

# **Eugene REALTORS® Bylaws**

\*June 6, 2023 Membership Approved Full Restatement \*NAR Certified Feb 28, 2025

# ARTICLE I – NAME

**Section 1. NAME**. The name of this organization shall be Eugene REALTORS®, hereinafter referred to as the "Association" or "ER". The Association, with the approval of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, has filed an Oregon Assumed Business Name Registration to do business under the name Eugene REALTORS® (hereinafter referred to as "ER") and may be referred to in these Bylaws as the Association, EAR, or ER.

**Section 2. REALTORS**<sup>®</sup>. Inclusion and retention of the Registered Collective Membership Mark REALTORS<sup>®</sup> in the name of the Association shall be governed by the Constitution and Bylaws of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS<sup>®</sup> as from time to time amended.

# **ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the Association are:

**Section 1.** To unite those engaged in the recognized branches of the real estate profession for the purpose of exerting a beneficial influence upon the profession and related interests.

**Section 2.** To promote and maintain high standards of conduct in the real estate profession as expressed in the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

**Section 3.** To provide a unified medium for real estate owners and those engaged in the real estate profession, whereby their interests may be safeguarded and advanced.

Section 4. To further the interests of home, and other real property, ownership.

**Section 5.** To unite those engaged in the real estate profession in this community with the Oregon REALTORS® and the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, thereby furthering their own objectives throughout the state and the nation and obtaining the benefits and privileges of membership therein.

**Section 6**. To designate, for the benefit of the public, individuals authorized to use the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS® as licensed, prescribed, and controlled by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

# **ARTICLE III – JURISDICTION**

**Section 1.** The territorial jurisdiction of the Association, as a Member of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, shall include: Part of Lane County, Oregon, lying South of that centerline extending Westward from the East 1/4 Cor. of Sec. 30, T. 16S, R. 7W; East of R. 8W; North of T.19; and West of a line extending Southward from the East 1/4 Cor. of Sec. 28, T. 16W,

R. 3W along the North South centerline of R.3W to its intersection with Hwy. I-5, then on Southward along I-5 to the Willamette River; then Southeasterly up the Willamette River to the West line of R.2; then South along the West line of R.2W to the North line of T.19 S.WM.-**Together with Cottage Grove Area:** Part of Lane County in R1W lying south of a diagonal line extending southeasterly from the northwest corner of T 19 S, R2W to the southeast corner of T20 S, R.W WM: also that part lying BYLAWS OF THE EUGENE ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® - 2 west of R2W, east of R8W, and south of T 18 S WM: also that part of Douglas County lying north of T23 S and east of R7W WM.

**Section 2.** Territorial jurisdiction is defined to mean: The right and duty to control the use of the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS®, subject to the conditions set forth in these Bylaws and those of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, in return for which, the Association agrees to protect and safeguard the property rights of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® in the terms.

# **ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. The classes of membership shall be as follows:

(1) REALTOR® MEMBERS. REALTOR® Members, whether primary or secondary, shall be:

Individuals who, as sole proprietors, partners, corporate officers, or branch office managers, are engaged actively in the real estate profession, including buying, selling, exchanging, renting or leasing, managing, appraising for others for compensation, counseling, building, developing or subdividing real estate, and who maintain or are associated with an established real estate office in the state of Oregon or a state contiguous thereto. All persons who are partners in a partnership, or all officers in a corporation who are actively engaged in the real estate profession within the state or a state contiguous thereto shall qualify for REALTOR® membership only, and each is required to hold REALTOR® membership (except as provided in the following paragraph) in an association of REALTORS® within the state or a state contiguous thereto, unless otherwise qualified for Institute Affiliate membership.

In the case of a real estate firm, partnership, or corporation, whose business activity is substantially all commercial, only those principals actively engaged in the real estate business in connection with the same office, or any other offices within the jurisdiction of the association in which one of the firm's principals holds REALTOR® membership, shall be required to hold REALTOR® membership unless otherwise qualified for Institute Affiliate membership.

Individuals who are engaged in the real estate profession other than as sole proprietors, partners, corporate officers, or branch office managers and are associated with a REALTOR® member and meet the qualifications.

(2) FRANCHISE REALTOR® MEMBERSHIP. Corporate officers (who may be licensed or unlicensed) of a real estate brokerage franchise organization with at least one hundred fifty (150) franchisees located within the United States, its insular possessions and the commonwealth of Puerto Rico, elected to membership pursuant to the provisions in the NAR *Constitution and Bylaws*. Such individuals shall enjoy all of the rights, privileges, and obligations of REALTOR®

membership (including compliance with the Code of Ethics) except: obligations related to association-mandated education, meeting attendance, or indoctrination classes or other similar requirements; the right to use the term REALTOR® in connection with their franchise organization's name; and the right to hold elective office in the local association, state association, and National Association.

(3) PRIMARY and SECONDARY REALTOR® MEMBERS. An individual is a primary member if the association pays state and National dues based on such member. An individual is a secondary member if state and National dues are remitted through another association. One of the principals in a real estate firm must be a designated REALTOR® member of the association in order for licensees affiliated with the firm to select the association as their "primary" association.

(4) DESIGNATED REALTOR® MEMBERS. Each firm (or office in the case of firms with multiple office locations) shall designate in writing one REALTOR® member who shall be responsible for all duties and obligations of membership, including the obligation to arbitrate (or to mediate if required by the association) pursuant to Article 17 of the Code of Ethics and the payment of association dues. The "Designated REALTOR®" must be a sole proprietor, partner, corporate officer, or branch office manager acting on behalf of the firm's principal(s), and must meet all other qualifications for REALTOR® membership.

(5) LIFE SERVICE MEMBERS shall have been REALTORS® of the Eugene REALTORS® for not less than twenty-five (25) cumulative years, be at least sixty-five (65) years of age, or have experienced a permanent health disability, and have performed notable service to Local Boards/Associations and/or the community, and for the Eugene REALTORS®. Life Service Member applicants with the above referenced qualifications shall, after review, be approved by the Board of Directors. Life Service Members shall enjoy all the rights and privileges and be subject to all the obligations of REALTOR® members.

Requirements:

- Notable Service to the Eugene REALTORS® for a minimum of 3 years
- Notable Service on local Board/Association REALTOR® Committees and/or notable service to your community
- Volunteering with recognized community volunteer programs
- Serving on City or County Board of Directors/Trustees

\*Receiving Life Service Member status will exempt recipient from paying ER dues beginning the year following recognition

(6) INSTITUTE AFFILIATE MEMBERS. Institute Affiliate members shall be individuals who hold a professional designation awarded by an Institute, Society, or Council affiliated with the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® that addresses a specialty area other than residential brokerage or individuals who otherwise hold a class of membership in such Institute, Society, or Council that confers the right to hold office. Any such individual, if otherwise eligible, may elect to hold REALTOR® or REALTOR-ASSOCIATE® membership, subject to payment of applicable dues for such membership.

(7) AFFILIATE MEMBERS. Affiliate members shall be real estate owners and other individuals or firms who, while not engaged in the real estate profession as defined in paragraphs (a) or (b) of

this section, have interests requiring information concerning real estate and are in sympathy with the objectives of the association.

(8) PUBLIC SERVICE MEMBERS. Public Service Members shall be individuals who are interested in the real estate profession as employees of, or affiliated with, educational, public utility, governmental, or other similar organizations, but are not engaged in the real estate profession on their own account or in affiliation with an established real estate business.

(9) HONORARY MEMBERS. Honorary Members shall be individuals not engaged in the real estate profession who have performed notable service for the real estate profession, for the Association, or for the public.

(10) STUDENT MEMBERS. Student Members shall be individuals who are seeking an undergraduate or graduate degree with a specialization or major in real estate at institutions of higher learning, and who have completed at least two years of college and at least one college level course in real estate but are not engaged in the real estate profession on their own account and are not affiliated with an established real estate office.

## Section 2. CHAPTERS.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary elsewhere in the Bylaws, the following shall apply to CHAPTERS. Chapters shall be organized and administered as outlined in the Eugene REALTORS® policy manual. The Association may assess fees, on the REALTOR® Members of a Chapter, for services provided to the Chapter as determined by the Board of Directors upon recommendation from the EO. Fees assessed on Chapter members will not exceed the amount of the annual dues of an ASSOCIATION MEMBER. A Chapter may be dissolved upon ninety (90) day notice from either the Eugene REALTORS® or the Chapter Representative. Each Chapter will automatically have one "At Large" Director for a term of (1) year. All Directors shall be named by the Chapter that the director will represent, pursuant to the local Chapter's adopted policy.

# **ARTICLE V – APPLICATION, QUALIFICATION, AND ELECTION**

# Section 1. APPLICATION.

An application for membership shall be made in such manner and form as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors and made available to anyone requesting it. The application form shall contain among the statements to be signed by the applicant:

(a) That applicant agrees as a condition to membership to become thoroughly familiar with the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, the Constitutions or Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Policies of the Association, State and National Associations, and if elected a Member, will abide by the Constitutions or Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Policies of the Associations, and if elected a REALTOR® Member, will abide by the Constitutions, and if elected a REALTOR® Member, will abide by the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTOR® Member, will abide by the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® including the obligation to arbitrate controversies arising out of real estate transactions as specified by Article 17 of the Code of Ethics, and as further specified in the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® , as from time to time amended.

(b) That applicant consents that the Association, through its Membership Committee or otherwise, may invite and receive information and comment about applicant from any Member or other

persons and that applicant agrees that any information and comment furnished to the Association by any person in response to the invitation shall be conclusively deemed to be privileged and not form the basis of any action for slander, libel, or defamation of character.

## Section 2. QUALIFICATION.

(a) An applicant for REALTOR® membership who is a sole proprietor, partner, corporate officer, or branch office manager of a real estate firm shall supply evidence satisfactory to the association that they are actively engaged in the real estate profession, and maintains a current, valid real estate broker's license or is licensed or certified by an appropriate state regulatory agency to engage in the appraisal of real property, has a place of business within the state or a state contiguous thereto (unless a secondary member), and has no record of civil judgements or criminal convictions.

\*\* association may only consider civil judgments imposed within the past seven (7) years involving judgements of (1) civil rights laws, (2) real estate license laws, and (3) or other laws prohibiting unprofessional conduct against the applicant rendered by the courts or other lawful authorities. The association may only consider criminal convictions within the past seven (7) years involving a crime that reasonably relates to the real estate business or puts clients, customers, or other real estate professionals at risk, the applicant must provide and the association must consider mitigating factors relating to that criminal history.

(b) Individuals who are actively engaged in the real estate profession other than as sole proprietors, partners, corporate officers, or branch office managers, in order to qualify for REALTOR® membership, shall at the time of application be associated either as an employee or as an independent contractor with a designated REALTOR® member of the association or a designated REALTOR® member of another association (if a secondary member) and must maintain a current, valid real estate license or be licensed or certified by an appropriate state regulatory agency to engage in the appraisal of real property, has no record of civil judgements or criminal convictions \*, shall complete a course of instruction covering the Bylaws and rules and regulations of the association, the Bylaws of the State Association, and the Constitution and Bylaws and Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, and shall pass such reasonable and nondiscriminatory written examinations thereon as may be required by the committee, and shall agree that if elected to membership they will abide by such Constitution, Bylaws, rules and regulations, and the Code of Ethics.

# Section 3. ELECTION.

The procedure for election to membership shall be as follows.

(a) Association executive (or duly authorized designee) shall determine whether the applicant is applying for the appropriate class of membership. If the association has adopted provisional membership, applicants for REALTOR® membership may be granted provisional membership immediately upon submission of a completed application form and remittance of applicable association dues and any application fee. Provisional members shall be considered REALTORS® and shall be subject to all of the same privileges and obligations of membership. Provisional membership is granted subject to final review of the application by the board of directors.

(b) If the board of directors determines that the individual does not meet all of the qualifications for membership as established in the association's Bylaws, or, if the individual does not satisfy all of the requirements of membership (for example, completion of a mandatory orientation program) within 90 days from the association's receipt of their application, membership may, at the discretion

of the board of directors, be terminated. The board of directors shall vote on the applicant's eligibility for membership. If the applicant receives a majority vote of the board of directors, they shall be declared elected to membership and shall be advised by written notice.

(c) The board of directors may not reject an application without providing the applicant with advance notice of the findings, an opportunity to appear before the board of directors, to call witnesses on their behalf, to be represented by counsel, and to make such statements as they deem relevant. The board of directors may also have counsel present. The board of directors shall require that written minutes be made of any hearing before it or may electronically or mechanically record the proceedings.

(d) If the board of directors determines that the application should be rejected, it shall record its reasons with the Association executive (or duly authorized designee). If the board of directors believes that denial of membership to the applicant may become the basis of litigation and a claim of damage by the applicant, it may specify that denial shall become effective upon entry in a suit by the association for a declaratory judgment by a court of competent jurisdiction of a final judgment declaring that the rejection violates no rights of the applicant.

#### Section 4. NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION.

#### (a) Code of Ethics Orientation.

Applicants for REALTOR® membership and provisional REALTOR® members (where applicable) shall complete an orientation program on the Code of Ethics of not less than two (2) hours and thirty (30) minutes of instructional time. This requirement does not apply to applicants for REALTOR® membership or provisional members who have completed comparable orientation in another association, provided that REALTOR® membership has been continuous, or that any break in membership is for one (1) year or less.

Failure to satisfy this requirement within 90 days of the date of application (or, alternatively, the date that provisional membership was granted), will result in denial of the membership application or termination of provisional membership.

#### (b) New Member Fair Housing Orientation.

Applicants for REALTOR® membership and provisional REALTOR® members (where applicable) shall complete Fair Housing training of not less than two (2) hours of instructional time. This requirement will be satisfied upon presentation of documentation that the member has completed a course of instruction conducted by this or another REALTOR® association, the State Association of REALTORS®, the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, or the Institutes, Societies, and Councils, which meets the learning objectives and minimum criteria established by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® from time to time. Fair Housing training approved by a state licensing authority for an existing Fair Housing requirement to gain or maintain licensure shall also fulfill this requirement, provided it also meets the learning objectives and minimum criteria established by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® from time to time. This requirement, provided it also meets the learning objectives and minimum criteria established by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® from time to time. This requirement does not apply to applicants for REALTOR® membership or provisional members who have completed comparable orientation in another association, provided that REALTOR® membership has been continuous, or that any break in membership is for one (1) year or less.

Failure to satisfy this requirement within 90 days of the date of application (or, alternatively, the date that provisional membership was granted), will result in denial of the membership application or termination of provisional membership.

# Section 5. CONTINUING REALTOR®.

# (a) CODE OF ETHICS TRAINING.

Effective January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2027 and for successive three year periods thereafter, each REALTOR® member of the association (with the exception of REALTOR® members granted REALTOR® Emeritus status by the National Association) shall be required to complete ethics training of not less than two (2) hours and thirty (30) minutes of instructional time. This requirement will be satisfied upon presentation of documentation that the member has completed a course of instruction conducted by this or another REALTOR® association, the State Association of REALTORS® or the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, which meets the learning objectives and minimum criteria established by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® from time to time. REALTOR® members who have completed training as a requirement of membership in another association and REALTOR® members who have completed the New Member Code of Ethics Orientation during any three year cycle shall not be required to complete additional ethics training until a new three year cycle commences.

Failure to satisfy the required periodic ethics training shall be considered a violation of a membership duty. Failure to meet the requirement in any three year cycle will result in suspension of membership for the first two months (January and February) of the year following the end of any three year cycle or until the requirement is met, whichever occurs sooner. On March 1 of that year, the membership of a member who is still suspended as of that date will be automatically terminated.

# (b) Continuing Fair Housing Training.

Effective January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2027 and for successive three year periods thereafter, each REALTOR® member of the association (with the exception of REALTOR® members granted REALTOR® Emeritus status by the National Association) shall be required to complete Fair Housing training of not less than two (2) hours of instructional time. This requirement will be satisfied upon presentation of documentation that the member has completed a course of instruction conducted by this or another REALTOR® association, the State Association of REALTORS®, the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, or the Institutes, Societies, and Councils, which meets the learning objectives and minimum criteria established by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® from time to time. Fair Housing training approved by a state licensing authority for an existing Fair Housing requirement to maintain licensure shall also fulfill this requirement, provided it also meets the learning objectives and minimum criteria established by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® from time to time. REALTOR® members who have completed Fair Housing training as a requirement of membership in another association shall not be required to complete additional Fair Housing training until a new three year cycle commences.

Failure to satisfy the required periodic Fair Housing training shall be considered a violation of a membership duty. Failure to meet the requirement in any three year cycle will result in suspension of membership for the first two months (January and February) of the year following the end of any

three year cycle or until the requirement is met, whichever occurs sooner. On March 1 of that year, the membership of a member who is still suspended as of that date will be automatically terminated.

# Section 6. STATUS CHANGES.

(a) A REALTOR® who changes the conditions under which they hold membership shall be required to provide written notification to the association within 30 days. A REALTOR® (non-principal) who becomes a principal in the firm with which they have been licensed or, alternatively, becomes a principal in a new firm which will be comprised of REALTOR® principals may be required to satisfy any previously unsatisfied membership requirements applicable to REALTOR® (principal) members but shall, during the period of transition from one status of membership to another, be subject to all of the privileges and obligations of a REALTOR® (principal). If the REALTOR® (non-principal) does not satisfy the requirements established in these Bylaws for the category of membership to which they have transferred within 30 days of the date they advised the association of their change in status, their new membership application will terminate automatically unless otherwise so directed by the board of directors.

A REALTOR® (or REALTOR-ASSOCIATE®, where applicable) who is transferring his/her license from one firm comprised of REALTOR® principals to another firm comprised of REALTOR® principals shall be subject to all of the privileges and obligations of membership during the period of transition. If the transfer is not completed within 30 days of the date the association is advised of the disaffiliation with the current firm, membership will terminate automatically unless otherwise so directed by the board of directors.

NOTE: The board of directors, at its discretion, may waive any qualification which the applicant has already fulfilled in accordance with the association's Bylaws.

(b) Any application fee related to a change in membership status shall be reduced by an amount equal to any application fee previously paid by the applicant.

(c) Dues shall be prorated from the first day of the month in which the member is notified of election by the board of directors and shall be based on the new membership status for the remainder of the year.

# **ARTICLE VI - PRIVILEGES AND OBLIGATIONS**

#### Section 1.

The privileges and obligations of Members, in addition to those otherwise provided in these Bylaws, shall be specified in this Article.

#### Section 2. Obligations of REALTOR® Members.

It shall be the duty and responsibility of every REALTOR® member of this association to safeguard and promote the standards, interests, and welfare of the association and the real estate profession-, and to protect against conduct that may cause a lack of public confidence in the real estate profession or in REALTORS®. REALTOR® members also must abide by the governing documents and policies of the association, the State Association, and the *NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS*®, as well as the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, including the duty to arbitrate controversies arising out of real estate transactions as specified by Article 17 of the Code of Ethics, and in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Code of Ethics and Arbitration manual. Every REALTOR® member shall maintain a high level of integrity and adhere to the association's membership criteria. Any violent act or threat of violence to person or property, hateful conduct, or acts of moral turpitude impacting the public shall not be tolerated and may be cause for disciplinary action, up to and including termination of membership.

# Section 3. Discipline of REALTOR® Members.

Any REALTOR® member of the association may be disciplined by the board of directors for violations of the Code of Ethics or other duties of membership, after a hearing as described in the *Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual* of the association, provided that the discipline imposed is consistent with the discipline authorized by the Professional Standards Committee of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® as set forth in the *Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual* of the National Association.

# Section 4.

Resignations of Members shall become effective when received in writing by the board of directors, provided however, that if any Member submitting the resignation is indebted to the Association for dues, fees, fines, or other assessments of the Association or any of its services, departments, divisions, or subsidiaries, the Association may condition the right of the resigning Member to reapply for membership upon payment in full of all such monies owed.

# Section 5.

If a Member resigns from the Association, or otherwise causes membership to terminate, with an ethics complaint pending, the complaint shall be processed until the decision of the Association with respect to disposition of the complaint is final by this Association (if respondent does not hold membership in any other association) or by any other association in which the respondent continues to hold membership. If an ethics respondent resigns or otherwise causes membership in all Boards to terminate before an ethics complaint is filed alleging unethical conduct occurred while the respondent was a REALTOR®, the complaint, once filed, shall be processed until the decision of the Association with respect to disposition of the complaint is final. In any instance where an ethics hearing is held subsequent to an ethic respondent's resignation or membership termination, any discipline ratified by the Board of Directors shall be held in abeyance until such time as the respondent rejoins an association of REALTOR®.

(a) If a Member resigns or otherwise causes membership to terminate, the duty to submit to arbitration by the Association continues in effect even after membership lapses or is terminated, provided that the dispute arose while the former member was a REALTOR®.

# Section 6. Privileges of REALTOR® Members.

REALTOR® members, whether primary or secondary, in good standing are entitled to vote and to hold elective office in the association and may use the term REALTOR®. For purposes of this section, the term "good standing" means the member satisfies the "Obligations of REALTOR® Members", is current with all financial and disciplinary obligations to the association and MLS, has completed any new member requirements, and complies with NAR's trademark rules.

**Section 7. INSTITUTE AFFILIATE MEMBERS** shall have rights and privileges and be subject to obligations prescribed by the Board of Directors consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the *NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF* REALTORS®. Institute Affiliate Members are NOT granted the

rights to use the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS® or the REALTOR® logo; serve as President of the Association; or participate in the Association's Multiple Listing Service.

**Section 8. AFFILIATE MEMBERS** shall have rights and privileges and be subject to obligations prescribed by the board of directors.

**Section 9. PUBLIC SERVICE MEMBERS** shall have rights and privileges and be subject to obligations prescribed by the board of directors.

**Section 10. HONORARY MEMBERS** shall confer only the right to attend meetings and participate in discussions.

**Section 11. STUDENT MEMBERS** shall have rights and privileges and be subject to obligations prescribed by the board of directors.

## Section 12. CERTIFICATION BY DESIGNATED REALTOR®.

"Designated" REALTOR® Members of the Association shall certify to the Association during the month of March on a form provided by the Association, a complete listing of all individuals licensed or certified in the REALTOR®'s office(s) and shall designate a primary Association for each individual who holds membership. Designated REALTORS® shall also identify any non-member licensee(s) in their firm(s) in the REALTOR®'s office(s) and if designated REALTOR® dues have been paid to another Association based on said non-member licensee(s) the Designated REALTOR® shall identify the Association to which dues have been remitted. These declarations shall be used for the purpose of calculating dues under Article X, Section 2 (a) of the Bylaws. "Designated" REALTOR® Members shall also notify the Association of any additional Individual(s) licensed or certified with the firm(s) within thirty (30) days of the date of affiliation or severance of the individual.

# **ARTICLE VII – PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND ARBITRATION**

#### Section 1.

The responsibility of the Association and of Association Members relating to the enforcement of the Code of Ethics, the disciplining of Members, and the arbitration of disputes, and the organization and procedures incident thereto shall be governed by the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, as amended from time to time, which is by this reference incorporated into these Bylaws, provided, however, that any provision deemed inconsistent with state law shall be deleted or amended to comply with state law.

#### Section 2.

It shall be the duty and responsibility of every REALTOR® member of this association to abide by the Constitution and Bylaws and the rules and regulations of the association, the Constitution and Bylaws of the State Association, the *Constitution and Bylaws of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS*®, and to abide by the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, including the duty to arbitrate controversies arising out of real estate transactions as specified by Article 17 of the Code of Ethics, and as further defined and in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual of this association, as from time to time amended.

## Section 3. Enforcement of the Code.

The responsibility of the association and of association members relating to the enforcement of the Code of Ethics, the disciplining of members, and the arbitration of disputes, and the organization and procedures incident thereto, shall be governed by the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, as amended from time to time, which is by this reference incorporated into these Bylaws, provided, however, that any provision deemed inconsistent with state law shall be deleted or amended to comply with state law.

# ARTICLE VIII - USE OF THE TERMS REALTOR® AND REALTORS®

Inclusion and retention of the Registered Collective Membership Mark REALTORS® in the name of the association shall be governed by the *Constitution and Bylaws of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS*® as from time to time amended.

Use of the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS® by members shall, at all times, be subject to the provisions of the *Constitution and Bylaws of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS*® and to the Rules and Regulations prescribed by its board of directors. The association shall have the authority to control, jointly and in full cooperation with the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, use of the terms within its jurisdiction. Any misuse of the terms by members is a violation of a membership duty and may subject members to disciplinary action by the board of directors after a hearing as provided for in the association's Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual.

REALTOR® members of the association shall have the privilege of using the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS® in connection with their places of business within the state or a state contiguous thereto so long as they remain REALTOR® members in good standing. No other class of members shall have this privilege.

A REALTOR® principal member may use the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS®, only if all the principals of such firm, partnership, or corporation who are actively engaged in the real estate profession within the state or a state contiguous thereto are REALTOR® members or Institute Affiliate members.

In the case of a REALTOR® principal member whose business activity is substantially all commercial, the right to use the term REALTOR® or REALTORS® shall be limited to office locations in which a principal holds REALTOR® membership. If a firm, partnership, or corporation operates additional places of business in which no principal holds REALTOR® membership, the term REALTOR® or REALTORS® may not be used in any reference to those additional places of business.

Institute Affiliate members shall not use the terms REALTOR® or REALTORS®, nor the imprint of the emblem seal of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

# **ARTICLE IX – STATE AND NATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

The association shall be a member of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and the Oregon REALTORS®. By reason of the association's membership, each REALTOR® member of the Member Board shall be entitled to membership in the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and the Oregon REALTORS® without further payment of dues. The association shall continue as a member of the State and National Associations, unless by a majority vote of all of its REALTOR® members, decision is made to withdraw, in which case the State and National Associations shall be notified at least one month in advance of the date designated for the termination of such membership.

The association recognizes the exclusive property rights of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® in the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS®. The association shall discontinue use of the terms in any form in its name, upon ceasing to be a member of the National Association, or upon a determination by the board of directors of the National Association that it has violated the conditions imposed upon the terms.

The association adopts the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and agrees to enforce the Code among its REALTOR® members. The association and all of its members agree to abide by the *Constitution, Bylaws,* Rules and Regulations, and policies of the National Association.

# **ARTICLE X – DUES AND ASSESSMENTS**

#### Section 1. APPLICATION FEE

The board of directors may adopt an application fee for REALTOR® membership in reasonable amount, not exceeding three (3) times the amount of the annual dues for REALTOR® membership, which shall be required to accompany each application for REALTOR® membership and which shall become the property of the association upon final approval of the application.

Section 2. DUES The annual dues of members shall be as follows.

#### (a) Designated REALTOR® Members Dues.

The annual dues of each Designated REALTOR® member shall be in such amount as established annually by the board of directors, plus an additional amount to be established annually by the board of directors times the number of real estate salespersons and licensed or certified appraisers who (1) are employed by or affiliated as independent contractors, or who are otherwise directly or indirectly licensed with such REALTOR® member, and (2) are not REALTOR® members of any association in the state or a state contiguous thereto or Institute Affiliate members of the association. In calculating the dues payable to the association by a designated REALTOR® member, non-member licensees as defined in (1) and (2) of this paragraph shall not be included in the computation of dues if the designated REALTOR® has paid dues based on said non-member licensees in another association in the state or a state contiguous thereto, provided the designated REALTOR® nember. In characteria member of a state contiguous thereto, provided the designated REALTOR® has paid dues based on said non-member licensees in another association in the state or a state contiguous thereto, provided the designated REALTOR® notifies the association in writing of the identity of the association to which dues have been remitted. In the case of a designated REALTOR® member in a firm, partnership, or

corporation whose business activity is substantially all commercial, any assessments for nonmember licensees shall be limited to licensees affiliated with the designated REALTOR® (as defined in (1) and (2) of this paragraph) in the office where the designated REALTOR® holds membership, and any other offices of the firm located within the jurisdiction of this association.

A REALTOR® member of a Member Board shall be held to be any member who has a place or places of business within the state or a state contiguous thereto and who, as a principal is actively engaged in the real estate profession as defined in Article III, Section 1 of the Constitution of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®. An individual shall be deemed to be licensed with a REALTOR® if the license of the individual is held by the REALTOR®, or by any broker who is licensed with the REALTOR®, or by any entity in which the REALTOR® has a direct or indirect ownership interest and which is engaged in other aspects of the real estate business provided that such licensee is not otherwise included in the computation of dues payable by the principal of the entity.

A REALTOR® with a direct or indirect ownership interest in an entity engaged exclusively in soliciting and/or referring clients and customers to the REALTOR® for consideration on a substantially exclusive basis shall annually file with the association on a form approved by the association a list of the licensees affiliated with that entity and shall certify that all of the licensees affiliated with the entity are solely engaged in referring clients and customers and are not engaged in listing, selling, leasing, renting, managing, counseling, or appraising real property. The individuals disclosed on such form shall not be deemed to be licensed with the REALTOR® filing the form for purposes of this section and shall not be included in calculating the annual dues of the designated REALTOR®. Designated REALTORS® shall notify the association within three (3) days of any change in status of licensees in a referral firm.

The exemption for any licensee included on the certification form shall automatically be revoked upon the individual being engaged in real estate licensed activities (listing, selling, leasing, renting, managing, counseling, or appraising real property) other than referrals, and dues for the current fiscal year shall be payable.

Membership dues shall be prorated for any licensee included on a certification form submitted to the association who during the same calendar year applies for REALTOR® or REALTOR-ASSOCIATE® membership in the association. However, membership dues shall not be prorated if the licensee held REALTOR® or REALTOR-ASSOCIATE® membership during the preceding calendar year.

# (b) REALTOR® Members Dues.

The annual dues of REALTOR® members other than the designated REALTOR® shall be as established annually by the board of directors.

# (c) Institute Affiliate Members Dues.

The annual dues of each Institute Affiliate member shall be as established in Article II of the Bylaws of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

# (d) AFFILIATE MEMERS.

The annual dues of each Affiliate Member shall be established annually by the Board of Directors.

#### (e) PUBLIC SERVICE MEMBERS.

The annual dues of each Public Service member shall be as established annually by the board of directors.

#### (f) HONORARY MEMBERS.

Dues payable, if any, shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

#### (g) STUDENT MEMBERS.

Dues payable, if any, shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

#### Section 3. DUES PAYABLE.

Dues for all members shall be payable annually in advance on the first day of January. Dues for new members shall be computed from the date of application and granting of provisional membership.

(a) In the event a licensee or licensed or certified appraiser who holds REALTOR® membership is dropped for nonpayment of association dues, and the individual remains with the designated REALTOR®'s firm, the dues obligation of the "designated" REALTOR® (as set forth in Article X, Section 2 [a]) will be increased to reflect the addition of a non-member licensee. Dues shall be calculated from the first day of the current fiscal year and are payable within thirty (30) days of the notice of termination.

#### Section 4. NONPAYMENT OF FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS.

If dues, fees, fines, or other assessments including amounts owed to the association or the association's multiple listing service are not paid within one (1) month after the due date, the nonpaying Member is subject to suspension at the discretion of the board of directors. Two (2) months after the due date, membership of the nonpaying member may be terminated at the discretion of the board of directors. Three (3) months after the due date, membership of the nonpaying Member shall automatically terminate unless within that time the amount due is paid. However, no action shall be taken to suspend or expel a member for nonpayment of disputed amounts until the accuracy of the amount owed has been confirmed by the board of directors. A former member who has had his/her membership terminated for nonpayment of dues, fees, fines, or other assessments duly levied in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws or the provisions of other rules and regulations of the association or any of its services, departments, divisions, or subsidiaries may apply for reinstatement in a manner prescribed for new applicants for membership, after making payment in full of all accounts due as of the date of termination.

#### Section 5. DEPOSITS AND EXPENDITURES.

Deposits and expenditures of funds shall be in accordance with policies established by the Board of Directors.

Section 6. NOTICE OF DUES, FEES, FINES, ASSESSMENTS, OR OTHER FINANCIAL

**OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS.** All dues, fees, fines, assessments, or other financial obligations to the Association shall be noticed to the delinquent association Member in writing setting forth the amount owed and due date.

#### Section 7. EMERITI DUES.

The dues of REALTOR® members who are REALTOR® Emeriti (as recognized by the National Association), past presidents and past treasurers of the National Association or recipients of the Distinguished Service Award shall be as determined by the board of directors.

## **ARTICLE XI – OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

#### Section 1. OFFICERS.

The elected officers of the Association shall be: a President and a President-Elect. The President-Elect shall be elected for a term of one-year and shall serve as the President the following year and Immediate Past President in the third year.

#### Section 2. DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS.

The duties of the officers and directors shall be such as their titles, by general usage, would indicate, as outlined in the Policies and Procedures for each position, and as may be assigned to them by the Board of Directors. It shall be the duty of the Executive Officer to keep the records of the Association and to carry on all necessary correspondence with the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and the Oregon REALTORS®.

#### Section 3. BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

The governing body of the association shall be a board of directors consisting of the elected officers, the immediate past president of the association, and no less than 6 elected REALTOR® members of the association. Directors shall be elected to serve for terms of three (3) years, except that at organization, one-third of the elected directors shall be elected for terms of one (1), two (2), and three (3) years, respectively, or for lesser terms as may be necessary to complete the first fiscal year. Thereafter, as many directors shall be elected each year as are required to fill vacancies.

#### Section 4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS.

(a) At least two (2) months before the annual election, a Nominating Committee of not less than five (5) REALTOR® Members shall be appointed by the President (\*Elect) with the approval of the Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee shall select one or more nominees for each position and one or more candidates for each place to be filled on the Board of Directors. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be electronically transmitted to each Member eligible to vote at least three (3) weeks preceding the election. Additional candidates for the offices to be filled may be placed in nomination by petition signed by at least ten percent (10%) of the REALTOR® Members eligible to vote. The petition shall be filed with the Secretary at least two (2) weeks before the election. The Secretary shall send notice of such additional nominations to all Members eligible to vote before the election.

(b) The election of officers and directors shall take place at the annual meeting or where permitted by state law, electronically in accordance with procedures established by the board of directors.

(c) The president, with the approval of the board of directors, shall appoint an election committee of 5 REALTOR® members to conduct the election. In case of a tie vote, the issue shall be determined by lot.

#### Section 5. VACANCIES.

Vacancies among the officers and the board of directors shall be filled by a simple majority vote of the board of directors until the next annual election.

#### Section 6. REMOVAL OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS.

In the event that an Officer or Director is deemed to be incapable or ineligible of fulfilling the duties for which elected, but will not resign from office voluntarily, the Officer or Director may be removed from office under the following procedure:

(a) A petition requiring the removal of an Officer or Director and signed by not less than one-third of the voting membership or a majority of all Directors shall be filed with the President, or if the President is the subject of the petition, with the next highest-ranking officer, and shall specifically set forth the reason(s) the individual is deemed to be disqualified from further service.

(b) Upon receipt of the petition, and not less than twenty (20) days or more than forty-five (45) days thereafter, a special meeting of the voting membership of the Association shall be held, and the sole business of the meeting shall be to consider the charge against the Officer or Director, and to render a decision on said petition.

(c) The special meeting shall be noticed to all voting Members at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting, and shall be conducted by the President of the Association, unless the President's continued service in office is being considered at the meeting. In such case, the next highest-ranking officer will conduct the meeting. Provided a quorum is present, a three-fourths vote of Members present, and voting shall be required for removal from office.

## Section 7. CHIEF STAFF EXECUTIVE.

There shall be a chief staff executive, appointed by the board of directors, who shall be the chief administrative officer of the association. The chief staff executive shall have the authority to hire, supervise, evaluate, and terminate other staff, if any, and shall perform such other duties as prescribed by the board of directors.

# **ARTICLE XII – MEETINGS**

#### Section 1. ANNUAL MEETINGS.

The annual meeting of the Association shall be held no less than once each year, the date, place, and hour to be designated by the Board of Directors.

#### Section 2. MEETING OF DIRECTORS.

The Board of Directors shall designate a regular time and place of meetings. Absence from three (3) regular meetings without an excuse deemed valid by the board of directors shall be construed as resignation. A quorum for the transaction of business shall be a majority of the board of directors, except as may otherwise be required by state law. In the case of an OR Director, regular meetings include OR Board of Directors Meetings.

#### Section 3. OTHER MEETINGS.

Meetings of the members may be held at other times as the president or the board of directors may determine, or upon the written request of at least 51% of the members eligible to vote.

#### Section 4. NOTICE OF MEETINGS.

Written notice shall be given to every Member entitled to participate in the meeting at least one (1) week preceding all meetings. If a special meeting is called, it shall be accompanied by a statement of the purpose of the meeting.

# Section 5. QUORUM FOR MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS.

A quorum for the transaction of business at general and/or special meetings of the membership meeting shall consist of 51% of the Members who are present and eligible to vote under these Bylaws.

# Section 6. ELECTRONIC TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the board of directors or membership may conduct business by electronic means.

# Section 7. ACTION WITHOUT MEETING.

Unless specifically prohibited by the articles of incorporation, any action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of the board of directors may be taken without a meeting if a consent in writing, setting forth the action so taken, shall be signed by all of the directors. The consent shall be evidenced by one or more written approvals, each of which sets forth the action taken and bears the signature of one or more directors. All the approvals evidencing the consent shall be delivered to the **chief staff executive** to be filed in the corporate records. The action taken shall be effective when all the directors have approved the consent unless the consent specifies a different effective date.

# ARTICLE XIII – COMMITTEES

## Section 1. STANDING COMMITTEES.

The President shall appoint from among the REALTOR® Members, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors.

(a) COTTAGE GROVE COMMITTEE. The standing committee shall be known as the Cottage Grove Chapter of the Eugene REALTORS®. Appointment to membership, election of leadership, and the purpose, duration and operation of this committee shall be in accordance with and as provided by the Policies and Procedures, as amended from time to time. One (1) "at large" Director chosen only by the vote of a majority of the members of the Cottage Grove Chapter voting at the election of officers and directors described herein, for so long as there is a Cottage Grove Chapter.

#### Section 2. SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

The president shall appoint, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors, special committees as deemed necessary.

#### Section 3. ORGANIZATION.

All committees shall be of such size and shall have such duties, functions, and powers as assigned by the President or the Board of Directors, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws.

# Section 4. PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT ELECT.

The President shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees and shall be notified of their meetings, excluding the Grievance and Professional Standards Committees.

# Section 5. ACTION WITHOUT MEETNG.

Any committee may act by unanimous consent in writing without a meeting. The consent shall be evidenced by one or more written approvals, each of which sets forth the action taken and bears the signature of one or more of the members of the committee.

#### Section 6. ATTENDANCE BY TELEPHONE.

Members of a committee may participate in any meeting through the use of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other. Such participation shall be at the discretion of the president and shall constitute presence at the meeting.

# ARTICLE XIV – FISCAL AND ELECTIVE YEAR

**Section 1**. The fiscal year of the Association shall be the calendar year. **Section 2.** The elective year of the Association shall be the calendar year.

# ARTICLE XV – RULES OF ORDER

Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall be recognized as the authority governing the meetings of the Association, its Board of Directors, and Committees, in all instances wherein its provisions do not conflict with these Bylaws.

## ARTICLE XVI – AMENDMENTS

**Section 1.** These Bylaws may be amended by majority vote of the voting Members present and qualified to vote at any meeting at which a quorum is present, provided the substance of such proposed amendment or amendments shall be plainly stated in the call for the meeting. (a) When Bylaws amendments are mandated by NAR policy, these Bylaws may be automatically amended to reflect the mandate as of the effective date of the mandatory policy authorized by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®. The association shall provide notice of that change in a regular or special membership communication.

**Section 2.** Notice of all meetings at which such amendments are to be considered shall be given by means of established method of dissemination of information, to every active member at least one week prior to the meeting.

**Section 3.** Amendments to these Bylaws affecting the admission or qualification of REALTOR® and Institute Affiliate Members, the use of the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS®, or any alteration in the territorial jurisdiction of the Association shall become effective upon their approval as authorized by the Board of Directors of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

# ARTICLE XVII – DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution of this Association, the Board of Directors, after providing for the payment of all obligations, shall distribute any remaining assets to the Oregon REALTORS® or, within its discretion, to any other non-profit tax-exempt organization.