



కనెక్టికట్ తెలుగు సంఘం Telugu Association of Connecticut

The Bylaws of the Telugu Association of Connecticut

Article 1 - Name

The legal name of the organization shall be TACT INC. This registered, non-profit organization, in the State of Connecticut, USA, shall have the trade name as Telugu Association of Connecticut (herein after, "The Corporation" or "TACT").

Article 2 - Objectives

The Corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively for charitable, religious and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Corporation's purposes also include the limited participation of the Corporation in any other activities, including taxable activities, but only to the extent the activities would be permitted by a tax-exempt organization. More particularly, but without limitation, the purposes of this Corporation are:

- To encourage and promote the social and cultural events of the Telugu community in the region
- To invite and honour literary, scientific, and cultural dignitaries of interest to the TACT members
- To promote better communication in the Telugu community in the region
- To collect donations for educational and socioeconomic development of the needy, and transfer of funds to registered charities of interest to TACT members
- To organize other events as required, which will involve the participation of the TACT members
- To promote Telugu language in the region
- To organize events on behalf of Telugu Community to serve the people in need in the state of Connecticut
- To secure a permanent place in Connecticut to facilitate the above objectives.
- This Corporation is also organized to promote, encourage, and foster any other similar charitable, religious and educational activities; to accept, hold, invest, reinvest and administer any gifts, legacies, bequests, devises, funds and property of any sort or nature, and to use, expend, or donate the income or principal thereof for, and to devote the same to, the foregoing purposes of the Corporation; and to do any and all lawful acts and things which may be necessary, useful, suitable, or proper for the furtherance of accomplishment of the purposes of this Corporation. Provided, however, no act may be performed which would violate Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as it now exists or as it may hereafter be amended or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Article 3 - Memberships & General Body

Membership is open to all those who are interested and participated in activities and events conducted by TACT. The TACT Members are defined as those who paid the annual dues as specified in the Article 21. Membership includes individuals and family (husband, wife and dependent), youth below 21 years of age. All such members constitute the General Body of TACT.

Husband and wife are the only voting members in the family membership. Dependents above 18 years of age can pay individual membership to be eligible to vote

Article 4 - Governing Body

- A. Executive Committee: The governing powers of TACT shall be vested in the Executive Committee (EC) consisting of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Joint Secretary, Treasurer and Joint Treasurer and up to nine additional committee members. Executive Committee is responsible for operation of the association.
- B. There shall be up to five trustees with 3yrs term. See Article-14 for installation procedure of Governing body.

Article 5 - Terms of Office

- A. The Executive Committee shall serve for a term of two-years.
- B. Each member of the Board of Trustees shall serve for a term of three years.

Article 6 - Vacancies

In the event a vacancy arises for any position in the Executive Committee prior to the next election time, the remaining Executive Committee members may nominate an eligible member of TACT as specified in the Article15A for the vacated office. Such person shall serve until the next election.

Any vacancies in the BOT will be filled in by the 2/3-majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Article 7 - Finances

- A. The TACT Executive Committee shall open and maintain accounts in the name of TACT Inc. at a recognized financial institution in the State of Connecticut. Signatures of the President and/or Treasurer of the Executive Committee shall be required to operate the accounts.
- B. For amounts over \$500 signatures of both the president and treasurer are required
- C. All Budgets shall be approved and expenses should be appropriated by simple majority of EC.

Article 8 - Agent and Office

- A. The President of the TACT each year will be the registered agent of the TACT and his/her residence will be the registered office of the TACT at no cost to the association until the intended permanent place is secured

Change of the mailing address shall be notified to the appropriate authorities (Secretary of State of Ct, IRS etc.)

Article 9 - Revisions and Amendments to the Bylaws

Revisions and Amendments shall be recommended to the General Body (GB) by the EC and BOT. Proposed revisions and amendments to Bylaws shall be posted on the TACT website at least two weeks before the General Body (GB). Proposed revisions and amendments shall be considered passed when two thirds of members of GB present agree at the meeting where there is quorum.

Article 10 - Dissolution

In case of dissolution, all assets shall be distributed to any organization that subscribes to the ideals as those of TACT and is qualified as a tax-exempt under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding provisions of a future United States Internal Revenue Law.

"Dissolution" means the complete disbanding of the Corporation so that it no longer functions as a congregation or as a corporate Corporation. Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, its property shall be applied and distributed as follows:

(1) all liabilities and obligations of the Corporation shall be paid and discharged, or adequate provision shall be made therefore;

(2) assets held by the Corporation upon condition requiring return, transfer, or conveyance, which condition occurs by reason of the dissolution, shall be returned, transferred, or conveyed in accordance with such requirements;

(3) assets received and not held upon a condition requiring return, transfer, or conveyance by reason of the dissolution, shall be transferred or conveyed to one or more domestic or foreign corporations, societies, or organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), and are engaged in activities substantially similar to those of the Corporation; this distribution shall be done pursuant to a plan adopted by the Board of Directors and the approval of the majority of the membership present in person or by proxy at a duly noticed specially called meeting of the membership; (4) any assets not otherwise disposed of shall be disposed of by a court of competent jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, for such purposes and to such organizations as said court shall determine, provided such organizations are in agreement with the Corporation's Statement of Faith and basic form of Government.

EC and BOT or in the absence of EC, BOT will dissolve as above.

Article 11 - Duties of the Executive Committee and the BOT

- A. The service of the Executive Committee members and the Trustees of TACT is voluntary and there shall be no remuneration to any member. This is a service to the community
- B. The President shall preside and the secretary shall call over all the meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Body. The President shall serve as the official spokesperson of the TACT. General body meeting can be called by the secretary in consultation with the President and the consent of the majority of the executive members
- C. The Vice President shall assist the President and shall perform such other duties as assigned by the President. If the President is temporarily unable by reason of disability or other absence to fulfil his or her duties as President, the Vice President shall carry out the duties of President until the President is able to resume the President's duties.
- D. The Secretary shall serve as the coordinator of all activities as may be required by the Executive Committee and the General Body. He/she shall also assume the

- responsibility of maintaining the meeting minutes and all pertinent documents of the TACT
- E. The Joint Secretary shall assist the Secretary as needed and as directed by the Executive Committee. If the Secretary is temporarily unable by reason of disability or other absence to fulfil his or her duties as Secretary, the Joint Secretary shall carry out the duties of Secretary until the Secretary is able to resume the Secretary's duties
 - F. The Treasurer shall be the official in-charge of all the TACT's finances related to operating funds and membership dues. He/she shall be responsible for all the collection of the annual dues and donations from the members and larger community. The Treasurer will provide a Audited Balance sheet of the TACT to the General Body at the last function of the year or the first function of the following year
 - G. Joint Treasurer: The Joint Treasurer shall assist the Treasurer as needed and as directed by the Executive Committee. If the Treasurer is temporarily unable by reason of disability or other absence to fulfil his or her duties as Treasurer, the Joint Treasurer shall carry out the duties of Treasurer until the Treasurer is able to resume the Treasurer's duties.
 - H. If any member of the Executive Committee does not attend three consecutive meetings without a valid reason, he/she shall cease to be the member of that body and may be replaced

Article 12 - Quorum

- A. At any General Body meeting, the quorum shall consist of one-third of the current paid membership of that year. In the event that one-third attendance is not possible, the President shall call for another special General Body meeting. In the special General body meeting 2/3 of those members present constitute the majority.
- B. A quorum at the Executive Committee meeting shall consist of at least three members out of the office bearers. In addition, at least 50% of the other executive members should be present for the quorum. The total quorum should exceed 50% of the total Executive Committee.

Article 13 - Conflicts of Interest

- A. No person shall serve more than one office bearer positions simultaneously in the TACT organization during the same two-year term
- B. More than one member of the same family shall not contest or serve for the positions in the TACT organization during the same term
- C. TACT members (including EC & BOT) shall not use TACT assets for the benefit of personal, family and friends' businesses

Article 14 - Installations of TACT EC & BOT

- A. A new TACT Executive Committee shall be installed every two-year period
- B. In each two-year term of office the new Executive Committee shall be installed by April 30 or Ugaadi Event of that year, whichever comes later.
- C. Electing President and EC members are by the General Body only. President shall select all office bearer positions from the EC members.
- D. Removal of any officer OF TACT can be recommended by two thirds of EC and approved by the BOT
- E. The procedures for nomination are given in Article 15
- F. In the event of a contest, elections shall be conducted as per the Election Guidelines in Article 16
- G. Trustees are nominated by the President and elected by the Executive Committee by a 2/3-majority vote

Article 15 - Election Procedures

- A. Election Committee shall be appointed by EC prior to March 1st of the election year.
- B. Elections shall be announced by March 15 of the election year and shall be completed by April 30 of the year or Ugaadi event which ever comes later.
- C. The elections should be called for in writing to all the members in good standing (dues paid as of Sankranthi or Jan 31st of that election year whichever comes later) at the time of the election.
- D. Election shall be conducted at the General Body Meeting
- E. A three-member Election committee appointed by the Executive Committee shall conduct the election. The contestants may send their representatives to observe the counting
- F. Election Committee shall email election guidelines and Nomination form to all active members by March 15th of the election year. The information should also be posted on TACT website.
- G. The election guidelines notification shall specify the number of open positions for which elections are held. The number of position will not be less than 11 and the number remains constant for that term
- H. All TACT Property, Finances and Crucial documents (Password for Website, TACT Email password, Certificate of Incorp etc) should be handed over to BOT before April 1st of the election year by EC.

Article 16 - Nomination Procedures

- A. All the active members who have paid dues by Sankranti event or January 31st of current year (whichever comes later) to TACT are eligible for nomination to the TACT Executive Committee
- B. Nominations for the Executive Committee should be sent by April 1st to the TACT Election committee.
- C. Nominations shall be in writing signed by the Candidate and two sponsoring members of TACT (as of Jan 31st or Sankranthi of the election year whichever comes later) and shall be with the full consent of the candidate to serve the full term of the office.
- D. If no nominations are received voluntarily by April 1st of the year the election is due, the Executive Committee and the BOT shall either nominate the candidates for all the vacant positions or appoint a Nominating Committee with three members of TACT in good standing by April 30th or the day of Ugadi celebration of the election year to recommend a slate to be presented to the General Body
- E. The candidates recommended by the Executive Committee may be approved by a simple majority of the General Body either by mail, or in a special meeting, thus concluding the selections of the TACT EC candidates for the following term. There is no need for elections in this case

Article 17 - Limitations of Terms in Office

The TACT President shall not serve in the committee for more than 2 consecutive terms.

Article 18 - Record Keeping

The officers of the TACT shall maintain all records, past and present in good order and document the minutes of the meeting and decisions made during the year. Financial records shall be maintained for a minimum of seven years.

Article 19 - Internal Audit Committee (Three Members)

Two persons (members in good standing) nominated one each by EC and BOT along with the treasurer shall constitute the committee. Third member will be from the General Body. Treasurer is ex-officio of the audit committee with no vote. The internal audit committee shall conduct annual internal audit of TACT books prior to presentation of the financial statements to the General Body.

Article 20 - Annual Filing of Statements

Officers of the TACT shall file every year, annual or other statements needed by the State of Connecticut or other governmental agencies and maintain a separate file for the past year's submittals.

Article 21 - Membership Fee

- A. The TACT encourages everyone to become a member of the association. In order to sustain its activities, the TACT has devised the following categories of membership fees. The Life Membership category needs to pay their full membership fee at one time.

Membership Year: January 1st to 31st Dec of the same year.

The fee structure should be posted on the TACT website

- B. The above membership fee structure or the amount may be proposed for change in the future by the Executive Committee and approved by a simple majority of the EC. Any membership changes do not apply retroactively to existing Members
- C. The TACT may withdraw a maximum of equivalent of regular annual family membership fee from the Life Membership fee towards their annual operating expenses

Article 22 - Delegation of the TACT

- A. The TACT Executive Committee in office shall select delegations and/or liaisons with other organizations when such need arises. Delegation members shall bear their own expenses
- B. The TACT Executive Committee may elect to be a dues paying association-member of any national organization with similar objectives as TACT

Article 23 - Past President

The past President or any member of the previous Executive Committee of TACT is obliged to help the new Executive Committee with the orderly transfer of records and bank accounts. The past President shall attend the first meeting and may attend routine meetings especially if requested by the current Executive Committee. The past President is not a voting member of the Executive Committee.

Rao Yalamanchili President	Sreekanth Nelakudity Secretary	Krishna Alavala Treasurer
Kumar Kummamuru EC Member	Gayathri Muppala EC Member	Haritha Machineni EC Member
Sridhar Arvapalli EC Member	Sangeetha Surabhi EC Member	Naga Yalamanchili EC Member