

(EXHIBIT A)

BY-LAWS
OF
RICEFIELD HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.

ARTICLE I

NAME AND LOCATION. The name of the corporation is Ricefield Homeowners' Association, Inc., hereinafter referred to as the "Association". The principal office of the corporation shall be located at 126 Meeting Street, Charleston, South Carolina, 29401, but meetings of members and directors may be held at such places within the State of South Carolina, County of Dorchester, as may be designated by the Board of Directors

ARTICLE II

DEFINITIONS

The defined terms as set forth in the Declaration to which these By-Laws are attached are herein incorporated by reference and shall have the same meaning herein as set forth in the Declaration.

ARTICLE III

MEETING OF MEMBERS

Section 1. Annual Meetings. The first annual meeting of the Members shall be held within two (2) years from the date of incorporation of the Association, and each subsequent regular annual meeting of the Members shall be held on the same day of the same month of each year thereafter, at the hour of 7:00 o'clock, p.m. If the day for the annual meeting of the Members is a legal holiday, the meeting will be held at the same hour on the first day following which is not a legal holiday.

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 ($\frac{1}{4}$) of all the votes of the Class A 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 fifteen (15) 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 entitled to cast, or of proxies entitled to cast, sixty (60%) percent of the votes of each class of membership shall constitute a quorum. If the required quorum is not present, another meeting may be called subject to the same notice requirement, and the required quorum at the subsequent meeting shall be one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the required quorum at the preceding meeting. No such subsequent meeting shall be held more than sixty (60) days following the preceding meeting.

Section 5. Proxies. At all meetings of Members, each Member may vote in person or by proxy. All proxies shall be in writing

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and filed with the secretary. Every proxy shall be revocable and shall automatically cease upon conveyance by the Member of his Lot.

ARTICLE IV

BOARD OF DIRECTORS; SELECTION; TERM OF OFFICE

Section 1. Number. The affairs of this Association shall be managed by a Board of three (3) directors, who need not be Members of the Association until such time as there are fifty (50) Class A Members at which time there shall be five (5) directors, to be elected at the next annual meeting. Additional directors shall be elected for three (3) year terms.

Section 2. Term of Office. At the first annual meeting after there are fifty (50) Class A members, the Members shall elect one (1) director for a term of one (1) year; two (2) directors for a term of two (2) years; and two (2) directors for a term of three (3) years. At each annual meeting thereafter, the Members shall elect directors for a term of three (3) years to fill any vacancies.

Section 3. Removal. Any director 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 his predecessor.

Section 4. Compensation. No director shall receive compensation for any service he may render to the Association.

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 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. 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 of the Members, to serve from the close of such annual meeting 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.

Section 2. Election. Election to the Board of Directors shall be by secret written ballot. At such election, the Members

or their proxies may 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

Section 1. Regular Meetings. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held as determined by the Board at such place and hour as may be fixed from time to time by resolution 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

ARTICLE VII

POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Powers. The Board of Directors shall have power

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

(b) exercise for the Association all powers, duties and authority vested in or delegated to this Association and not reserved to the membership by other provisions of these By-Laws, the Articles of Incorporation, or the Declaration.

(c) declare the office of a member of the Board of Directors to be vacant in the event such member shall be absent from three consecutive regular meetings of the Board of Directors; and

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

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

(a) cause to be kept a complete record of all its acts and corporate affairs and to present a statement thereof 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 ($\frac{1}{4}$) of the Class A Members who are entitled to vote;

(b) supervise all officers, agents and employees of this 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 annual assessment 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; and

(3) foreclose the lien against any property for which assessments are not paid within thirty (30) days after 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, a certificate setting forth whether or not any assessment has been paid. A reasonable charge may be made by the Board for issuance of these certificates. If a certificate states an assessment has been paid, such certificate shall be conclusive evidence of such payment;

(e) procure and maintain adequate liability and hazard insurance on property owned by the Association, as it may deem appropriate;

(f) cause the Common Area to be maintained, including the maintenance of planter strips within the right-of-way of any

street, if any, and the maintenance of any fence, landscaping and buffering within any Common Area.

ARTICLE VIII

OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1. Enumeration of Offices. The officers of this Association shall be a president and vice-president, who shall at all times be members of the Board of Directors, a secretary, and a treasurer, and such other officers as the Board of Directors 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 each annual meeting of the Members.

Section 3. Term. The officers of this 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 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 with or without cause by the Board. Any officer may resign at any time 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 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 replaces.

Section 7. Multiple Offices. The offices of the 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 casual offices created pursuant to Section 4 of this Article.

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

President

(a) The president shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors; shall see that orders and resolutions 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

(b) The vice-president shall act in the 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

(c) 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 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.

Treasurer

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

ARTICLE IX

COMMITTEES

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

EXHIBIT A -- CONTINUED

ARTICLE X

BOOKS AND RECORDS

The books, records and papers of the Association shall at all time, during reasonable business hours, be subject to inspection by any Member. The Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation, and the By-Laws of the Association shall be available for inspection by any Member at the principal office of the Association, where copies may be purchased at a reasonable cost.

ARTICLE XI

ASSESSMENTS

As more fully provided in the Declaration, each Member is obligated to pay to the Association annual and special assessments which are secured by a continuing lien upon the property against which the assessment is made. Any assessments which are not paid when due shall be delinquent. If the assessment is not paid within thirty (30) days after the due date, the assessment shall bear interest from the date of delinquency at the rate of eighteen (18%) per cent per annum, and the Association may bring an action at law against the Owner personally obligated to pay the same or foreclose the lien against the property, and interest, costs, and reasonable attorneys fees of any such action shall be added to the amount of such assessment. No Owner may waiver or otherwise escape liability for the assessments provided for herein by non-use of the Common Area or abandonment of his Lot.

ARTICLE XII

CORPORATE SEAL

The Association shall have a seal in circular form having within its circumference the words RICEFIELD HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION,

ARTICLE XIII

AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These By-Laws may be amended, at a regular or special meeting of the Members, by a vote of a majority of a quorum of Members present in person or by proxy, except that the Federal Housing Administration or the Veterans Administration shall have the right to veto amendments while there is Class B membership.

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

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.

EXHIBIT A -- CONTINUED

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Sharon D. Fettes, being the secretary of the Ricefield Plantation, Phase III, have hereunto set my hand this 28th day of October, 1992.

WITNESSES:

Barbara M. Blanton
Debra M. Leckie

Sharon D. Fettes
Secretary

RICEFIELD BY LAW (TAMSBERG) 10/16/92