

# **CONSTITUTION OF THE USS CHINOOK**

## **ARTICLE 1: Club Name and Class Designation**

1-A: The name of the organization shall be the USS Chinook. The term "USS Chinook" will be used interchangeably with "club" in this document.

1-B: The USS Chinook shall be designated as an Nebula Class Starship and is attached to Region 5 STARFLEET.

## **ARTICLE 2: Club Purpose, Organization Type and Affiliation**

2-A: The USS Chinook shall be an unincorporated nonprofit organization.

2-B: The purpose of the USS Chinook shall be to provide an enjoyable atmosphere for the appreciation of the Star Trek "Universe" and to foster the ideals of Gene Roddenberry, creator of Star Trek through community service and other charitable, nonprofit activities.

2-C: This Washington State, Pacific Northwest based club shall be a recognized chapter of STARFLEET INTERNATIONAL and as such, shall enjoy all the benefits accorded to it under the STARFLEET INTERNATIONAL CONSTITUTION.

## **ARTICLE 3: Membership Definitions**

3-A: A member shall be considered in good standing subject to the other provisions of this Constitution.

3-B: All members in good standing who are eighteen (18) years of age or older shall have full voting privileges.

3-C: STARFLEET INTERNATIONAL membership is required for all members of the USS Chinook.

3-D: Membership applications shall be open to all Star Trek fans without regard to age, race, religion, creed, gender or nationality.

3-E: Members who are between the ages of ten (10) years of age and seventeen (17) years of age are welcome to join our Cadet program and attend all functions provided they follow the Cadet Code of Honor. Children under the age of ten (10) are welcome to attend certain family functions but must otherwise remain on base (at home).

3-F: Non-members have a grace period of 3 meetings or 90 days to decide

whether or not to become a permanent member of the USS Chinook. This time allotment can be negotiated if other circumstances (job, medical, family, military, etc.) prevent the potential member from making a decision.

#### **ARTICLE 4: The Commanding Officer**

4-A: The Commanding Officer (CO) is elected for a two (2) year term of office, beginning on January 1<sup>st</sup> until December 31<sup>st</sup> the following year. After the two (2) year term they may be reelected if the crew so chooses.

4-B: Qualifications for CO are included in Article 9.

#### **ARTICLE 5: The Executive Officer**

5-A: The CO appoints the Executive Officer (XO) when the CO first assumes office.

5-B: The XO can conduct meetings or Executive Board Meetings if the CO requests or is unable to chair the meeting(s).

5-C: The XO automatically assumes the office of Commanding Officer (CO) if the CO is unable to complete his/her term of office. If the XO does not meet the requirements for the office of CO, the XO shall become the Acting Commanding Officer and the Executive Board shall initiate an emergency election per Article 9 of this Constitution.

5-D: The XO may be replaced any time during the term of the current CO. The CO and/or the Senior Staff can choose to remove the XO at any time.

5-E: The XO leaves office when a new CO is elected and assumes office.

5-F: Qualifications for XO are listed in Article 9.

#### **ARTICLE 6: Executive Board**

6-A: The Executive Board consists of members appointed by the CO. 66% of the Executive Board must be present to conduct Executive Board Meetings. The CO shall not make changes to the Executive Board during consideration of and during the process of impeachment.

6-B: The Executive Board shall consist of:

- XO
- SO (Second Officer)
- Marine OIC

- Marine DOIC

The CO shall chair the Executive Board and only vote in case of a tie. The board can be enlarged if the Executive Board deems it necessary to properly represent the entire ship.

6-C: The appointment of the Marine OIC will be from amongst candidates presented by and from among the members of the 506th Marine Strike Group based aboard the USS Chinook.

6-D: Executive Board members must meet the requirements in Article 9.

6-E: Board members leave office when a new CO is elected and assumes office.

6-F: The Executive Board shall have the authority to make and enforce all USS Chinook regulations. Regulations are defined as any rules of conduct, operational procedures, or club agenda that are not in violation of the USS Chinook Constitution or that of Starfleet International Constitution.

6-G: Regulations may be approved or amended by a majority vote of the Executive Board. The CO shall have the final approval of any regulations and has the authority of veto.

## **ARTICLE 7: Ranks and Transfer of Rank.**

7-A: USS Chinook ranks are fictional and serve only to reflect a member's length of time in and contribution to the organization. These fictional ranks do not give any member authority over another member in this club.

7-B: Advancement in rank shall be according to participation points earned and her/his conduct within the club. Points in excess of those required to advance in rank shall carry over and apply toward the next rank level. The Executive Board may make meritorious promotions if warranted.

7-C: Crew members must report points earned for rank at the end of each monthly to the XO for consideration by the Executive Board for advancement quarterly.

7-D: The Executive Board will establish the rank point structure and may amend it at any time.

7-E: Members who have transferred from another vessel shall have their ranks honored with a 30 day probation to give the CO time to contact the member's previous CO to verify their rank. Once the rank is verified the new member then has the opportunity to work on advancement if they so choose. Their position on their previous ship however may not be honored due to the fact

that we may have someone in that position already or do not desire to have that position on our ship.

**ARTICLE 8: Meetings.**

8-A: General Meetings are normally held once a month. The Day, time and location designated by the CO. Any member may attend.

8-B: Executive Board Meetings are at the discretion of the CO.

8-C: Meetings shall normally be conducted by the CO or the XO. If both are absent, the meeting may be conducted by a Senior Officer appointed by the CO.

**ARTICLE 9: Election Procedures.**

9-A: The election of the CO shall be held biennially at the October General meeting, except in case of emergency. There shall be no campaigning til August of the election year.

9-B: The Executive Board will publish a list of qualified members for CO in the July newsletter.

9-C: Nominations for CO will be accepted during the August General Meeting, unless otherwise decided by the Executive Board.

9-D: Nominees for CO may accept or decline their nominations at the September meeting.

9-E: Qualifications for the Executive Board are:

1. Commanding Officer
  - At least twenty-one (21) years of age.
  - A member in good standing of Starfleet International.
  - A member in good standing of the USS Chinook.
  - Successfully completed the Officers Training School in Starfleet Academy.
  - Successfully completed the Officers Command College or will complete the course within ninety (90) days of assuming office.
  - Achieved the rank of Lieutenant.

Must have served aboard the USS Chinook for a minimum of one (1) year.

2. Executive Officer

- At least twenty-one (21) years of age.
- A member in good standing of Starfleet International.
- A member in good standing of the USS Chinook.
- Successfully completed the Officers Training School in Starfleet Academy.
- Successfully completed the Officers Command College or will complete the course within ninety (90) days of assuming office.
- Achieved the rank of Lieutenant.

Must have served aboard the USS Chinook for a minimum of one (1) year.

### 3. Marine Officer in Charge (OIC)

- At least twenty-one (21) years of age.
- A member in good standing of Starfleet International.
- A member in good standing of the USS Chinook.
- A member in good standing of Starfleet Marine Corps.
- An Active or Reserve Marine.
- Successfully completed the Officers Training School in Starfleet Academy.
- Successfully completed through PD-15 or will complete the course within ninety (90) days of assuming office.
- Achieved the rank of Captain in the SFMC.

Must have served aboard the USS Chinook for a minimum of six (6) months.

### 4. Deputy Marine Officer in Charge (DOIC)

- At least twenty-one (21) years of age.
- A member in good standing of Starfleet International.
- A member in good standing of the USS Chinook.
- A member in good standing of Starfleet Marine Corps.
- An Active or Reserve Marine.
- Successfully completed the Officers Training School in Starfleet Academy.
- Successfully completed through PD-14 or will complete the course within ninety (90) days of assuming office.
- Achieved the rank of First Lieutenant in the SFMC.

Must have served aboard the USS Chinook for a minimum of six (6) months.

### 5. Second Officer

- At least eighteen (18) years of age.
- A member in good standing of Starfleet International.
- A member in good standing of the USS Chinook.
- Successfully completed the Officers Training School in Starfleet Academy.
- Successfully completed the Officers Command College or will complete the course within ninety (90) days of assuming office.
- Achieved the rank of Ensign.

Must have served aboard the USS Chinook for a minimum of six (6) months.

9-F: At the August General meeting, the CO shall appoint two (2) members in good standing, who are not nominees for the office of CO to act as Election Officers. They cannot be a part of the Executive Board either.

9-G: All STARFLEET members of the USS Chinook in good standing ninety (90) days prior to the election are eligible to vote.

9-H: The Election Officers will compile the list of eligible voters and submit it seven (7) calendar days prior to the election to the Executive Board. They will confirm that each member on the list is in good standing.

9-I: Members in good standing may request an absentee ballot from the Election Officers. The ballots will be returned to one of the Election Officers prior to the election. An absentee ballot may be sent to the Election Officer by email or federal mail. Emailed ballots will be printed with header information.

9-J: A marked ballot box will be placed in front of the membership. All marked ballots will be placed in the box. For absentee ballots, the Election Officers will mark off the name on the voting roster of the absentee voters, open the envelopes and deposit the absentee ballots in the ballot box in front of the general membership.

9-K After all ballots have been cast, the Election Officers (except in the case of impeachment of the CO) will count the ballots in front of the general membership. In case of impeachment, the current Executive Board shall count the ballots in front of the general membership.

9-L: The election of the Commanding Officer will be by simple majority votes cast. In case of a tie, a second vote of members during one week time will happen between the candidates who are tied.

9-M: The Marine OIC, or designee, will ensure the integrity of the election

and will announce the results of the election immediately after the counting of the ballots.

9-N: Any protest of the election process must be stated before the end of the October General Meeting during which the election was held.

**ARTICLE 10: Officers Code of Conduct.**

10-A: All club members will conduct themselves according to the Officer's Code of Conduct as documented in the STARFLEET MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK.

**ARTICLE 11: Grievances.**

11-A: All grievances should follow the chain of command. If grievances cannot be resolved within 30 days through their chain of command, members are encouraged to bring their concerns to the Executive Board. Concerns/issues should not be taken to Starfleet regional or national levels unless it has been brought up to the Executive Board of the USS Chinook.

**ARTICLE 12: Discipline.**

12-A: Disciplinary procedure shall follow STARFLEET guidelines. The CO can demote club members if the club image is compromised. A motion to revoke a member's membership in the club must first be brought to the Executive Board for a vote. If the majority of the Executive Board votes to revoke the membership, then the motion is brought to the general membership for a vote. A majority vote of both the Executive Board and the general membership is required to expel a member. Should the vote be successful, the CO will forward the motion revoking membership, signed by a majority of the general membership, to the Vice-Commander of Starfleet.

**ARTICLE 13: Impeachment of the CO.**

13-A: Impeachment shall only be considered if five (5) or more members in good standing of the USS Chinook write formal letters of complaint and present them to the Executive Board. If two thirds of the entire Executive Board votes against impeachment, the issue is considered dead. Otherwise, a vote in writing will be taken from the entire membership of the USS Chinook. If the CO is impeached, then the XO will assume the duties of the CO. If the XO does not meet the requirements of the office of Commanding Officer, then the XO shall become the Acting Commanding Officer and the Executive Board shall initiate an emergency election per Article 9.

#### **ARTICLE 14: Constitution Amendment Procedures.**

14-A: Any proposed amendment to the Constitution must be presented at a General Meeting.

14-B: If the majority of the general membership approves the amendment, it shall be forwarded to the Executive Board for approval.

14-C: If the majority of the entire Executive Board approves the amendment, then it shall be adopted.

#### **ARTICLE 15: Ratification of the Constitution.**

15-A: The Constitution must be approved by a majority of the entire Executive Board.

15-B. Once approved, it will be given to the members in good standing to review and vote on approval in its entirety. In order to be ratified, a majority of the members in good standing must approve the Constitution.

#### **ARTICLE 16: Marines**

16: USS Chinook has an auxiliary group known as the 506th Marine Strike Group, nicknamed "The Peregrine's", otherwise known as the "Marines". The Marines will be defined and governed by the **Marine Rules of Engagement**, and headed by the Marine OIC.

## C Rank Point System (update August 2010)

(All officers must hold SFI members in good standing and be at least 18 years of age unless otherwise stated.)

### Activity Point Value:

Attending any SFI Meeting (Chinook, other ship, Summit, IC, etc.) = 5pts

Pass SFI/SFMC Academy Course = 1pt; +1 pt for Honors; +2 pts for Distinction(3 total)

Volunteer

(Convention, Food Bank, Coupons, etc., must have Department Head OK) = 1pt/hr

Submit an original Article (Forums, Fish Ladder, Region 5, CQ) = 3pts

Military Service (Any Branch, Any Country) = 5pts (one time)

\*\*SFMC Marine Ribbon eligible for Military Service let the OIC know\*\*

### Enlisted Ranks (Can choose to stay enlisted even if OTS is taken)

E-1 SFMC: Private

Requirements: Join SFI & Marines

E-2 SFMC: Private First Class

Requirements: 1 month in SFMC

E-3 SFMC: Lance Corporal      Fleet: Crewman

Requirements: SFMC: 3 months in SFMC      Fleet: Join SFI

E-4 SFMC: Corporal      Fleet: Petty Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class

Requirements: 6 months in SFI/SFMC; 25 pts

Recommended: PD-10; IN-10; Choose a MOS if in SFMC

E-5 SFMC: Sergeant      Fleet: Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class

Requirements: 9 months in SFI/SFMC; 40 pts

Recommended: NCO-10, IN-20

E-6 SFMC: Staff Sergeant      Fleet: Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Class

Requirements: 1 year in SFI/SFMC; 75 pts

Recommended: LD-10

E-7 SFMC: Gunnery Sergeant      Fleet: Chief Petty Officer

Requirements: 1½ years in SFI/SFMC; 125pts

Recommended: LD-20; NCO-20

E-8 SFMC: First Sergeant/ Master Sergeant      Fleet: Senior Chief Petty Officer

Requirements: 2½ years in SFI/SFMC; 200 pts

Recommended: PD-20; More MOS Courses

E-9 SFMC: Sergeant Major/ Master Gunnery Sergeant

Fleet: Master Chief Petty Officer

Requirements: 4 years in SFI/SFMC; 300 pts

Recommended: Three level 30/300 level courses

## Warrant Officer Ranks (Must specialize in SFMC)

To Be Determined at a later date. If you wish to become a Warrant Officer please contact the Marine OIC.

## Officer Ranks

O-1 SFMC: Second Lieutenant      Fleet: Ensign  
Requirements: Pass OTS  
Recommended: PD-10; LD-10

O-2 SFMC: First Lieutenant      Fleet: Lieutenant Junior Grade  
Requirements: 3 months as an Officer; 25 pts  
Recommended: OD-10; IN-10 or Level 10 of chosen MOS

O-3 SFMC: Captain      Fleet: Lieutenant  
Requirements: 6 months as an Officer; 75 pts  
Recommended: LD -20, OD-20; Level 20 of chosen MOS

O-4 SFMC: Major      Fleet: Lieutenant Commander  
Requirements: 1 years as an Officer; 200 pts  
Recommended: NCO-10; PD-20; Varied MOS courses

O-5 SFMC: Lieutenant Colonel      Fleet: Commander  
Requirements: 2 years as an Officer; 350 pts  
Recommended: OCC; 3 level 30/300 series Courses; Finish a MOS series

O-6 through O-12 are given out through EC/AB only.

Ca.  
Commanding USS Chinook  
NCC-71204

Commander Catherine E. Pierce  
XO USS Chinook  
NCC-71204

