# GREATER RICHMOND TELUGU ASSOCIATION

## CONSTITUTION (BYLAWS)

*As Amended and Ratified at the General Body Meeting on November 14, 2026 (Effective Immediately)*

## PREAMBLE

Whereas the need exists for cohesive action on the part of the people of Telugu origin residing in Greater Richmond area of State of Virginia, Greater Richmond Telugu Association (GRTA) was established and became a not-for-profit organization under IRS code, Section 501 (c) (3) to preserve and propagate the Telugu cultural heritage and maintain the identity of said group of people, to provide a forum for Telugu literary, cultural, educational, social, and charitable activities of its members. Since its founding, the constitution of GRTA has gone through several amendments over a period of time. The GRTA constitution was previously amended in 2025 and further amended in October 2026 to address the contemporary governance, operational, and community needs of the association.

## Article I: TITLE

A not-for-profit organization has been formed, and the name of the organization is Greater Richmond Telugu Association, hereinafter referred to as GRTA.

## Article II: OBJECTIVES

- Preserve, maintain, and perpetuate the cultural heritage of the people of Telugu origin in Greater Richmond, the state of Virginia, and neighboring states.
- Assist, propagate, and advance cultural, literary, educational, arts, and community affairs of the people of Telugu origin in Greater Richmond, the state of Virginia, and neighboring states. Organize periodic Telugu literary meetings/gatherings to promote the local talent as well as to invite the distinguished Telugu scholars and artists to Richmond for close interaction with the people of Greater Richmond, the state of Virginia, and neighboring states. Collaborate with other organizations promoting Telugu literary, cultural, and educational activities.
- Promote Telugu language and heritage among youth and children through dedicated educational and cultural programs, and establish community support services including matrimony resources and youth job placement assistance.
- Raise, solicit, collect, and disburse funds, for cultural, educational, and charitable purposes either directly or in cooperation with other not-for-profit organizations in the U.S. and abroad.
- GRTA refrains, to the extent possible, from entering into any outside entity that has been competing with local cultural events.

## Article III: MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING

Persons aged 21 years or older, subscribing to the objectives of GRTA and willing to abide by the Constitution and Bylaws of GRTA can become GRTA members as follows:

**1. Patron Member (Life Member):** Patron Membership is for life. Any person, family in good standing, GRTA annual member for 3 (Three) consecutive years, shall be eligible to become a Patron Member of GRTA by submitting an application in the prescribed form with the appropriate dues. Membership is not transferable, and membership dues are not refundable. The patron membership fee shall be $500. Patron members shall have all basic privileges of GRTA membership, including the right to contest and vote in GRTA elections.

**2. Annual Member:** Any person or family shall be eligible to become an annual member of GRTA by submitting an application in the prescribed manner with the appropriate dues. Membership is not transferable, and membership dues are not refundable. The annual membership fee shall be $50 for a family and $25 for a single person. Family membership shall be defined as husband, wife, and their children of 18 (eighteen) years or less. Annual members shall enjoy all basic privileges of GRTA membership, including the right to contest and vote in GRTA elections.

**3. Membership Term:** Membership terms for annual members are for one year (i.e., from January 1st to December 31st). A member in good standing in a calendar year is one who paid his/her dues before midnight EST by Ugadi of that calendar year. A patron member is in good standing as soon as the payment of his/her dues is certified.

**4. Membership Dues & Promotional Discounts:** The membership dues (fees) shall be recommended by the Executive Committee from time to time for approval by a simple majority of the general body. Any revision in the membership dues shall be made only once in a calendar year. However, the Executive Committee is granted discretionary flexibility to offer promotional discounts on membership fees on special occasions, provided any such discount does not exceed 10% of the standard fee.

**5. Suspension of Membership:** Documented activities against the purposes of the organization as defined in Article II shall constitute grounds for suspension of membership. These allegations shall be communicated to the members by the Executive Committee in writing through registered mail. The alleged member shall then be entitled to a hearing by the Ad-hoc Committee on such charges. In order to be eligible for the aforementioned, the alleged member should request the Executive Committee in writing by certified mail to call the Ad-hoc Committee for such a hearing within sixty days from receipt of the above notification. Failure to respond within sixty days shall result in automatic suspension.

**6. Voting:** Members who are actively registered and in good standing are eligible to vote. Effective January 1, 2027, voting rights for Annual General Meeting (AGM) and annual election matters shall be restricted strictly to members who have obtained or renewed their membership by June 30th of the current operational year. In the case of Patron or Annual Family membership, there shall be two votes per family, one for the head of the family and one for the spouse. In the case of divorced or legally separated families, the voting rights shall remain with the original partners unless advised otherwise by the affected family members in writing with mutual consent.

## Article IV: ORGANIZATION

The GRTA organization shall be made up of the General Body and the Executive Committee.

**1. General Body:** The General Body shall determine the basic philosophy and policies of GRTA. It is empowered to elect, remove and impeach GRTA officers (except as provided in Article VI), amend bylaws, and revoke memberships.

**Membership:** General Body shall consist of all GRTA members in good standing, as defined in Article III.

**Meetings:** There shall be at least one general body meeting in each calendar year to elect the new officers. However, the president shall call a general body meeting if 40 members or more of the members of the Association sign a petition requesting such a meeting. The President shall also call a general body meeting if two-thirds of the Executive Committee requests for such a meeting. Four weeks written notice with the exact purpose and agenda need to be included when such a special meeting is called.

A minimum of 10% of the voting members shall constitute a quorum. A simple majority vote shall carry all decisions, except constitutional amendments. In the event there is no quorum at the general body meeting, a second general body meeting will be called after due notice within two weeks. Members present at this second general body meeting shall constitute a quorum. The general body meeting shall be chaired by the Parliamentarian, who is appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee members attending a scheduled meeting. Parliamentarian must be: (1) a member in good standing or a patron member, and (2) not a member of the Executive Committee (3) shall be restricted exclusively to Past GRTA Presidents; however, if no nominations are received from Past Presidents, nominations shall be opened to Past Executive Committee members. Should the parliamentarian be absent to conduct the meeting due to extraordinary circumstances, the president may represent the parliamentarian for presiding over the meeting.

**General Body Meeting Attendance Preference for Roles:** Preference for appointed or open GRTA roles shall be given to members present in person at the General Body meeting. Absent members seeking roles must notify the Governing Body and President via a video call prior to the meeting and submit formal written notification via email to the Executive Committee before the meeting date.

**Parliamentary Procedures:** Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all meetings and procedures except where they are inconsistent with the GRTA Constitution or Bylaws.

**2. Executive Committee:** The Executive Committee (Officers, EC) shall provide the leadership and execute the policies as approved by the General Body and directives provided in the Bylaws. The EC shall set the fee for various memberships (subject to Article III, Section 4). The EC shall be vested with the authority to act for and on behalf of GRTA. No member of the Executive Committee, individually or jointly, shall borrow money for or from the association. The president and members of the Executive Committee shall bear responsibility for one another and collectively bear responsibility to the General Body.

**Membership & Composition:** The voting members of the Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Cultural Coordinator, Sports Secretary, Social Outreach Secretary, and Cultural Outreach Officer. The term of office for all of these positions shall be one year. Additionally, one (1) auxiliary nominated support role may be created to assist Executive Committee operations.

**Executive Committee Eligibility Requirements:** All candidates running for any Executive Committee position must meet the following minimum eligibility criteria prior to submitting their nomination: (1) a minimum of three (3) years of service as a GRTA volunteer (Director), and (2) holding three (3) years of consecutive active GRTA membership. Furthermore, candidates running for Vice President must have completed at least two (2) years of service on the Executive Committee prior to assuming office.

**Recommend Event Attendance for Office Bearers:** Any member holding an elected or nominated position within GRTA is requested to attend all official GRTA events throughout their term. If an office bearer is unable to attend an official event due to unforeseen circumstances, it is recommended that they notify the Governing Body or President via email in advance.

**Operational Recommendations for Incoming Executive Committee:** Every incoming Executive Committee is expected to follow these operational recommendations: (a) Treasury Growth & Reserve Protection: Ensure net

positive financial growth and prohibit depleting existing reserves. At the conclusion of their term, the outgoing Executive Committee must leave a treasury balance exceeding their starting balance, subject to a strict minimum closing balance of $5,000, whichever is higher; (b) Membership Growth Target: Achieve at least 5% annual growth in total paid memberships; and (c) Publishing Obligations: Publish an official Annual Event Calendar at the start of each operational year to resolve any conflicts with other organizations.

**President (Term Limit & Duties):** The President shall be the spokesperson for the association. The President shall be the coordinator of the Executive Committee and shall perform all duties pertaining to the office of the President. He/she shall preside over all meetings of the GRTA Executive Committee and call all General Body meetings. He/she shall be an ex officio member of any of the meetings organized by any Coordinators (Cultural, Movie, Literary, and Educational). He/she shall appoint all committees authorized by the Bylaws with the approval of the Executive Committee. He/she presides over all GRTA functions. He/she may sign any contracts, deeds, documents, and other instruments on behalf of GRTA after satisfying the following conditions. First, the President MUST consult with all other Executive Committee members and obtain the majority consensus approval to sign any contract of expenditure of more than $5000 for each event. The President and Treasurer shall be the only authorized persons to sign the checks individually up to $2,000. Any check exceeding $2,000 shall require the signatures of both the President and the Treasurer. No individual shall serve as GRTA President for more than two (2) total terms.

**Vice President (Automatic Succession & Duties):** The Vice President shall assist the President and fulfill his/her duties in his/her absence and, when so acting, shall have all the powers of the President. He/she shall perform such other duties as assigned by the President. The Vice President shall be responsible for fundraising activities and food services during the GRTA celebrations. Upon completion of their term, the Vice President shall automatically succeed to the position of President for the following term, provided they express interest (and remain within the two-term presidential limit). If the Vice President declines or is not interested in succeeding to the presidency, nominations for President shall be opened to all eligible members.

**Secretary:** The Secretary shall be the custodian of the Seal, Constitution, and Bylaws of the association. He/she shall issue calls for meetings of the General Body, the Executive Committee at the directive of the president, assist the president in preparing the agenda before each meeting, and prepare the minutes of the meetings. He/she shall perform the Official correspondence of the association, and all correspondence shall be done as specified in Article XII and through the Technology Committee. He/she shall maintain an updated list of all paid members. He/she shall be responsible for the maintenance of records, documents, accurate postal and email addresses, official correspondence of the organization, and reports of any Ad-hoc Committees. He/she shall be responsible for ensuring that all reports, documents, and records are kept and filed as required by law. He/she shall be responsible for transferring all the records of GRTA to the incoming Secretary within five days after the end of his/her term.

**Treasurer:** The Treasurer and President shall be the only authorized persons to sign the checks individually up to $2,000. Any check exceeding $2,000 shall require the signatures of both Treasurer and President. He/she shall be responsible for issuing notice and collection of all dues and depositing the same in such banks or trusts as the Executive Committee may designate. He/she shall maintain an updated list of all paid members. He/she shall operate all accounts as per Article IX. He/she shall have custody of all accounts, receipts, and disbursements. He/she shall submit quarterly financial reports to the Executive Committee and provide this information to the General Body. He/she shall perform such other duties and exercise such other powers incident to the office of Treasurer by law. He/she shall file tax returns with the Internal Revenue Service for the year in office and provide

appropriate records for financial audits. He/she shall transfer all records, documents, and accounts to the incoming Treasurer within five days after the end of his/her term.

**Cultural Coordinator:** The cultural coordinator shall be responsible for preparing guidelines, soliciting and approving cultural items with the consultation of the executive committee, contacting and coordinating performers, preparing an agenda for cultural events, organizing prize distributions, coordinating audio and stage management activities, and presenting cultural items to the audience. Although the cultural coordinator serves as the lead person, the Executive Committee as a whole shall be responsible for the overall planning and implementation of any GRTA Events.

**Cultural Outreach Officer:** The Cultural Outreach Officer shall lead dedicated youth and children's programs for Telugu language promotion and coordinate community outreach services, including matrimony resources and youth job placement assistance.

**Sports Secretary:** The Sports Secretary shall be responsible for promoting physical wellness, community bonding, and cultural pride through sports and is responsible for developing a yearly sports calendar with proposed events (e.g., Chess, Pickleball, Cricket), coordinating with other members to prepare and manage event budgets, and propose new sports or fitness initiatives based on community interest.

**Social Outreach Secretary:** The Social Outreach Secretary shall be responsible for organizing community support initiatives (e.g., food drives, health camps, donation campaigns, emergency disaster relief events in the USA as well as in the mother land), build social networks and partnerships with local nonprofits, cultural bodies, and service organizations and is responsible to promote/publicize outreach activities periodically through social media (such as WhatsApp, email), to encourage participation.

**Meetings:** The Executive Committee shall meet at least once in three months. The quorum shall be a majority of the membership. The GRTA Secretary, in consultation with the President, shall prepare the agenda. Agenda shall be limited to the objectives of GRTA. If three or more of the Executive Committee members request in writing a special meeting of the Committee, the Secretary shall call for a special meeting scheduled to meet within two weeks of the written request. The special meeting agenda shall be limited to the topics mentioned in the written request. In case of any such special meetings, the secretary shall provide a minimum of seven days' notice to all Executive Committee members.

**Governing Body & Nominated Positions Rules:** The Governing Body consists of three members who are past office bearers. All nominated positions across GRTA (including Governing Body and committee positions) shall be restricted exclusively to Past GRTA Presidents; however, if no nominations are received from Past Presidents for any available nominated position, nominations shall be opened to Past Executive Committee members. All available nominated positions across GRTA committees must be finalized by December of each operational year. If the number of nominations received for any nominated position exceeds the number of available spots, the Governing Body and President shall jointly make the final selection of candidates with majority voting. The term of office for all members of the Governing Body shall be three years. The Governing Body is responsible to arbitrate or adjudicate any issues that arise from time to time within the executive committee and/or among the members of the association at large, work with the Audit committee to pass over the financial documents to the new executive committee, work with the Election Committee for ensuring that elections are conducted in a fair and equitable manner, and lead civic engagement with local county officials, mayors, and senators to elevate GRTA's community presence.

## Article V: VACANCIES

The Executive Committee shall take appropriate action to fill any vacancies in the Executive Committee, no later than two months of such occurrence. Any such interim vacancies can be filled by seeking nominations from the membership in good standing and filled by the Executive Committee if the current committee's remaining term is at least for three months. Approval of the two-thirds of the serving Executive Committee members shall be required for any such appointment. Furthermore, if no nominations are received for an Executive Committee position by the election nomination deadline, or if all nominations for a position are disqualified after the deadline has passed, the newly elected Executive Committee shall have the authority to appoint and fill those vacant positions once they formally take office.

## Article VI: TERMINATION

Any member of the Executive Committee, who fails to attend three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings without properly informing the President shall be terminated without prejudice. Any such vacancies shall be filled as stated in Article V.

## Article VII: IMPEACHMENT/REMOVAL

Any member of the Executive Committee may be removed or impeached on the grounds of incompetence, corruption, favoritism, extortion, or oppression in office, or gross misconduct in a special General Body meeting called for such purpose. Approval of two-third of the membership shall be required for such impeachment/removal.

## Article VIII: ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. The officers of the Association shall be elected at the general body meeting of the members of the Association on or before the Sankranti day celebration. This meeting shall be chaired by a Parliamentarian, who shall be appointed by the President (as provided in Article IV). A parliamentarian must be a member in good standing and not a contestant or nominator of any contestant in the election or a member of the Executive Committee. Members in good standing shall be eligible to vote as stated in Article III (subject to the June 30th membership cutoff effective January 1, 2027).

2. An Election/Nominating Committee consisting of three members shall seek, verify, and propose candidates for election to all offices. Eligibility for the Election Committee is restricted exclusively to Past GRTA Presidents (subject to the fallback eligibility for Past Executive Committee members if no Past Presidents apply). Dual roles are strictly prohibited: Past Presidents holding positions on the Governing Body or any other active GRTA committee are ineligible to serve on the Election Committee. The Election Committee shall not include any member who is either contesting for any position or nominating/seconding any contestant for any position. The Election Committee's primary priority shall be consensus-building among nominees prior to executing formal elections.

3. Nominees for offices shall meet the eligibility criteria in Article IV, be members in good standing, and must give their consent in writing at the time of the nomination. Candidates filing nomination forms for GRTA leadership positions must pay a mandatory nomination fee according to the following schedule: President: $250; Vice President: $150; All Other Executive Committee Positions: $100. Collected nomination fees shall be used strictly for election expenses. Any remaining surplus funds after election expenses are settled will be refunded to

the candidates on a proportionate basis. Nominations may also be made by any eligible member of the Association in good standing by writing to the Election Committee before the due date. No one should contest for or serve in more than one position in one year. Nominations must be received and shall be closed two weeks before the election date by midnight EST. The members who propose or second a candidate for election must be members in good standing. Nominations can be withdrawn TWO days before the election date by duly notifying the Election Committee in writing. The valid nominations, as certified by the Election Committee, shall be published within 24 hours after the expiration of the withdrawal date. The candidates can request a list of members in good standing who can vote at the general body meeting, and the executive committee must make such a list available within 24 hours of request once the election date is confirmed. If no nominations are received for an Executive Committee position by the nomination deadline, or if all nominations are disqualified after the deadline, the vacant position shall be filled by appointment of the newly elected Executive Committee upon taking office as set forth in Article V.

4. The parliamentarian with the help of the Election Committee shall be responsible for conducting the elections. To ensure a fair election process, the voting shall be conducted by secret balloting whenever there is a contest.

## Article IX: GRTA FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

GRTA shall maintain separate funds for specific purposes. All financial records shall be maintained as required by the IRS.

**a. General Operations Account:** Annual membership fees, advertising revenue, food revenue, movie collections, election nomination fees, and miscellaneous income shall be deposited in the General Operations Account. The funds from this account alone should be used to organize events and incur any administrative and organizational expenses GRTA needed from time to time. Consistent with Article IV, Section 2, the outgoing Executive Committee shall ensure net positive financial growth and leave a treasury closing balance exceeding its inherited starting balance, or at least $5,000, whichever is higher.

**b. Endowment Account:** This account consists of all the funds received for Patron Membership Fee and any other special income received. Also, any surplus amount exceeding $10,000 that is available in the General Fund account at the end of the fiscal year shall be transferred into this account. The withdrawal of funds from this account to meet any general/operational expenses of GRTA requires the approval of the general body in consultation with the Governing Body. However, the Treasurer, with the approval of the GRTA executive committee, may invest these funds in a C.D. account from time to time to earn a higher interest than a regular bank account. The GRTA executive committee shall have the powers, only in case of emergencies, to withdraw any interest that is earned on this account, to meet GRTA operational expenses. Such amount shall not exceed $500 and only one such withdrawal shall be permitted without the approval of the General Body. GRTA, being a community organization, realizes that it has a responsibility to help and rise to the occasion when a tragedy strikes a family/person, or community. On such occasions, the Executive Committee has the power to raise funds to support such causes. All donations and special income derived through the special efforts shall be deposited in this account, and such funds may be utilized for the cause in the manner that the Executive Committee agrees.

**c. Audit of the Accounts:** The President, with the approval of the Executive Committee, shall appoint a three-member audit committee and name one of them as chairperson of the committee to audit the accounts every fiscal year. Such a committee shall be in place by the end of November of every fiscal year. Only GRTA members in good standing shall be eligible to participate in the committee. However, the audit committee shall be permitted to obtain any professional help from an accountant to complete the assigned task. The committee

shall verify all the accounts operated by GRTA and submit a report to the Executive Committee by January 5th of the following year, and the Executive Committee must make the report available to all the members during the First Event in the new membership year.

## Article X: GRTA EVENTS / CELEBRATIONS

GRTA shall celebrate at least one festival in a calendar year: Ugadi. Any additional events may be celebrated if the majority of the Executive Committee members are in agreement. An official Annual Event Calendar shall be published at the start of each operational year.

## Article XI: AD-HOC COMMITTEE

GRTA President, in consultation with the Executive Committee, is empowered to establish ad-hoc committees to accomplish such tasks and operations as to realize the objectives of the association, to investigate specific problems, procedures, and matters of interest, and to make recommendations to the Executive Committee. In no event shall an ad-hoc committee, except for the audit committee and permanent standing committees established under these Bylaws, exist beyond the end of the term of the Executive Committee that establishes it.

## Article XII: E-MAILS, WEBSITE, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Realizing that technology has a vital role to play in promoting organizational activities, GRTA shall establish a website, email list, and Technology Committee. GRTA has sole proprietary rights to both the website and email list. No individual Executive Committee member owns any personal rights/ownership to these items. The Executive Committee shall maintain websites and emails in a dignified manner.

No member of the Executive Committee shall use them for:

- a. Personal glory or self-aggrandizement or self-promoting;
- b. Airing grievances and internal conflicts;
- c. Accusations, badmouthing, profanity, insults, derogatory/demeaning remarks, threats, violence, etc.; or
- d. Any other purposes that might be deemed detrimental to GRTA image, integrity, and principles.

**Technology Committee:** The Technology Committee shall have the GRTA president, GRTA secretary, and three other appointed members. The president, with the authorization of the Executive Committee, shall appoint three members with the required knowledge and skills of technology in web designing and e-mail needs, and name one of the three persons as the chairperson of the Committee. The members shall be members of GRTA and shall not be members of the Executive Committee. Other members of the Executive Committee or any GRTA members with a conflict of interest with the Executive Committee shall not be eligible to serve on this committee.

The committee shall be directly responsible for all its functions to the Executive Committee. It shall help design and maintain the website and process emails for day-to-day operations. The content of the website shall reflect only factual information pertaining to the values and objectives of GRTA. It shall have an accurate list of email addresses, which shall be used to broadcast only the messages that promote the values and the objectives of the association as authorized by the president from time to time. All the official correspondence from the secretary or president shall be posted on the web or sent by email at their request. The committee shall recommend from time to time to the Executive Committee the methods to increase revenue and better communication through

the website and emails. GRTA members may send any community messages to the GRTA President or Secretary and request them to post it.

## Article XIII: GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

**Internal Confidentiality & 30-Day Resolution Policy:** All operational issues, disputes, or grievances raised with the Executive Committee or Governing Body shall be kept strictly confidential and resolved internally by the Governing Body and Executive Committee within thirty (30) days of the date the dispute is received.

Generally, when there is a difference of opinion among the members of the executive committee, the majority opinion shall be binding. However, if a member perceives himself/herself to have been constantly harassed or deprived of his/her ability to serve the organization, the following procedure is to be adopted:

a. When an executive committee member(s) could not resolve the differences within the committee, any member involved should make a written request to the President to form a three-member ad-hoc committee and name one of them as the chairperson for an appeal process within 10 days of receiving notice. All parties to the grievance shall submit in writing that they will abide by the recommendation of such a committee. The accuser side and the accused side can each suggest one GRTA member in good standing, but not a member of the Executive Committee, to the president for inclusion in the ad-hoc committee. The third person shall be appointed by the President with the authorization of those Executive Committee members who are not parties to the grievance. If the president himself/herself is the subject of dispute, the Vice President should perform this function.

b. The committee Chair shall then correspond with all the committee members involved and solicit all supporting documentation from each of them and distribute it to other committee members for review.

c. The committee shall then meet to discuss the materials reviewed and initiate its deliberations. The committee, at this time, may choose to conduct interviews with one or more members involved, individually or combined, to gather additional relevant information.

d. The committee shall prepare a complete report and submit it with its recommendations to the President, which shall be no later than 30 days from the date of formation of the committee.

e. The President shall inform the committee's recommendation(s) to all parties involved and implement it within 24 hours of receiving the report.

f. The committee's recommendation(s) on the issues involved shall be the binding agreement for the Executive Committee.

## Article XIV: RULES AND REGULATIONS

The following rules and regulations shall conclusively bind GRTA and all persons acting for or on behalf of it:

a. No part of the net earnings of GRTA shall be distributed to its members, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred by any member in furtherance of the objectives set forth herein.

b. No part of the activities of GRTA shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in or intervene in any political campaign, including the publication or distribution of statements on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws, GRTA shall not carry on any activities not permitted by an organization:

a. Exempt from federal income tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law, or

b. That can accept tax-deductible contributions under Section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

Office holders of GRTA shall avoid conflicts of interest in carrying out their responsibilities.

## Article XV: INDEMNITY

a. The Executive Committee members shall not be held liable for any actions and decisions taken on behalf of the association.

b. The GRTA members' listing (mailing address, e-mail address, and phone number) shall be used for the distribution of GRTA-related information only.

c. The GRTA members' listing (mailing address, e-mail address, and phone number), equipment, individual software, web pages developed during the year; photographs taken during the programs (performed by the professional artists), etc., are the association's property. No one should sell, trade or exchange, or utilize in any other manner for personal or third-party gains without obtaining the permission of the general body.

## Article XVI: DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution, the Executive Committee shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the association, dispose-off all the assets of the association exclusively for the purposes of the association in such manner, or to such association or associations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt association under section 501(c) (3) and 170 (C) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or Federal, State, or Local government for exclusive public purpose.

## Article XVII: AMENDMENTS

a. The constitution may be amended with the approval of the majority of the members (60 % or more) attended general body meetings.

b. The amendments and the time and place for the meeting shall be notified to all members at least 30 days in advance.

c. All amendments shall be submitted in writing to the President to enable him/her to circulate 30 days in advance.

d. Only those members present at the meeting will be eligible to vote.

e. Unless otherwise explicitly specified in the text of an approved motion (such as the June 30th voting eligibility cutoff effective January 1, 2027), all amendments ratified at a General Body Meeting shall take effect immediately upon approval by the majority of the members.

## Article XVIII: ELECTIONS AND ELECTION PROCESS

In preparation for elections and to ensure a fair and transparent process, an Election Committee composed of three (3) members shall oversee the election process in accordance with Article VIII. Eligibility for the Election Committee is restricted exclusively to Past GRTA Presidents (or Past Executive Committee members if no Past Presidents submit nominations by the December deadline). Past Presidents serving on the Governing Body or any other active GRTA committee are ineligible to serve on the Election Committee. The Election Committee's primary priority shall be consensus-building among nominees prior to executing formal elections. The Executive Committee and Election Committee will also be responsible for drafting the election procedures and announcing the election dates during the General Body meeting held in October of that year.

## Article XIX: STANDING BYLAWS COMMITTEE

**1. Establishment & Purpose:** A permanent, dedicated Standing Bylaws Committee shall be established to safeguard the integrity and continuity of the GRTA Constitution and Bylaws.

**2. Term & Composition:** Members of the Standing Bylaws Committee shall serve a three (3) year term. Eligibility for nominated positions on the Standing Bylaws Committee shall be restricted exclusively to Past GRTA Presidents (or Past Executive Committee members if no Past Presidents apply), subject to the December finalization deadline and Governing Body/President selection authority in the event of over-subscription as set forth in Article IV.

**3. Duties & Responsibilities:** The Standing Bylaws Committee shall be tasked with actively collecting member feedback, maintaining and updating the Constitution and Bylaws following approved General Body motions, ensuring organizational compliance across committees, and resolving any Bylaw-related questions or interpretation issues that arise.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & AMENDMENT HISTORY

The 2026 amended GRTA Constitution was proposed by the Executive Committee during the Mid-Year General Body Meeting held on October 17, 2026, at the Glen Allen Public Library. Subsequently, the amendments were ratified and approved by the members at large during the Annual General Body Meeting held on November 14, 2026, at the Atlee Library in Mechanicsville, taking effect immediately upon approval (except where noted otherwise.

| Name | Contact Info | Signature |
|---|---|---|
| Mr. Jayapal Kasarla | 603-767-8060 | 11/18/2026 |

| Session / Meeting | Date | Key Participants / Signatories |
|---|---|---|
| Mid-year General Body Meeting | 10/17/2026 | Prasad Nallapaneni, Vijay Byra, Sankar Makineni, Sekhar Reddy, Seshikanth, Ganesh Kandula, Harish, Suresh, Krishna, Rajendra, Kiran, Rajendra Prasad, Vijay Vemuri, Sudhakar Reddy Bobbity, Srinivas Reddy Chintagunta, Krishna Reddy Yenika, Koti, Nagendra, Snehit, Mahindra, Anitha, Padma, Raj, Limba Reddy, Kondal Reddy, VSRK Reddy, Jaipal, Eswar and Vinod Ravuru |
| Annual General Body Bylaws Review & Ratification | 11/14/2026 | Held at Atlee Library — Approved by General Body (Minutes compiled by General Secretary Vinod Kumar Ravuru)<br>112 members attended the GRTA annual general body meeting held at Atlee Library, Mechanicsville, VA 23116. |