

**THE GRETCHEN FELDMAIER DRAGON BOAT SOCIETY  
OF THE MID-OHIO VALLEY  
THE MOV'N DRAGONS  
ORGANIZATIONAL MANUAL**

The Gretchen Feldmaier Dragon Boat Society of the Mid-Ohio Valley, Inc., a non-profit organization chartered in the State of Ohio, came into being in 2006. Longtime educator Gretchen Feldmaier's dream was to see a dragon boat on the rivers of the Mid-Ohio Valley. In late 2005, her breast cancer returned and she asked a core group of friends to make her dream come true. As a result, the Mid-Ohio Valley Dragon Boat Fund was established at the Marietta Community Foundation, so that donations could be tax-exempt.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

**Purpose:**

To encourage and support people, regardless of age, gender or athletic ability, to "Awaken the Dragon" within themselves through the sport of dragon boat paddling. The Mid-Ohio Dragon Boat members encourage a healthy lifestyle for all participants.

**Goals:**

- To support the social, physical and emotional benefits of exercise.
- To provide a positive model for the community, demonstrating courage, determination and cooperation.
- To promote the Mid-Ohio Valley waterways.

**VISION STATEMENT**

We strive to set an example for others by maintaining a healthy lifestyle, striving for excellence in our sport and encouraging survivors of breast and other forms of cancer and their supporters to become involved in dragon boat paddling. We wish to raise public awareness of the issues surrounding breast cancer, including early detection.

**MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES**

As a member of the MOV'n Dragons, I commit to the following:

**Organizational Commitments:**

- I recognize that I am an advocate for our mission and message, and will undertake to promote the objectives of our organization whenever possible.
- I recognize this is a volunteer-run organization and I am prepared to participate and to support the organization in any way I can.
- I understand that I cannot expend any funds on behalf of the MOV'n Dragons without prior approval of the Treasurer.
- I will respond appropriately and in a timely fashion to communications from the organization (in reference to phone and email messages.)

**Team Obligations:**

- I understand that I am part of a team. I have responsibilities to my teammates and will contribute to a positive environment on the boat.
- I understand the wearing of life jackets is mandatory and I am aware I should be able to swim 100 meters wearing a personal floatation device.
- I recognize that fitness is a year-long commitment.
- I will notify the coach if I have concerns with any aspect of the team or its organization and I will give notice to the coach or an officer if I can no longer paddle for whatever reason.
- When traveling with the team, I shall be particularly cognizant of my responsibilities as a member of this organization and will work actively to promote our message in whatever way I can.
- From time to time, maintenance must be performed on the boat and paddles. All members are expected to help with their duty in order to keep the equipment in the best and safest conditions.
- Each member is encouraged to participate in as many practices as possible; the coaching staff will determine the practice schedule.

**Waiver:**

Prior to paddling in the dragon boat, a Waiver of Liability Agreement must be signed each year by all members.

**Dues:**

Annual dues are set by the club. If you are a cancer survivor the dues are waived the first year.

**Special Events:**

Fundraising events, festivals, and races are decided by team members.

**STATUTORY AGENT/OFFICERS/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Statutory Agent: Judy Baker was named to this position by Jim Huggins, attorney, when the group officially became a non-profit corporation. While it is a non-profit entity, taxes can be charged if there is ever a profit shown. Official correspondence from the Ohio Secretary of State's Office will be delivered to Judy at 1205 Glendale Rd., Marietta, OH 45750. Phone: 740-706-4600, email: [judybaker0430@sbcglobal.net](mailto:judybaker0430@sbcglobal.net). Every business must renew its incorporation every five years.

**Executive Committee:**

An Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and such other directors and committee chairs as determined from time to time at a general meeting. This committee shall meet regularly to conduct the necessary business of the club.

Officers shall serve for two years.

The terms of the officers shall be staggered; the President and the Secretary shall be elected in the same year and the Vice-President and Treasurer shall be elected in the following years. The Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement for any officer unable to complete her term, regardless of reason for stepping down.

Separate elections shall be held for each office to be filled.

An election may be by acclamation; otherwise it shall be by ballot.

If no successor is elected, the person previously elected or appointed continues to hold office.

**Duties of Officers:**

The President shall preside at all meetings of the club and of the Executive Committee. The President is the chief executive officer and shall supervise the other officers in the execution of their duties.

The Vice-President shall carry out the duties of the President during her/his absence.

The Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the club, issue notices of meetings of the club and Executive Committee, keep minutes of all meetings of the club and of the Executive Committee, have custody of all records and documents, except those required to be kept by the Treasurer and shall maintain a register of members. In the absence of the Secretary from a meeting, the Executive Committee shall appoint another person to act as Secretary at the meeting.

The Treasurer shall keep the financial records, maintain an affiliation with the Marietta Community Foundation Executive Director, and provide financial statements to the officers, members and others when required.

**Meeting and Notices to members:**

Communication to members will mainly be by email, but in some cases notice of a meeting may be given by telephone, personally or by postal mail to the member's address.

Notice of a general meeting must be given not less than 14 days before the meeting.

A formal meeting will be conducted once every quarter. Members will be notified by email or phone.

**Amendments to the Organizational Manuel**

Changes to this manual may be made by sending proposed changes to the membership two weeks prior to a meeting and the proposed changes approved by a two-thirds majority vote.

Website– [www.movndragons.org](http://www.movndragons.org)

Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/MovnDragons/>

Friends of the MOV'n Dragons – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/103012611073/>

Adopted Feb. 14, 2009.

Amended 2019