

# Supporters' Council

## FOUNDATIONAL DOCUMENT



### CHARLOTTE FOOTBALL CLUB SUPPORTERS' COUNCIL FOUNDATIONAL DOCUMENT (2021)

**I. Name of Council.** The Supporter's Council shall be known as 'The Treasury'. The Treasury was chartered on August 1, 2021.

**II. Statement of Purpose.** The Supporter's Council is an organization of Recognized Independent Supporters' Groups<sup>1</sup> Representatives who are charged with representing fans and allocating monies from the Supporters' Fund with the sole purpose of improving the gameday experience for Charlotte Football Club home matches.

**III. Initial Organization.** Initial Membership of The Supporters' Council will be determined by qualifications identified in Section III(b). The Front Office Staff of Charlotte Football Club will collect and review applications for Initial Membership and shall determine if a Supporters' Group has met the threshold for Representation as outlined in Section II(b). Charlotte Football Club will announce and publicize the purpose and requirements for admittance to the Supporters' Council and allow at least thirty (30) days to receive applications.

- a. **Duties of the Initial Supporters' Council.** The duties and responsibilities of the Initial Supporters' Council will be advising the team on fan and Supporters' Group relations, events, stadium logistics, and will serve as the Supporters' Group liaison to the Front Office.
  - i. The Initial Supporters' Council will not allocate monies from the 2022 Supporters' Fund.
- b. **Initial Membership Requirements.** Supporters' Groups seeking representation on the Initial Supporters' Council must meet the following requirements. The Front Office Staff of Charlotte Football Club will review the applications and award initial membership.
  - i. Supporters' Groups must have at least twenty two (22) Pledged Members<sup>2</sup>.
  - ii. Supporters' Groups must have at least twenty two (22) Pledged Members with Season Tickets in the Charlotte Football Club Supporters' Section.<sup>3</sup>
    1. A Pledged Member ticket must have a specific name attached to the ticket.
  - iii. Supporters' Groups must have a unique logo.
  - iv. Supporters' Groups must have a website and activity on at least one (1) social media platform.
  - v. Supporters' Groups must submit a Mission Statement and Supporters' Group Description.
  - vi. Supporters' Group must have written bylaws, at least three (3) Pledged Members identified as leadership, and a mechanism for adding new members.
  - vii. Supporters' Groups commit to and participate in one (1) community service initiative per quarter.
  - viii. Supporters' Groups must commit to establishing themselves as a Legal Entity by November 1st, 2021.<sup>4</sup>
  - ix. Any Supporters' Group that does not meet the above requirements by the above date may attend meetings with the approval of two member Supporters' Groups.
- c. **Initial Organization Meetings.** The Initial Supporters' Council will meet with the Charlotte Football Club Front Office once per month, beginning in September of 2021, to receive updates and provide commentary.
- d. **Transition.** The Initial Organization will transition to Full Status upon the acceptance of an additional Supporters' Group application for membership or January 1st, 2022, whichever comes first.
  - i. After Transition, The Supporters' Council will have the ability to request spending of monies from The Supporters' Fund.
  - ii. The Front Office, including Team President, will not be involved in the decision making process for admitting new Supporters' Groups after the establishment of the Initial Members.

<sup>1</sup> Supporters' Groups for Charlotte Football Club who have achieved membership requirements outlined in this document and those of the Supporters' Council Bylaws.

<sup>2</sup> Pledged Member refers to an individual who has professed membership to a specific Supporters' Group. For qualification and representation purposes, Pledged Members are exclusive to a single Supporters' Group. Pledged Member lists will be shared by Supporters' Groups for review by partner Supporters' Groups and ticket status will be verified by Charlotte FC Front Office Staff.

<sup>3</sup> Season Tickets in the Supporters' Section do not need to be on individual accounts, so long as they are held by a Pledged Member and internally assigned to other Pledged Members of the Supporters' Group.

<sup>4</sup> 501(c)3, 7, or business. Failure to establish as a Legal Entity by a named date may trigger expulsion.

**IV. Duties of The Supporters' Council.** The Supporters' Council will communicate with fans and Front Office Staff of Charlotte Football Club, advocate for fans and advise the club on gameday experience and fan relations, and request allocation of monies from the Supporters' Fund.

- a. **Transparency.** Representatives of The Supporters' Council will make themselves available to all fans of Charlotte Football Club to listen to ideas and create an inclusive decision making process.
  - i. The Supporters' Council will establish a mechanism for communication in which all fans can have their views, ideas, and concerns shared with the Representatives of Recognized Supporters' Groups.
- b. **Meetings.** Representatives of The Supporters Council will meet with the staff of Charlotte Football Club on a monthly basis to receive team updates and advise the club on fan relations, events, and gameday experience.
  - i. Observers with Season Tickets in the Supporters' Section may attend meetings with the approval of Representatives from two separate Recognized Supporters' Groups. Observers and guests will not have any voting ability.
- c. **Supporters' Fund Allocation.** The Supporters' Council will request allocation monies from the Supporters' Fund with the sole purpose of improving the gameday experience for Charlotte Football Club home matches.
  - i. All expenditures from The Supporters' Fund must produce a benefit that is accessible to all Season Ticket Holders in the Supporters' Section.
- d. **Bylaws.** The Supporters' Council will create and abide by a set of written Bylaws. These Bylaws will be created by the existing Representatives of The Supporters' Council and shall be reviewed for edits at least once per calendar year.
  - i. Bylaws of The Supporters' Council will be adopted with a 3/4th vote by existing Representatives of The Council in the affirmative.
  - ii. Edits to the Bylaws can be made with a 3/4th vote in the affirmative.

**V. Expulsion.** A Supporters' Group may be expelled from The Supporters' Council for behavior or representation counter to the Supporters' Code of Conduct or deemed to be detrimental to the vision and mission of Charlotte Football Club and it's Recognized Supporters' Groups.

- a. A vote for Expulsion must be brought to The Supporters' Council by Representatives from at least two (2) Supporters' Groups. The Representatives bringing the motion will present reason and evidence to The Supporters' Council.
- b. Representatives will then vote on Expulsion with each Group casting one (1) vote. The Supporters' Group in question will not cast a vote. All other Supporters' Groups with Representation in The Supporters' Council must cast a vote.
- c. A Supporters' Group will be expelled from The Supporters' Council if votes to expel reach 3/4ths in the affirmative.