

Beltway4WD

**By Laws Approved by Board of Directors
July 10, 2009**

Article I – Club Name

This organization shall be known as the Beltway4WD.

Article II – Purpose

Beltway4WD is organized for the purpose of:

- A. Providing social, educational and recreational activities for its members.
- B. Participating in and supporting civic activities, to enjoy and protect local, state and federal land resources and to assist various government agencies with the development of off-road trails and areas.
- C. To adhere to the principles of Tread Lightly.

Article III – Membership and Dues

- A. To be a member of Beltway4WD, you must have a four-wheel drive vehicle and be approved for membership by the Board of Directors.
- B. Membership includes the immediate family.
- C. All members must conduct themselves in a respectable and orderly fashion during all Club activities.
- D. All members are required to have a current signed waiver of liability on file with the Club.
- E. Dues and membership benefits shall be set by the Board of Directors. Any changes in dues or benefits must be communicated to Club members at least 30 days before the effective date.
- F. Memberships extend for 12 months from the first day of the month in which the member's dues are paid. If dues are not paid within 60 days of the membership renewal date, membership will be revoked.
- G. Potential applicants who are interested in the Club must participate in activities specified in Article IV before applying for membership.
- H. Dues and monies collected will be used for Club administrative needs and activities that collectively benefit of the members and their communities.

Article IV – Meetings, Trail Rides and Other Activities

- A. Membership meetings (in person or through electronic means) will be scheduled no less than yearly by the Board of Directors. Members must be given at least seven days advance notice of Club meetings, through the website/forum or other means at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

- B. A schedule of monthly meetings, trail rides and other activities shall be provided on the website/forum.
- C. Meeting, trail ride and other activity dates are always subject to change, providing that members shall be given at least seven days advance notice of new dates for rescheduled official Club meetings.
- D. Participation in two club events is required before membership is granted.

Article V – Vehicle Safety, Insurance and Waiver of Liability

- A. All vehicles at Club off-road events must be four-wheel drive SUVs or trucks and have adequate equipment for safe and legal operation.
- B. A safety inspection shall be conducted of all vehicles before any Club trail ride. Participants shall be responsible for their own first aid and personal safety needs.
- C. All vehicles and drivers must have proof of insurance.
- D. Seat belts are required for all vehicle occupants.
- E. Firearm possession/use will be governed by existing federal, state, and local laws where events take place.
- F. No one under the age of 18 will be permitted to participate in a Club event without a parent or legal guardian in attendance.
- G. Any non-member participating in a Club off-road event must sign a waiver of liability.

Article VI – Alcohol and Drugs

- A. Alcohol and other impairing substances are not allowed when vehicles are being operated at any Club event. This policy applies to drivers, passengers and observers. If violations of this policy occur, the member and any guests will be asked to leave the activity immediately.
- B. If the property owner or government rules specify no alcohol, the Club will strictly adhere to such requirements.
- C. Illegal substances are strictly prohibited at all times.

Article VII – Board Directors and Officer Positions

- A. A set of Founding Directors established with the Club shall hold office for a two-year term or until their successors are named. New Directors will be elected by the existing Board.
- B. Upon election, new Directors shall serve staggered two-year terms, or until their successors are elected. Any Director who has actively participated in and led Club activities may be re-elected to additional two-year terms. Duly elected Directors may be removed by a two-thirds majority vote of the entire Board of Directors.
- C. Officer positions and responsibilities shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

- D. Officers shall be elected by the Board of Directors to serve one-year terms or until their successors are elected, and can be removed by a two-thirds vote of the entire Board of Directors. Any Officer who has actively participated in and led Club activities may be re-elected to additional one-year terms.
- E. The Board of Directors shall have the power to define other roles and responsibilities, and to make appointments.
- F. Board business meetings, including votes, may be conducted in-person or by electronic means. Directors must be given at least seven days advance notice of Board meetings, through the website/forum or other means at the discretion of the Officers.
- G. Except for the election or removal of Directors and Officers, or amending the bylaws, a simple majority of a quorum will be required for all other Board business. A quorum for such business shall be four Directors or half of the Board (whichever is larger).
- H. The decision of the Board of Directors in all Club matters is final.

Article VIII – Expenditures and Finances

- A. Club monies from any source shall be immediately turned over to the Treasurer.
- B. The Board of Directors shall establish an annual budget and report financial results to the membership at least annually.
- C. The Treasurer shall have the authority to make expenditures covered within a Board-established annual budget.
- D. Any unbudgeted expense shall require a majority vote of a quorum of the Board of Directors.
- E. The Board of Directors shall not have the authority to approve expenses that would result in a financial deficit in any year.

Article IX – Suspension and Expulsion

- A. Any member who fails to adhere to the By Laws or other rules of Beltway4WD may be subject to suspension of membership or expulsion.
- B. A suspended member may not attend Club meetings, trail rides or other activities, including forum use, for a period of time specified by the Board of Directors.
- C. Expulsion is permanent, and an expelled member may not return to Beltway4WD, its trail rides, meetings or other activities. Dues paid by that member shall not be refunded.

Article X – Amendments

- A. By Laws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the entire Board of Directors.