

FAIRFIELD COUNTY BUSINESS CLUB APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Application Date: ____ / ____ / ____ Sponsor

Name & Title of Applicant:

Name of Company:

Address:

City: _____ State: _____ Zip:

Telephone: _____ Fax:

How Long Employed With This Company?

How Long Has Company Been In Business? _____ # Of Employees:

Are You Now Or Have You Ever Been In A Network Group? Yes _ No _

Name Of Group: _____ Currently Active Yes _ No _

*Summary of Business:

What Do You Expect From The FCBC:

Approval: ____ / ____ / ____ Read To Membership: ____ / ____ / ____

First Visit: ____ / ____ / ____ Second Visit: ____ / ____ / ____

Third Visit: ____ / ____ / ____ Date Inducted: ____ / ____ / ____

By signing this application, the applicant acknowledges that, if accepted, the applicant will be bound by and

abide by the By-Laws of the F.C.B.C. Upon membership approval by the FCBC, the applicant will be furnished

with a set of the current By-Laws.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

/ ____ / ____

Revised March 2003

Constitution and Bylaws

Fairfield County Business Club

effective 5/6/03

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be The Fairfield County Business Club of Danbury, Connecticut.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The chief purpose of the club is to bring together individuals interested in personal advancement through promotional methods for the material gain of themselves and their companies. This is to be achieved by exchanging ideas and information, which will benefit all members through business outside the club. It is not the aim of this club to exchange business between members. If club members desire to do business between members, that is their decision, but membership in the club imposes no such responsibility upon the various members.

The club is not a civic organization, but may take part in civic activities. The club shall be authorized to participate in such activities only upon approval of a majority of the general membership of the club. Likewise, the club is not a social organization, but certain members necessarily benefit socially, and not financially, as members of the club. Therefore, a secondary purpose of this club is to provide an opportunity for all members to benefit from the social activities engaged in by the club.

ARTICLE III – OFFICERS

Section 1. The club shall have as officers: A President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

ARTICLE IIV – DUTIES OF REGULAR OFFICERS

Section 1. Each officer is responsible for his/her duties being performed each meeting and is obligated to secure someone to handle said duties and give the necessary reports in their absence.

A. The President shall preside at the weekly meetings and in general guide the affairs of the club. At each meeting he/she shall notify all members of the next meeting by bulletin or some other form of communication. He/she shall be responsible for welcoming each new member into the club by telephone or letter, and inducting said new member into the club.

B. The Vice President shall preside over meetings in the President's absence and be in charge of membership. His/her duties will include welcoming guests, explaining to them the purpose and operation of the club and securing their application form their sponsor. he/she is also in charge of scheduling speakers at meetings. He shall also see that there is a five to ten minute program by the current week's speaker at the end of each meeting.

C. The Secretary shall record attendance, tips, contest points and keep an active roll

of all members. At the last meeting of each month, it shall be the additional duty of the Secretary to Present a list of members in good standing and read the same to the members present.

D. The Treasurer shall collect all dues, keep them properly accounted for, pay all bills and make a regular financial report to the club, and perform such other duties as herein provided.

ARTICLE V – ELECTIONS

Section 1. All regular officers shall be elected by a majority of a quorum at the regular business meeting each December. For all purposes under all articles herein, a quorum shall be more than one-half of the general membership of the club present at any meeting.

Section 2. All regular officers shall serve for a one-year term. The term shall begin January 1st.

Section 3. There shall be appointed by the President, a nomination committee to select candidates for offices for the next term. The membership of such committee shall be made up of the current president and the past two presidents. Said committee shall select a slate to be presented to the club at the proper time for elections.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

Section 1. This club shall meet every week at a time and place determined by the membership and both may be changed, if not satisfactory, by a majority vote of the membership. Starting time for each weekly meeting will be 8:00 a.m. At said time, breakfast will be served and business transacted.

Section 2. Order of Business

1. Opening. President or substitute announces that meeting shall come to order. Secretary's minutes begin.
2. Calling roll of officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
3. Reading of minutes from previous meeting.
4. Introduction of guests by sponsor member.
5. Tips – President first, followed by members as designated. Attendance taken at this time.
6. Unfinished business:
 - a) membership report: up to date count
 - b) total members in good standings
 - c) tabled motions revisited
 - d) items of business previously introduced and unresolved
7. New business:
 - a) Ballot for prospective members
 - b) New items for discussion
 - c) Discussion and vote on active motions
8. Guest Speaker (if any)
9. Treasurer report
10. Closing

Section 3. Meeting cancellation policy:

1. If Danbury schools are delayed or canceled, the FCBC meeting will be

canceled that day.

2. During certain holiday weeks there will be no meeting. These are: New Years Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

Section 4. In the event that there is a question of procedure, refer to current “Roberts Rules of Order” as base guideline for FCBC meeting procedure policy.

ARTICLE VII – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership shall be unlimited in number but this may be adjusted by a majority vote of a quorum.

Section 2. One representative shall be allowed for each business or profession. If one member representing a business or profession changes, said profession to one which is represented by another member, said member may remain only with the approval of the conflicting member.

Section 3. In the event that certain members represent overlapping professions, a quorum of the general membership may vote to suspend the application of Section 2 of this article; provided, the provisions of this section shall apply only upon the approval of all members of overlapping professions.

ARTICLE VIII – NEW MEMBERS

Section 1. Membership eligibility shall be subject to terms of article VII, Section 2, Any member may sponsor a prospective member and shall present him/her to the membership as a guest along with a completed application, including a one time initiation fee of \$50.00. The entire membership of the club has the responsibility of deciding whether this prospective member then must attend two consecutive meetings and pay the application fee.

Section 1. (a): If there is no protest to the sponsor within two weeks, the prospective member shall be considered eligible to become a member. The prospective member then must attend two consecutive meetings and pay the application fee.

Section 2. Each prospective member shall be voted on for acceptance into the club by a majority of a quorum, at the next regular business meeting. Voting shall be secret and two no votes shall serve to preclude a prospective member from entering the club. Secret ballot shall indicate “accept” or “decline” for prospective members.

Section 3. Membership shall be to the individual, not the business he/she represents.

Section 4. If the prospective member passes the secret ballot, a single member has the right to immediately express a no vote. This verbal no vote shall serve to preclude the prospective member from entering the club, and cannot be questioned, or challenged by other members.

ARTICLE IX – DUES

Section 1. There shall be semi-annual dues, in the amount of \$100.00 Dues amount determined by a majority quorum of club membership. Dues will be payable in advance and semi-annually as billed thereafter. Such dues shall be deposited in the club treasury subject to the control and supervision of the Treasurer. Disbursements from said treasury shall be made only according to the provisions herein set forth. Members who fail to keep their dues current, will be classified as delinquent and handled

as such. Furthermore, payment of dues is the responsibility of the member, not the business.

Section 2. Fiscal year begins January 1 and billing will be on January 1 and July 1. Member will be considered delinquent 30 days after receipt of bill.

ARTICLE X – DELINQUENT MEMBERS

Section 1. A member delinquent in his dues will be considered no longer a member in good standing if, after the Secretary contacts him, he does not immediately pay in full and ask for reinstatement. The President will then declare his classification open.

Section 2. Any member who misses 9 meetings in a 12-month period may be declared dropped from membership, and his classification re-opened. The Secretary will contact him after the member has been absent from five meetings.

Section 3. Any member who has been dropped for delinquency in his dues or nonattendance can request reinstatement by bringing his dues to a current status and in addition thereto, by paying a ten dollar (\$10.00) reinstatement fee. Before reinstatement is complete, said prospective member must be accepted as outlined in ARTICLE VIII, Section 2.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep an attendance record. In the event of a dispute concerning attendance, the record as kept by the Secretary shall be conclusive and shall determine the status of all members.

Section 5. A member in good standing may obtain a leave of absence from active participation in the functions and purposes of this club for any reasonable cause and Sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of this article will not apply; provided, this section will have application only upon the approval of a quorum of a general membership.

Section 6. Voting on any club business is limited to members in good standing; dues currently paid.

ARTICLE XI

BUSINESS BOOSTERS – TIPPER OF THE YEAR

Section 1. Each calendar year, there shall be selected from the membership of the club a tipper of the year. Such member so selected will be given a gift paid out of the treasury not to exceed the amount of one fourth of annual dues. The award shall be given during the 1st quarter of the following year.

Section 2. The tipper of the year shall be based upon a point system as follows:

- a) 3 points for each meeting attended.
- b) 1 point for each tip accepted by a member.
- c) 5 points for each direct referral given to another member. ***Must be acknowledged by the recipient.***
- d) 2 points for a member makes to another member's place of business. Valid once per year.
- e) 25 points for each new member sponsored; provided if the new member for any reason is no longer an active member of the club within 6 months, then, within that period, 20 points will be deducted from the point accumulation of the "sponsoring" member.

f) 4 points for speaking at the weekly meeting.

ARTICLE XII – GENERAL

Section 1. There shall be no age limit in any classification of a business or profession for membership.

Section 2. The rules and bylaws may be amended by a quorum vote of the club membership.

Section 3. Committees: The President shall be a Permanent chairman of all committees. He shall in turn appoint all persons making up each committee.

ARTICLE XIII – ACTIVITIES AND DISBURSEMENTS

Section 1. There shall be appointed, by the President a Social Committee and its duty shall be to arrange for all periodic social events. Such functions shall be paid for out of the treasury and/or by assessment of those members who attend.

Section 1. The members shall have their breakfasts paid for out of the club's treasury.