

Grand Strand Professionals
Bylaws
Here after: G.S.P.

Objective: The objective of this organization is to develop new, additional, profitable business for its members through referrals and/or recommendations by members to each other.

Membership: To be eligible for membership in G.S.P., a company must:

1. Not be in competition with any other member company within the group.
2. Be voted in by a fifty percent margin of the general membership.

Membership/Representatives: The party that pays the dues is considered the member of this group. If a company is paying dues and the designated representative cannot attend meetings or is no longer affiliated with the member company, another representative may be appointed by the company. In addition, if a person is paying their own dues and leaves a company, they may keep the membership because they paid the dues personally.

G.S.P. will use Robert's Rules of Order to govern meetings. Executive Officers will have a one-year term with elections to be held in November and term starting in on January 1.

Neutrality

G.S.P. shall be non-political and non-sectarian and shall not lend its support to any candidate for public office.

Duration of Membership

Membership shall continue from the time of admittance until a member has resigned or has been removed from the roll of members by action of the Executive Officers.

Disqualification of Members

Any member of the G.S.P. may be expelled by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Officers.

Formulation of By-Laws, Rules and Regulations

The Executive Officers shall frame such by-laws, rules and regulations as appear to it to be best adapted to promote the welfare of the G.S.P. and shall submit them for adoption at a General Meeting of the G.S.P. called for that purpose.

Obligations of Member

1. Members are expected to enthusiastically furnish valid business referrals or leads on a continuing basis. A bi-monthly average of seven (7) referrals, leads, or combination of the two, is considered minimum. Contacts made by GSP members to a prospective business will not mention the G.S.P. or the other members of the group as the source for the referral.
2. Member businesses must be represented at all weekly meetings by either their primary representative or a representative. A member will be removed from the G.S.P., following

missing more than 50% of meetings in a two-month period or missing three consecutive meetings. Role will be looked at on even months.

3. Group members will provide a welcoming atmosphere for new additions to the group. All information sharing within the group will be objective, positive and accurate.
4. The purpose of G.S.P. is to grow member businesses through new contacts and referrals. Meetings will begin on time and leads, referrals, and introductions sharing will be first on the agenda. Self-introductions and promotion should be no longer than 60 seconds. Networking is also a key element of G.S.P. and members are encouraged to allow time at the end of the meeting for networking.

Selection of Members

1. Membership applicants will be submitted to G.S.P. through the website before placement in the group. Applicants may be placed in the Leads Group if the category that represents 75% of their sales does not have a competing business already in the group.

Executive Officers

1. **President:** The President shall preside over the meetings and shall have general supervision and control of the business affairs of the organization. The President shall work closely with other officers, confirm all new members, and be responsive to other concerns of the organization. The President shall also submit new applicants to the group.
2. **Vice President:** The Vice President shall preside at all meetings in the absence of the President and assist the President in every way to promote the objectives of G.S.P.
3. **Secretary:** The Secretary shall maintain weekly attendance and performance records. Members failing to meet attendance or performance requirement or leads and referral minimum will be removed from the group roster and be notified by mail.
4. **Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall maintain accurate information concerning funds of the club. Shall have sole access to the clubs bank account and shall provide bi-monthly reports to the club about the financial status of the group. The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds of the G.S.P. and shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, the same in a chartered bank selected by the Executive Officers. Out of such funds the Treasurer shall pay amounts approved by the Executive Officers, shall keep a regular account of the income and expenditures of the G.S.P., and shall submit an audited statement thereof for presentation at any other time required by the Executive Officers. The Treasurer shall make such investment of the funds of Executive Officers. The Treasurer shall make such investment of the funds of the G.S.P. as the Executive Officers may direct. The Treasurer shall, with the President, sign all notes, drafts and checks.
5. **Past President:** The immediate past president shall preside at all meetings in the absence of the President and Vice President and assist the President in every way to promote the objectives of G.S.P.
6. **Web Master:** Shall maintain the website and update it as needed.

Suspension of Executive Officers Members

Any Officer or Executive Officers member may be suspended from office if, in the opinion of the Executive Officers, he/she is grossly negligent in the performance of duties. However, any Officer or Executive Officers

member so suspended or whose tenure of office is terminated shall have the right to appeal the decision of the Executive Officers directly to the membership at the next General Meeting.

Quorum for Executive Officers Meetings

Any four (4) or more members of the Executive Officers, lawfully met, shall be a quorum and a majority of such quorum may do all things within the powers of the Executive Officers.

Voting at Meetings

Voting at Executive Officers or General Meetings shall normally be by a show of hands or, if required by the Chairperson, by a standing vote. A roll call vote shall be taken, if requested by five (5) members provided such request receives the approval of two-thirds of the members assembled.

Making, replacing or amending By-laws

By-laws may be made, replaced, or amended by a majority of members of the G.S.P. present at any General Meeting. Vote call for by the President. Must have two readings and be a legal meeting.

A Guest that presents no clear conflict of competition to other members of the group may visit the group twice accompanied by a member. After the second visit, the guest will need to apply for membership and be voted in to G.S.P. before being allowed to come to any more group meetings.

Business Card Box is available to members of the group to share their business cards with other GSP member business. Non-members and cards from business that are not members are not welcome in the box.

Dues

\$125 the 1st year to cover the purchase of name tag, business card holder and addition to website

\$100 a year thereafter renewable in June

Dues are prorated the first year according to the following schedule:

May - August -> \$125

Sept - Nov -> \$100

Dec - Feb - \$75

March - April - \$50