

**BYLAWS  
OF  
SOUTHERN CHASE AT BENT TREE  
HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**ARTICLE I**

**NAME AND LOCATION**

The name of the corporation is **SOUTHERN CHASE AT BENT TREE HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION, INC.** The principal office of the corporation shall be located at 1400 Battleground Avenue, Suite 122, Greensboro, North Carolina 27408, but meetings of members and directors may be held at such places within the County of Guilford and State of North Carolina, as may be designated by the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE II**

**DEFINITIONS**

**Section 1.** "Association" shall mean and refer to Southern Chase at Bent Tree Homeowner's Association, Inc., a North Carolina non-profit corporation, its successors and assigns.

**Section 2.** "Board of Directors" or "Board" shall mean those persons elected or appointed to act collectively as the directors of the Association.

**Section 3.** "Southern Chase at Bent Tree" shall mean and refer to that certain real property subject to the Declaration and such additions thereto as may hereafter be brought within the jurisdiction of Southern Chase at Bent Tree Homeowner's Association, Inc.

**Section 4.** "Bylaws" means the bylaws of the Association as they now or hereafter exist.

**Section 5.** "Declarant" shall mean and refer to D. R. Horton, Inc. - Greensboro as well as its successors and assigns, if such successors.

**Section 6.** "Declaration" shall mean and refer to the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for Southern Chase at Bent Tree and amendments thereto, applicable to Southern Chase at Bent Tree and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Guilford County, North Carolina.

**Section 7.** "Common Area" shall mean and refer to all common areas and open spaces within Southern Chase at Bent Tree owned by the Association for the use and enjoyment of Members.

**Section 8.** "Lot" shall mean any separately numbered plot of land, regardless of size, as shown on recorded subdivision map of Southern Chase at Bent Tree.

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**Section 9.** "Dwelling Unit" shall mean a residence containing sleeping facilities for one or more persons and a kitchen.

**Section 10.** "Manager" shall mean and refer to any person employed by the Board of Directors as a professional manager, pursuant to the provisions of the Bylaws, to manage the affairs of the Association.

**Section 11.** "Member" shall mean and refer to every person or entity entitled to membership with voting rights in the Association as provided in the Declaration.

**Section 12.** "Owner" shall mean and refer to the record owner, whether one or more persons or entities, of a fee simple title to any Lot which is a part of Southern Chase at Bent Tree, including contract sellers, but excluding those who have such interest merely as security for the performance of an obligation.

**Section 13.** "Book of Resolutions" shall mean and refer to the document containing rules and regulations and policies adopted by the Board of Directors.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **MEETING OF MEMBERS**

**Section 1. Annual Meetings.** The first annual meeting of the Members shall be held within one year from the date of incorporation of the Association, on the date and at the time and place set forth by the Board of Directors in its rules and regulations, and each subsequent regular annual meeting of the Members shall be held on the same day of the same month of each year thereafter, unless a different date and time is fixed by the Board of Directors.

**Section 2. Special Meetings.** Special meetings of the Members may be called at any time by the President or by the Board of Directors or upon written request of the Members who are entitled to vote one-fourth (1/4) of all of the votes of the membership.

**Section 3. Notice of Meetings.** Written notice of each meeting of the Members shall be given by, or at the direction of, the secretary or person authorized to call the meeting, by mailing a copy of such notice, postage prepaid, at least thirty (30) days before such meeting to each Member entitled to vote thereat, addressed to the Member's address last appearing on the books of the Association, or supplied by such Member to the Association for the purpose of notice. Such notice shall specify the place, day and hour of the meeting, and, in the case of a special meeting, the purpose of the meeting.

**Section 4. Quorum.** The presence at the meeting of Members eligible to vote or authorized proxies amounting to one-tenth (1/10) of the votes entitled to be cast shall constitute a quorum for any action except as otherwise provided in the Articles of Incorporation, the Declaration, or these

Bylaws. If, however, such quorum shall not be present or represented at any meeting, the Members entitled to vote thereat shall have the power to adjourn the meeting from time to time, without notice other than announcement at the meeting, until a quorum as aforesaid shall be present or be represented.

**Section 5. Proxies.** At all meetings of Members, each Member may vote in person or by proxy. All proxies shall be in writing and filed with the secretary. Every proxy shall be revocable and shall automatically cease upon the conveyance by any Member of his Lot.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS: SELECTION, TERM OF OFFICE**

**Section 1. Number.** The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Board of not fewer than three (3) nor more than seven (7) directors, who need not be Members of the Association. The initial Board shall consist of three (3) directors designated by the Declarant. The initial directors shall serve until the first meeting of the Association.

**Section 2. Term of Office.** Subject to the provisions of Article V, Section 1 of these Bylaws, at the first annual meeting, the Members shall elect the number of directors allowed herein. The term of the directors shall be for two (2) years. All directors shall serve until their successors have been duly elected and qualified.

**Section 3. Removal.** Any director, other than those selected by Declarant, may be removed from the Board, with or without cause, by a majority vote of the Members of the Association. In the event of death, resignation or removal of a director, his successor shall be selected by the remaining Members of the Board and shall serve for the unexpired term of this predecessor; provided, however, in the event of the death, resignation or removal of a director selected by Declarant, his successor shall be selected by Declarant and shall serve for the unexpired term of his predecessor.

**Section 4. Compensation.** No director shall receive compensation for any services he may render to the Association as a director. However, any director may be reimbursed for his actual expenses incurred in the performance of his duties.

**Section 5. Action Taken Without a Meeting.** The directors shall have the right to take any action in the absence of a meeting which they could take at a meeting by obtaining the written approval of all of the directors. Any action so approved shall have the same effect as though taken at a meeting of the directors.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1. Nomination and Election of Directors While Declarant has the Right to Select and Designate a Two-Thirds (2/3) Majority of the Board of Directors.** Until ten (10) years after the date of the Declaration, or until Declarant shall have conveyed or leased seventy-five percent (75%) of the Dwelling Units shown on the preliminary plans of Southern Chase at Bent Tree heretofore submitted to the City of High Point, whichever occurs first, Declarant or its assignee shall have the right to designate and select a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Board of Directors of the Association. So long as Declarant shall have the right to select and designate a majority of the Board of Directors, election of directors shall be conducted in the following manner:

(a) Declarant shall, at the beginning of the election of the Board of Directors, designate and select that number of the members of the Board of Directors which it shall be entitled to designate and select in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws and the Declaration. Upon such designation and selection the Declarant shall present by written instrument said individuals to the meeting at which such election is held and upon presentation, such individuals shall be deemed and considered for all purposes directors of the Association. Thenceforth, the designated individuals shall perform the offices and duties of such directors until their successors shall have been selected or elected in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws.

(b) At the first Annual Meeting of the Association, Declarant shall have the right to designate and select a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the directors whose term of office shall be established at two (2) years.

(c) All members of the Board of Directors whom Declarant shall not be entitled to designate and select under the terms and provisions of these Bylaws shall be elected by a plurality of the votes cast at the Annual Meeting of the Members of the Association immediately following the designation and selection described above.

(d) In the election of directors, there shall be appurtenant to each Lot as many votes for directors as there are directors to be elected, provided, however, that no Member or Owner of one (1) Lot may cast more than one (1) vote for any person nominated as a director, it being the intent hereof that voting for directors shall be noncumulative. Notwithstanding the fact that Declarant may be entitled to designate and select a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the members of the Board of Directors, it, as a Class B Member, shall still be entitled to cast the number of votes for each Lot owned by it in the elections of other directors as provided in the Declaration; provided, however, that the other directors elected are persons other than officers, directors, stockholders and employees of Declarant, or spouses and relatives of any of said persons.

(e) Vacancies in the Board of Directors may be filled until the date of the next Annual Meeting by the remaining directors, except that should any vacancy in the Board of Directors be created in any directorship previously filled by any person designated and selected by Declarant, such vacancy shall be filled by Declarant designating and selecting, by written instrument delivered to any officer of the Association, the successor director for the unexpired term thereof.

(f) In the event that Declarant, in accordance with the rights herein established, selects any person or persons to serve on any Board of Directors of the Association, Declarant shall have the absolute right at any time, in its sole discretion, to replace such person or persons with another person or persons to serve on said Board of Directors. Replacement of any person or persons designated by Declarant to serve on any Board of Directors of the Association shall be made by written instrument delivered to any officer of the Association, which instrument shall specify the name or names of the person or persons to be replaced and the name or names of the person or persons designated as successor or successors to the persons so removed from said Board of Directors. The removal of any director and designation of his successor shall be effective immediately upon deliver of such written instrument by Declarant to any officer of the Association.

**Section 2. Nomination and Election of Directors After Expiration of Declarant's Right to Select and Designate a Two-Thirds (2/3) Majority of the Board of Directors.**

(a) Nomination for election to the Board of Directors shall be made by a Nominating Committee. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the annual meeting. The Nominating Committee shall consist of a Chairman, who shall be a member of the Board of Directors, and two or more Members of the Association. The Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors prior to each annual meeting to serve until the close of the next annual meeting and such appointment shall be announced at each annual meeting. The Nominating Committee shall make as many nominations for election to the Board of Directors as it shall in its discretion determine, but not less than the number of vacancies that are to be filled. Such nominations may be made from among Members or non-members.

(b) Election to the Board of Directors shall be by secret written ballot. At such election, the Members may cast or their proxies may be authorized to cast, in respect to each vacancy, as many votes as they are entitled to exercise under the provisions of the Declaration. The persons receiving the largest number of votes shall be elected. Cumulative voting is not permitted.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **MEETING OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1. Regular Meetings.** Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least annually without notice at such place and hour as may be fixed from time to time by resolution of a majority of the Board. Should said meeting fall upon a legal holiday, then that meeting shall be held at the same time on the next day which is not a legal holiday.

**Section 2. Special Meetings.** Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held when called by the President of the Association, or by any two directors, after not less than three (3) days notice to each director.

**Section 3. Quorum.** A majority of the number of directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Every act or decision done or made by a majority of the directors present at a duly held meeting at which a quorum is present shall be regarded as the act of the Board.

**Section 4. Waiver of Notice.** Any director may waive notice of a special meeting before or after the meeting, any such waiver shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of notice.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1. Powers.** The Board of Directors shall have the power to:

(a) adopt and publish rules and regulations governing the use of the Common Area and facilities, the personal conduct of the Members and their guests thereon, and to establish penalties for the infraction thereof;

(b) suspend the right to the use of any recreational facilities by a Member or any person to whom he has delegated his right of enjoyment during any period in which such Member shall be in default in the payment of any assessment levied by the Association. Such rights may also be suspended after notice and hearing, for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days for each infraction of published rules and regulations;

(c) exercise for the Association all powers, duties, and authority vested in or delegated to the Association and not reserved to the membership by other provisions of these Bylaws, the Articles of Incorporation, or the Declaration;

(d) declare the office of a director, other than a director selected and designated by Declarant, to be vacant in the event such director shall be absent from three (3) consecutive regular or special meetings of the Board of Directors without consent of the President;

(e) employ a manager, an independent contractor, or such other employees as they deem necessary, and to prescribe their duties;

(f) contract with any person or entity to maintain the Common Area;

(g) procure adequate insurance, including hazard insurance on the Common Areas and facilities, directors liability insurance, and such other insurance as it shall deem necessary and appropriate; and include the cost of such insurance in the annual assessment of the Members;

(h) employ attorneys to represent the Association when deemed necessary;

(i) formulate, publish and enforce reasonable rules and regulations concerning the use and enjoyment of the Common Area. Such rules and regulations, along with all policy resolutions and policy actions taken by the Board of Directors shall be recorded in the Book of Resolutions, which shall be maintained in a place reasonably convenient to the Owners and available to them for inspection during normal business hours;

(j) lease the use of any recreational facilities for functions, lessons or special events, and to allow such lessee to charge admission or other fees for functions, lessons, or special events;

(k) limit the number of guests, to regulate hours of operation, and behavior, and to curtail any use or uses it deems necessary for either the protection of facilities or the peace and tranquility of adjoining residents;

(l) maintain any nondedicated streets within the Common Area; and

(m) maintain any dedicated streets within the Common Area which are not accepted for dedication by the appropriate governmental authority.

**Section 2. Duties.** It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to:

(a) cause to be kept a complete record of all of its acts and corporate affairs and to present a statement hereof to the Members at the annual meeting of the Members, or at any special meeting when such statement is requested in writing by one-fourth (1/4) of the Members who are entitled to vote;

(b) supervise all officers, agents, and employees of the Association, and to see that their duties are properly performed;

(c) as more fully provided in the Declaration, to:

(1) fix the amount of the standard annual assessments against each Lot at least thirty (30) days in advance of each annual assessment period;

(2) send written notice of each assessment to every Owner subject thereto at least thirty (30) days in advance of each annual assessment period;

(3) foreclose the lien against any Lot for which assessments are not paid within sixty (60) days after the due date or to bring an action at law against the Owner personally obligated to pay the same;

(d) issue, or to cause an appropriate officer to issue, upon demand by any person or entity, a certificate setting forth whether or not any assessment has been paid. A reasonable charge may be made by the Board for the issuance of these certificates;

(e) procure and maintain adequate liability insurance covering the Association, its directors, officers, agents and employees, and hazard insurance on Common Area owned by the Association;

(f) cause all officers or employees having fiscal responsibilities to be bonded, as it may deem appropriate;

(g) cause the Common Area to be maintained;

(h) designate depositories for the Association funds and execute required depository documents;

(i) appoint such committees as are provided for in these Bylaws, and such other committees as shall be appropriate or necessary for the proper administration and performance of the Association; and

(j) exercise their powers in good faith and do and perform such other matters and things not expressly prohibited by law, the Declaration, or these Bylaws as are necessary and appropriate to the proper administration, operation and maintenance of the Association and Southern Chase at Bent Tree.



## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES**

**Section 1. Enumeration of Officers.** The officers of the Association shall be a president and vice president, who shall at all times be directors, a secretary and a treasurer, and such other officers as the Board may from time to time by resolution create.

**Section 2. Election of Officers.** The election of officers shall take place at the first meeting of the Board of Directors following the annual election of directors.

**Section 3. Term.** The officers of the Association shall be elected annually by the Board and each shall hold office for one (1) year unless he shall sooner resign, or shall be removed, or otherwise be disqualified to serve.

**Section 4. Special Appointments.** The Board may elect such other officers as the affairs of the Association may require, each of whom shall hold office for such period, have such authority, and perform such duties as the Board may, from time to time, determine.

**Section 5. Resignation and Removal.** Any officer may be removed from office without cause by the Board. Any officer may resign at any time upon giving written notice to the Board, the president or the secretary. Such resignation shall take effect on the date of receipt of such notice or at any later time specified therein, and unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

**Section 6. Vacancies.** A vacancy in any office may be filled by appointment by the Board. The officer appointed to such vacancy shall serve for the remainder of the term of the officer he replaces.

**Section 7. Multiple Offices.** The offices of secretary and treasurer may be held by the same person. No person shall simultaneously hold more than one of any of the other offices except in the case of special offices created pursuant to Section 4 of this Article.

**Section 8. Duties.** The duties of the officers are as follows:

#### **President**

The president shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors; shall see that orders and regulations of the Board are carried out; shall sign all leases, mortgages, deeds and other written instruments; and, shall co-sign all checks and promissory notes.

### Vice-President

The vice president shall act in place and stead of the president in the event of his absence, inability or refusal to act, and shall exercise and discharge such other duties as may be required of him by the Board.

### Secretary and Assistant Secretary

The secretary shall record the votes and keep the minutes of all meetings and proceedings of the Board and of the Members, keep the corporate seal of the Association and affix it on all papers requiring said seal; serve notice of meetings of the Board and of the Members; keep appropriate current records showing the Members of the Association together with their addresses; and shall perform such other duties as required by the Board. The assistant secretary shall assist the secretary and act in the place and stead of the secretary in the event of his or her absence.

### Treasurer

The treasurer shall receive and deposit in appropriate bank accounts all monies of the Association and shall disburse such funds as directed by resolution of the Board of Directors; shall sign all checks and promissory notes of the Association; keep proper books to be made by a public accountant at the completion of each fiscal year; and, shall prepare an annual budget and statement of income and expenditures to be presented to the Members at their regular annual meeting, and deliver a copy of each to the Members.

## ARTICLE IX

### QUORUM FOR ASSESSMENT CHANGES

At the first meeting called, as provided in Article VI, Sections 3 and 5 of the Declaration, the presence at the meeting of Members or of authorized proxies entitled to cast sixty percent (60%) of the votes of the membership of each class of membership shall constitute a quorum. If the required quorum is not forthcoming at any meeting, another meeting may be called, subject to the notice requirement set forth in Sections 3 and 5, and the required quorum at any such subsequent meeting shall be one-half (1/2) of the required quorum at the preceding meeting. No such subsequent meeting shall be held more than sixty (60) days following the preceding meeting.

## ARTICLE X

### COMMITTEES

The Board of Directors shall appoint an Architectural Committee, as provided in the Declaration, and a Nominating Committee, as provided in these Bylaws. In addition, the Board of Directors shall appoint other committees as deemed appropriate in carrying out its purpose.

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **BOOKS AND RECORDS**

The books, records, and papers of the Association shall, at all times during reasonable business hours, be subject to inspection by any Member. Accurate records of all resolutions shall be made and maintained and those records, together with the Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws of the Association shall be available for inspection by any Member, lender and/or insurer at the principal office of the Association, where copies may be purchased at reasonable cost.

## **ARTICLE XII**

### **CORPORATE SEAL**

The Association shall have a seal in circular form having within its circumference the words: Southern Chase at Bent Tree Homeowner's Association, Inc.

## **ARTICLE XIII**

### **AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1.** Except for the provisions hereof relating to selection and designation of directors by Declarant which shall not be subject to amendment except with Declarant's written consent, these Bylaws may be amended, at a regular or special meeting of the Members, by a vote of the majority of a quorum of Members present in person or by proxy. Provided, however, that any amendment which shall materially and adversely affect the validity or priority of the lien of or the rights of Institutional Lenders (as hereinafter defined) holding first mortgage loans on property located within Southern Chase at Bent Tree shall be required to have the prior approval of such Institutional Lenders. "Institutional Lenders" shall mean and refer to banks, savings and loan associations, insurance companies, other firms or entities customarily affording loans secured by first liens on residences, and other eligible insurers and governmental guarantors.

**Section 2.** In the case of any conflict between the Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws, the Articles shall control; and in the case of any conflict between the Declaration and these Bylaws, the Declaration shall control.

**Section 3.** At all times while there is a Class B membership, VA and HUD shall have the right of prior approval of any such amendments.

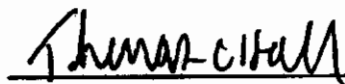
**ARTICLE XIV**


**MISCELLANEOUS**

The fiscal year of the Association shall begin on the first day of January and end on the 31st day of December of every year, except that the first fiscal year shall begin on the date of incorporation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we, being all of the directors of the Southern Chase at Bent Tree Homeowner's Association, Inc., have hereunto set our hands and seals the 10th day of December, 1996.

 (SEAL)  
M. LEE McALLISTER

 (SEAL)  
THOMAS C. HALL

 (SEAL)  
JAMES L. ESKRIDGE, JR.

## CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify:

That I am the duly elected and acting secretary of the Southern Chase at Bent Tree Homeowner's Association, Inc., a North Carolina corporation; and

That the foregoing Bylaws constitute the original Bylaws of said Association, duly adopted at a meeting of the Board of Directors thereof, held on the 10th day of December, 1996.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of said Association this 10th day of December, 1996.

Pamela J. Anderson (SEAL)