescission certified by the Secretary. Such change, modification, or rescission shall be approved at a membership meeting called for this purpose. The presence in person or by proxy at said meeting of the voting members of the Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association having a majority of the total votes shall constitute a quorum. However, said change, modification, or rescission must be approved by not less than a majority of the total number of votes of the Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association.

Prior to the election of the Board of Directors at the first annual meeting of the members of the Association, the initial three member Board of Directors named in the Articles of Incorporation and any additions thereto shall have the authority to authorize, implement and amend these By-laws in the whole, or in part, without complying with the provisions of the first paragraph of Article VIII of these By- laws.

## ARTICLE IX

### Corporate Seal

Section 1: Corporate Seal: The corporate seal shall have engraved thereon the following: “Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association – Seal – Incorporated 2003”. It shall remain in custody of the Secretary and shall be by him affixed to all instruments in writing requiring the corporate seal for complete execution. An impression thereof is directed to be affixed to these By-laws.

## ARTICLE X

### Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the corporation shall begin on the 1st day of January and shall terminate on the 31st day of December of each year. (Effective November 14, 2024).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, these By-laws were approved and adopted by a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Association held on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2025.

(Being the Board Members of Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association)

Charles E. Stout Jr.

Charles E. Stout Jr.

Bonnie L. McGrew

Bonnie L. McGrew

Julia Strode

Denise M. Specht-Forsberg

Denise M. Specht-Forsberg

Ronald Kocher

*SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE*

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that I am the duly elected and acting Secretary of Sawgrass Subdivision Homeowners Association, an Illinois Not-For-Profit Corporation, do hereby certify that the foregoing are the true and accurate Bylaws adopted by the Board of Directors and approved by the Members of the Association on MARCH 13, 2025.

Bonnie L. McGraw  
Secretary