

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS  
of the  
R.W.S.I.R. LOCAL CHAPTER OF G.R.A.

PREAMBLE

The R.W.S.I.R. Local Chapter members of the Georgia Rehabilitation Association have established this Local Chapter by mutual consent. Its aims and goals are dedicated to the purposes of the parent State organization. In accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws, the Local Chapter will utilize the talents of each member to promote cooperation and understanding of the ultimate goals of rehabilitation.

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the organization shall be the R.W.S.I.R. Local Chapter of the Georgia Rehabilitation Association.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purpose of the Local Chapter is to advance the role and function of each Local Chapter member by:

Section I:

Enhancing morale through an exchange of common interests and ideas of each member in a non-restrictive environment.

Section II:

Providing a voice for individual concern in matters pertaining to the rehabilitation of disabled persons.

Section III:

Developing activities, projects, and programs for individual development and service to disabled persons.

Section IV:

Supporting the G.R.A. and N.R.A. Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

To be eligible for membership, an applicant must be a member of the G.R.A. and the N.R.A. It should be understood that membership in the G.R.A. does not carry an obligation toward membership in the R.W.S.I.R. Local Chapter, but each member will be encouraged to participate in the organization.

ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS

Meetings of the Local Chapter shall be held no less than on a quarterly basis throughout the calendar year. Each member shall be given written notification of time and location of each meeting. Meetings of the Administrative Board shall be called at the discretion of the President, but no less than on a quarterly basis.

## ARTICLE V - DUES

There will be no Local Chapter dues.

## ARTICLE VI - ORGANIZATION

### Section I:

The Local Chapter organization shall consist of the following five (5) officers: President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership Chairperson.

### Section II:

In addition to the elected officers, the Administrative Board shall consist of the immediate Past President, the Committee Chairpersons appointed by the President and outlined in Article VIII, and the Liaison Persons appointed by the President and outlined in Article IX. The Administrative Board shall have the power to conduct the affairs of the Local Chapter subject to the limitations of the Bylaws and the action of the membership in formal session.

### Section III:

The Local Chapter officers shall be elected in November of each year at a time determined by the Administrative Board, and serve during the ensuing calendar year. Vacancies occurring during a term of office shall be filled at a called Local Chapter meeting for nomination and election, with the exception of the Local Chapter President as provided for in Article VII, A., Section V.

## ARTICLE VII - ELECTION/DUTIES

Nominations for new officers shall be solicited from the Local Chapter membership by mail. A list of the candidates will be drawn up by the Nominations Committee from those members who agree to run for office. Candidates will be given an opportunity to make campaign speeches at the Local Chapter quarterly meeting. Election by secret ballot will be held two (2) weeks after that date in a manner determined by the Nominations Committee. Election results will be posted on election day in a location(s) determined by the Nominations Committee.

### A. President

Section I: Shall be the President-Elect from the previous year unless he or she is no longer a member of the G.R.A.

Section II: Shall serve as leader of the Local Chapter and preside over meetings, according to the Constitution and Bylaws.

Section III: Shall delegate duties necessary to carry out the purpose of the

Section IV: Shall appoint special committees as needed.

Section V: In the event that the President is unable to fulfill his/her her, the Immediate Past-President shall perform these duties for the remainder of the term

B. President-Elect

Section I: Shall preside over the meeting in the absence of the President.

Section II: Shall consult with the President during the year to increase knowledge of Local Chapter function.

C. Secretary

Section I: Shall keep accurate minutes of all meetings held in the name of the R.W.S.I.R. Local Chapter.

Section II: Shall make records of all business transacted, minutes, etc., available for any and all membership of the Local Chapter.

Section III: Shall keep records of all official correspondence of the Local Chapter.

D. Treasurer

Section I: Shall keep all monies of the R.W.S.I.R. Local Chapter and be responsible for disbursements as directed by the membership.

Section II: Shall keep written records of all disbursements, and shall make such records available upon request.

E. Membership Chairperson

Section I: Shall keep records of the Local Chapter membership.

Section II: Shall direct policy relating to the goal of increased membership in the R.W.S.I.R. Local Chapter of the G.R.A.

## ARTICLE VIII - COMMITTEES

Committee Chairpersons shall be appointed by the President annually, and serve as members of the Administrative Board. The Chairpersons will then decide on the composition of the committee.

A. Ways and Means

Shall direct policy relating to fund raising events.

B. Special Projects

Shall handle any special projects that the Local Chapter is involved in other than those specifically designed to raise money.

C. Public Relations/Nominations

Shall promote a strong and positive image for the Local Chapter as it relates to the larger organization, as well as coordinating local nominations activities.

D. Constitution and Bylaws

Shall be in charge of deletions or additions to the Constitution and Bylaws of the R.W.S.I.R. G.R.A. Local Chapter.

Legislative

E. Shall monitor legislative activities and advise and make recommendations to the Administrative Board on legislative activities that impact upon disabled individuals

F. Additional Committees

Additional committees shall be appointed by the President as needed with the approval of the Administrative Board.

## ARTICLE IX - LIAISON

Liaison Chairpersons shall be appointed by the President annually and serve as a member of the Administrative Board.

### A. G.R.C.A. Liaison

This person shall attend the G.R.C.A. Board meetings and represent the Local Chapter, as well as serve as a channel for communications from that Board to the Local Chapter.

### G.R.A. Liaison

This person shall attend the G.R.A. Board meetings and represent the Local Chapter, as well as serve as a channel for communications from the board to the Local Chapter. Recommendations from the Local Chapter to the G.R.A. Board shall be channeled in this manner.

### Additional Liaison Chairpersons

additional Liaison Chairpersons shall be appointed by the President as needed with the approval of the Administrative Board.

## ARTICLE X

Any provision of these Constitution and Bylaws thereto which are found to be in conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of the G.R.A. shall be deemed to be null and void, but such portions so held to be null and void shall not affect the validity or effectiveness of any other portion thereof.

Revised 11/88