

Nease Athletics has a rich history. With our student body of over 3,000, we are built on a foundation of academic and athletic success. For the athletes, Nease provides the ideal environment for success. We provide top-notch facilities and coaches. Our athletes include a Heisman Trophy winner, nationally ranked track athletes, state champion swimmers, state champion soccer teams, and perennial champions in baseball, basketball, golf and many other sports. Nease athletes strive for excellence on the field as well as in their classrooms. Nease athletes are active in IB, AP, and our academies including Nease's nationally acclaimed Navy JROTC. Collectively, the Golden Panther Booster Club (GPBC) and the representatives of each individual team support Nease Athletics. GPBC monitors the activity of each individual team, raises funds to address larger capital projects, but most importantly is focused on engaging the entire Nease community to rally behind its athletic program by reinforcing the traditions that make the Nease experience unique for its student-athletes. The GPBC believes that student events are all-inclusive, and they encourage everyone to support our student-athletes on the field. We are Nease and we believe in our motto: EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS.

**Bylaws of
Nease Golden Panther Booster Club**

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Article I - Name

The name of this organization shall be the Nease Golden Panther Booster Club. The organization will commonly be known as GPBC. The mailing address for the organization is:
Golden Panther Booster Club
120 Palencia Village Drive
Ste C-105 #135
St. Augustine, FL 32095

Article II - Purpose

Section 1: The purpose of GPBC shall be to promote the cooperation of the home, school, and community in support of athletic, dance and cheer programs at Nease High School. Said cooperation shall effectively encourage the athletic training of the children attending Nease High School, educate the school community and general public to the needs of the athletic, dance and cheer programs and promote financial support from the community.

Section 2: The GPBC shall operate exclusively for the benefit of the athletic and related auxiliary sports programs of Nease High School.

Section 3: No substantial part of the activities of this GPBC shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempt to influence legislation, except as provided in section 501(h) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and the organization shall not participate or intervene in any political campaign (including the publishing or distribution of statements) on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office, except as provided in section 501(h) of the Internal Code of 1986.

Section 4: Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the GPBC shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law), or (b) by an organization contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law.)

Section 5: The property of this GPBC is irrevocably dedicated to section 501(c)(3) exempt purposes and no part of the net income or assets of the GPBC shall ever insure to the benefit of any private purpose.

Article III – Board of Directors

Section 1: The management and control of the business of the GPBC shall be vested in a board of directors composed of officers and directors who are members in good standing of the GPBC. The Board of Directors shall consist of not less than five (5) and no more than twenty-five (25) elected members in good standing, plus the immediate past President who shall serve ex-officio. The exact number of elected Directors each year is to be determined by the Board of Directors at the last meeting held before elections.

Section 2: The officers of the GPBC will consist of a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

Section 3: The officers of the GPBC shall make up the executive committee. The executive committee shall act as a steering committee for the full board and facilitate decision-making between board meetings or in urgent circumstances. The executive committee shall prioritize issues for the full board to address, is responsible for overseeing board operating procedures, and must ensure good governance practices.

Section 4: The officers of the GPBC shall be elected for a one (2) year period and shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualify. Elected terms shall run from ~~July to the end of June~~ **January to end of December**. (amended on Nov 08, 2023)

Section 5: All officers shall be elected at the annual meeting by a simple majority vote of the members present. An officer or director may be elected for additional terms.

Section 6: All officers can serve additional terms in the same position.

Section 7: It shall be necessary for all board of directors to be members in good standing and shall not be absent from more than two (2) consecutive meetings, either regular or special.

Section 8: Directors and Officers shall not receive compensation for their services.

Article IV – Vacancies

Section 1: A vacancy occurring in any office other than president shall be filled for the unexpired term by a person elected by a majority vote of the board (defined in Article V, Section 4), inclusive of at least two officers.

Section 2: A vacancy in the office of president shall require an election by the general membership. The vice president shall serve notice of the election.

Section 3: A vacancy of an officer or director position shall be declared to exist should its holder miss two consecutive meetings. Exceptions may be granted by a majority vote of the board, inclusive of at least two officers.

Article V – Meetings

Section 1: The annual meeting of the GPBC shall be held during the month of June each year. The annual meeting of the members for any year shall be held no later than thirteen months after the last preceding annual meeting of the members. ~~Business transacted at the annual meeting shall include the election of officers and directors of the GPBC.~~ **The officers of the GPBC shall be elected for a one (2) year period and shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualify. Elected terms shall run from January to the end of December.**

(amended on Nov 08, 2023)

Section 2: The board of directors' meetings shall be scheduled monthly at the discretion of the board of directors and the athletic director. Members shall be notified through telephone, mailings, electronic communication, or other appropriate methods.

Section 3: The board of directors cannot conduct business unless a quorum is present. A quorum of the board of directors shall be the president or vice president and one half (1/2) of the board of directors.

Section 4: A majority vote of the board of directors shall be one more than one half (1/2) of the board members present. Each board member will be entitled to one vote. The board president will vote and in the case of a tie, President's vote determines the outcome.

Section 5: Any two directors or officers may call special meetings of the board of directors at any time. Notice of special meeting shall be given to each member of the board of directors at least five (5) days in advance of the meeting.

Section 6: A special or emergency meeting may be designated as a "closed" meeting by a majority vote of the board members present.

Section 7: If there are matters that need to be resolved prior to the next scheduled meeting, those items may be emailed to the Board of Directors and voted on prior to the meeting with a majority vote.

Article VI – Officers

Section 1: The duties of elected officers shall be outlined in the GPBC Operating Procedures.

Article VII - Directors

Section 1: The directors of the GPBC shall be elected for a one-year period and shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualify. All directors may be elected for additional consecutive terms.

Section 2: Directors of the GPBC shall consist of, but not be limited to the following roles:

Director of Communications

Director of Special Events

Director of Booster Membership

Director of Sponsorship

Director of Apparel

Director of Team Liaisons

~~Director of Community Liaison~~ **Director of Community Relations** (Amended on 12.14.2022)

Director of Finance

Director of Athletic Facilities

Director of Game Day (Amended on 12.14.2022)

Duties of elected directors shall be more fully described in the GPBC Operating Procedures.

Section 3: If a Director is going to be absent from a meeting, they must submit a written report to the Vice President prior to the meeting to be read aloud. (Amended on 12.14.2022)

Article VIII – Membership

Section 1: Types of Memberships.

B. The organization shall conduct an annual enrollment of members, but new members may be admitted to the organization's membership at any time.

C. The athletic director and principal of Nease High School shall be considered ex officio members of the GPBC. Other honorary membership may be granted by a vote of the board of directors.

D. Membership levels will be determined annually by the Board.

Section 2: General Membership Voting Privileges

A. Voting membership is obtained by the payment of required GPBC membership fees as determined by the board of directors in consultation with the athletic director.

B. Voting for the general membership will be limited to the election of officers. ~~and directors.~~
(Amended on 12.14.2022)

C. Voting privileges will be limited to one per family.

Section 3: Eligibility

A. Any member of the community is welcome to become a member.

B. A member shall be deemed in good standing when annual dues are paid.

C. Enrollment shall consist of providing the Membership Director with each individual's name, mailing address, phone number and e-mail, if available, and other data deemed useful by the Membership Director of the Board.

Article IX – Committees

Section 1: Committees may be established as needed to implement the work of the GPBC. Committee members shall consist of officers and/or directors and members. At least one director or officer shall serve on the committee. Committees shall meet regularly at the discretion of the committee chair. Committees shall be responsible for maintaining accurate records of all activities and reporting such to the GPBC.

Section 2: The president shall be a member ex officio of all standing committees.

Article X – Rules of Order of Board Meetings

Section 1: The following rules of order will apply to the meetings of the GPBC:

A. Meetings shall be presided over by the President. The Vice-President or Treasurer may preside in the absence of the President.

B. No business shall be taken up except in regular order unless a majority vote of those present to the contrary.

C. No motion shall be received or placed before the meeting unless duly moved and seconded. It shall not be open for discussion until the ~~president has so stated.~~ **the presiding officer has so stated.** (Amended on 12.14.2022)

~~D. When a board member desires to make a motion or speak to the question, he shall rise and first obtain the president's recognition. Such board member must confine himself strictly to the question under consideration and shall not be interrupted unless on a point of order.~~

~~E. No board members shall be allowed to speak twice on the same question until all who wish to speak have been heard.~~

~~F. Should more than one board member rise to speak at the same time, the president or presiding officer shall determine who shall be recognized.~~

~~G. An amendment takes precedence over a motion and shall be put to vote first.~~

~~H. Voting shall be via voice unless otherwise approved or called for.~~

~~I. In the event of a tie vote, the president or presiding officer shall cast the deciding vote.~~

~~J. A motion to reconsider shall not be entertained unless made by a board member who voted in the majority. A majority vote shall be necessary to reconsider.~~

~~K. The board may adopt additional Rules of Order for any meeting, by majority vote, of the board members in attendance.~~

~~L. The Robert's Rules of Order shall decide all questions of procedures not provided by these rules.~~ (Amended on 12.14.2022)

Section 2: All meetings should include a review of the minutes from previous meeting, presentation of current financial report, reports from active committees, old and new business.

Article XI - Finance

Section 1: The fiscal year for the GPBC shall be July 1st – June 30st.

Section 2: The treasurer, in consultation with the board of directors, shall be responsible for selecting an appropriate financial institution or school fund for maintaining the GPBC's finances.

Section 3: Membership fees shall be determined by the board of directors and athletic director. Fees are non-refundable except in cases of extreme hardship as determined at a regularly scheduled meeting by majority of the board of directors in consultation with the athletic director.

Section 4: The president, ~~director of finance~~ (Amended on 12.14.2022) , athletic director and treasurer shall prepare a budget for approval by the board of directors at the May meeting. The budget shall show anticipated income and expenditures for the fiscal year and shall govern and control the amounts expended by the association.

Section 5: All major expenditures not included in the budget shall be discussed with the athletic director and voted on by a simple majority vote at any duly called or scheduled board of directors meeting at which a quorum is present.

Section 6: All sports team-funding requests not included in the annual budget shall be submitted to the GPBC by the athletic director.

Section 7: Monies received from fund raising shall be exclusively used to promote athletic programs.

Section 8: A quorum of the board of directors may authorize any officer(s) to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of such authority shall be confined to specific instances. All contracts must be signed by the president.

Section 9: No loan shall be contracted on behalf of the GPBC and no evidence of indebtedness shall be issued in its name unless authorized by resolution of 75% of the board or directors. Such authority shall be confined to specific instances.

Section 10: All checks are to be signed by the Treasurer, President, Vice President, or Secretary.

Section 11: All funds of the GPBC shall be deposited in a timely manner to the credit of the GPBC in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as the board of directors select.

Section 12: Individual officers and directors are authorized to spend up to \$250.00 without obtaining approval for any item not in their budget. Budget increase must be approved by 75%

the board of directors. ~~Approval of the president is required for expenditures up to \$250.00, once within any calendar month. Expenditures of more than \$250.00 require the approval of a quorum of the board of directors. Expenditures of more than \$1500.00 require approval of 75% of the board of directors.~~ All expenditures must be accounted for in the treasurer's report.

(Amended on 12.14.2022)

Article XII – Amending of By-Laws

Section 1: These bylaws may be amended or repealed at any meeting of the GPBC provided that the proposed amendment(s) have been read at two (2) consecutive board of directors' meetings. The amendment(s) must be passed and approved by two-thirds (2/3) of all voting board members at such a second meeting. Prior to the first reading of amendment(s) the board of directors must inform the general body of membership of their right to attend the board meeting and address the proposed changes.

Article XIII - Nominations and Election of Officers and Directors

Section 1: The election of officers and directors shall be held at the annual meeting.

Section 2: See Article VI for voting to break a tie.

Article XIV - Removal of Officers or Directors

Section 1: Any elected officer who fails to perform his/her duties may be removed by a majority vote of the board, inclusive of at least two officers, at the next board meeting.

Section 2: It may be necessary or desirable by the body of the GPBC to recall members of the board of the GPBC. The procedure for doing so is outlined below:

- A. When fifteen (15) members in good standing of the GPBC present a written petition to the board of directors disclosing their desire to recall any member of the GPBC, the board shall establish a date for a recall meeting with five (5) days after receipt of the petition. The meeting shall be held no later than fifteen (15) days from receipt of the petitions.
- B. Persons who petitioned for a recall will briefly state their reasons for recalling any board member of the GPBC, followed by any member(s) desiring to speak against the recall. A time limit for speaking and the voting method shall be established by the board of directors prior to the recall meeting and announced by the chairperson at the meeting.
- C. The recall meeting shall be chaired by the athletic director.
- D. The sole question posed shall be "Shall (name of board member) be recalled?" If the majority of those present and eligible to vote, vote in affirmative, the board member ceases to be a member of the board. If the majority of those present and eligible to vote, vote in the negative the board member shall serve the remainder of the term unless recalled again.

Article XV - Dissolution

Section 1: Upon dissolution of the GPBC, all assets shall be given to Nease High School, or if the high school ceases to exist then to St. Johns County Schools for use in a mutually agreed manner. However, if the named recipient is not then in existence or no longer a qualified recipient or unwilling or unable to accept the distribution, then the assets of the GPBC shall be distributed to a fund, foundation or organization which is organized and operated exclusively for the purposes specified in section 501 c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(These bylaws amended on May 20, 2021)

(These bylaws amended on May 19, 2022)

(These bylaws amended on December 14, 2022)

(These bylaws amended on November 8, 2023)