Exhibit "D"

BYLAWS

OF

GOLD CREEK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Bylaws

Gold Creek Homeowners Association, Inc.

- Section 1. <u>Name</u>. The name of the Association shall be Gold Creek Golf Club Homeowners Association, Inc. (Association).
- Section 2. <u>Membership.</u> The Association shall have one class of membership, as is more fully set forth in the Declaration of Protective Covenants for Gold Creek Golf Club Subd. ("Declarant"). The provisions of the Declaration pertaining to membership are by this reference made a part of these Bylaws.
- Section 3. <u>Definitions.</u> The words used in these Bylaws shall have the same meaning as set forth in the Declaration, unless the context shall prohibit.

Article TI Association: Meetings, Quorum, Voting, Proxies

- Section 1. <u>Place of Meetings.</u> Meetings of the Association shall be held at the principal office of the Association or at another place convenient to the members as determined by the Board of Directors.
- Section 2. <u>First Meeting and Annual Meetings</u>. An annual or special meeting shall be held within one **(1)** year from the date the Declaration is recorded. Annual meetings shall be set by the Board so as to occur at least sixty (60) days before the close of the Association's fiscal year.
- Section 3. <u>Special Meetings.</u> The President may call special meetings. In addition, it shall be the duty of the President to call a special meeting of the Association if so directed by resolution of a Majority of the Board of Directors or upon a petition signed by the Owners holding at least twenty-five (25%) percent of the total Association vote. The notice of any special meeting shall state the date, time and place of such meeting and the purpose thereof. No business shall be transacted at a special meeting, except as stated in the notice.
- Section 4. Notice of Meetings. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to mail or to cause to be delivered to the Owner of record of each Lot a notice of each annual or special meeting of the Association stating the purpose of the special meeting, as well as the time and place where it is to be held. If an Owner wishes notice to be given at an address other than his or her Lot, he or she shall have designated by notice in writing to the Secretary such other address. The mailing of such notice or delivery of such notice by leaving at the residence located on the Lot in the manner provided in this Section shall be considered service of notice. Notices shall be served not less than ten (10) nor more than thirty (30) days before a special meeting and not less than twenty-one (21) nor more than sixty (60) days before an annual meeting.

equivalent of proper notice. Any member may, in writing, waive notice of any meeting of the members, either before or after such meeting. Attendance at a meeting by a member, whether in person or by proxy, shall be deemed waiver by such member of notice of the time, date and place thereof, unless such member specifically objects to lack of proper notice a the time the meeting is called to order.

Section 6. <u>Adjournment of Meetings</u>. If any meetings of the Association cannot be held because a quorum is not present, a Majority of the members who are present at such meeting, either in person or by proxy, may adjourn the meeting to a time not less than five (5) nor more than thirty (30) days from the time the original meeting was called. At such adjourned meeting at which a quorum is present, any business which might have been transacted at the meeting originally called may be transacted without further notice.

Section 7. <u>Voting</u>. Each Lot shall be entitled to one equally weighted vote, which vote may be cast by the Owner, the Owners spouse or by a lawful proxy as provided below. When more than one (1) Person owns a Lot, the vote for such Lot shall be exercised as they determine between or among themselves, but in no event shall more than one (1) vote be cast with respect to any Lot. If only one (1) co-owner attempts to cast the vote for such Lot. In the event of disagreement between or among co-owners and an attempt by two (2) or more of them to cast such vote or votes shall not be counted. No Owner shall be eligible to vote, either in person or by proxy, or to be elected to the Board of Directors, if that Owner is shown on the books or management accounts of the Association to be more than thirty (30) days delinquent in any payment due the Association or if the Owner has had its voting rights suspended for the infraction of any provision of the Declaration, these By-laws, or any rule of the Association. If the voting rights of an Owner have been suspended, that Owner shall not be counted as an eligible vote for purposes of establishing a Majority or a quorum.

Section 8. <u>Proxies</u>. At all meetings of members, each member may vote in person or by proxy. All proxies shall be in writing, dated and filed with the Secretary before the appointed time of each meeting. Every proxy shall be revocable and shall automatically cease upon conveyance by the member of his or her Lot, or upon receipt of notice by the Secretary of the death or judicially declared incompetence of a member, or of written revocation or upon the expiration of eleven (11) months from the date of the proxy.

Section 9. Quorum. The presence in person or by proxy, of Owners holding at least twenty-five (25%) percent of the total eligible Association vote shall constitute a quorum at all meeting of the Association. The members present at a duly called or held meeting at which a quorum is present may continue to do business until adjournment, notwithstanding the withdrawal of enough members to leave less than a quorum.

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Section 10. <u>Action Without a Meeting</u>. Any action may be taken at any annual, regular or special meeting of members may be taken without a meeting if the Association delivers a written ballot to every

member entitled to vote on the matter.

- (a) A written ballot shall
 - (1) Set forth each proposed action; and
 - (2) Provide an opportunity to vote for or against each proposed action.
 - (2) Provide an opportunity to vote for or against each proposed action.
- (b) Approval by written ballot pursuant to this Section shall be valid only when the number of votes cast by ballot equals or exceeds the quorum required to be present at a meeting authorizing the action and the number of approvals equals or exceeds the number of votes that would be required to approve the matter at a meeting at which the total number of votes cast was the same as the number of votes cast by ballot.
 - (c) All solicitations for votes by written ballot shall:
 - (1) Indicate the number of responses needed to meet the quorum requirements;
- (2) State the percentage of approvals necessary to approve each matter other than election of directors; and
- (3) Specify the time by which a ballot must be received by the Association in order to be counted.
- (d) A written ballot may not be revoked. The Association shall maintain such ballots in its file for a period of at least three (3) years.

Article III Board of Directors: Number, Powers, Meetings

A. Composition and Selection.

- Section 1. <u>Governing Body: Composition</u>. The affairs of the Association shall be governed by a Board of Directors. Except as provided in Section 2 of this Article, the directors shall be members or spouses of such members; provided, however, no Person and his or her spouse may serve on the Board at the same time.
- Section 2. <u>Directors Appointed by Declarant</u>. Declarant shall have the right to appoint or remove all members of the Board of Directors and all officers of the Association until such time as the first of the following events occur: (a) the expiration of five (5) years after the date of the recording of the Declaration; (b) the date on which two hundred ninety seven (297) lots have been conveyed to

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Persons who have not purchased such Lots for the purpose of construction of a residence and resale of such Lot and residence; or (c) the surrender by Declarant in writing of the authority to appoint and

remove directors and officers of the Association. Each Owner, by acceptance of a deed to or other conveyance of a Lot, vests in Declarant this authority to appoint and remove directors and officers of the Association. The directors and officers appointed by the Declarant need not be Owners or residents in the Community. The names of the initial directors selected by the Declarant are set forth in the Article of Incorporation of the Association.

Section 3. <u>Number of Directors</u>. The Board shall consist of three (3) or five (5) members during the period in which the Declarant has the right to appoint directors and officers as described in Section 2 of this Article and five (5) members after the expiration of this right.

Section 4. <u>Nomination of Directors</u>. Except with respect to directors appointed by the Declarant, nominations for election to the Board of Directors shall be made by a Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall consist of a Chairperson, who shall be a member of the Board of Directors and three or more members of the Association. The Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors not less than thirty (30) days prior to each annual meeting to serve a term of one year or until their successors are appointed, 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 in no event less than the number of positions to be filled. Nominations shall also be permitted from the floor. All candidates shall have a reasonable opportunity to communicate their qualifications to the members and to solicit votes.

Section 5. <u>Election and Term of Office</u>. Not later than thirty (30) days after termination of the Declarant's right to appoint directors and officers as described in Section 2 of this Article, the Association shall call a meeting to be held at which Owners shall elect 5 five (5) directors. Three (3) directors shall be elected for a term of two (2) years and two (2) directors shall be elected for a term of one (1) year. At the expiration of the first term of office of each member of the initial Board of Directors, a successor shall be elected to serve for a term of two (2) years. The members of the Board of Directors shall hold office until their respective successors shall have been elected by the Association.

At each annual meeting of the membership, directors shall be elected to succeed those directors whose terms are expiring. Each member shall be entitled to cast one vote with respect to each vacancy to be filled from each slate on which the member is entitled to vote. There shall be no cumulative voting. The candidate(s) receiving the most votes shall be elected.

Section 6. Removal of Directors. At any regular or special meeting of the Association duly called, any one or more of the members of the Board of Directors may be removed, with or without cause, by Owners holding a Majority of the votes entitled to be cast for the election of that director and a successor may then and there be elected by the members entitled to elect that director in order fill the vacancy thus created. A director whose removal has been proposed by the Owners shall be given at least ten (10) days' notice of the calling of the meeting and its purpose and shall be given an opportunity to be heard at the meeting. Additionally, any director who has three (3) consecutive unexcused absences from

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Board meetings or who is delinquent in the payment of an assessment for more than twenty (20) days may be removed by a Majority vote of the directors at a meeting, a quorum being present. In the event of death, disability or resignation of a director, a vacancy may be declared by the Board, and it may appoint

a successor.

Section 7. <u>Vacancies.</u> Vacancies in the Board of Directors caused by any reason, excluding the removal of a director by vote of the Association, shall be filled by a vote of the Majority of the remaining directors, even though less than a quorum, at any meeting of the Board of Directors. Each director so selected shall serve the unexpired portion of the term of his predecessor.

B. Meetings.

Section 8. <u>Organization Meetings</u>. The first meeting of the Board of Directors following each annual meeting of the membership shall be held within ten (10) days at the time and place determined by the Board.

Section 9. <u>Regular Meetings</u>. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors may be held at such time and place as shall be determined from time to time by a Majority of the directors, but at least four (4) such meetings shall be held during each fiscal year with at least one (1) per quarter. Notice of the regular schedule shall constitute sufficient notice of the meetings.

Section 10. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held when requested by the President, Vice President or by any two (2) directors. The notice shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the nature of any special business to be considered. The notice shall be given to each director by one of the following methods: (a) by personal delivery; (b) written notice by first class mail, postage prepaid; (c) by telephone communication, either directly to the director or to a person at the director's home or office who would reasonably be expected to communicate such notice promptly to the director; or (d) by telegram, charges prepaid. All notices shall be given or sent to the director's address or telephone number as shown on the records of the Association. Notices sent by first class mail shall be deposited into a United States mailbox at least four (4) days before the time set for the meeting. Notices given by personal delivery, telephone or telegraph company shall be given at least forty-eight (48) hours before the time set for the meeting.

Section 11. Waiver of Notice. The transactions of any meeting of the Board of Directors, however called and noticed or whenever held, shall be as valid as though taken at a meeting duly held after regular call and notice, if (a) a quorum is present, and (b) either before or after the meeting, each of the directors not present signs a written waiver of notice, a consent to holding the meeting, or an approval of the minutes. The waiver of notice or consent need not specify the purpose of the meeting. Notice of a meeting shall also be deemed to have been given to any director who attends the meeting without protesting before or at its commencement about the lack of adequate notice.

Section 12. Quorum of Board of Directors. At all meetings of the Board of Directors, a Majority of the directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and the votes of a Majority of the directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall constitute the decision

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of the Board of Directors. A meeting at which a quorum is initially present may continue to transact business, notwithstanding the withdrawal of directors, if any action taken is approved by at least a Majority of the required quorum for that meeting. If any meeting cannot be held because a quorum is not

present; a Majority of the directors who are present at such meeting may adjourn the meeting to a time not less than five (5) nor more than thirty (30) days from the time that the original meeting was called. At such adjourned meeting at which a quorum is present, any business which might have been transacted at the meeting originally called may be transacted without further notice.

- Section 13. <u>Compensation</u>. No director shall receive any compensation from the Association for acting as a director unless approved by a Majority of the Owners.
- Section 14. <u>Open Meetings.</u> All meetings of the Board shall be open to all members, but members other than directors or officers may not participate in any discussion or deliberation unless expressly so authorized by the Board.
- Section 15. <u>Executive Session.</u> The Board may adjourn a meeting and reconvene in executive session to discuss and vote upon personnel matters, litigation in which the Association is or may become involved and orders of business of a similar nature. The nature of any and all business to be considered in executive session shall first be announced in open session.
- Section 16. <u>Action Without A Formal Meeting</u>. Any action to be taken at a meeting of the directors or any action that may be taken at a meeting of the directors may be taken without a meeting if a consent in writing, setting forth the action so taken, shall be signed by all of the directors.
- Section 17. <u>Telephonic Participation</u>. One or more directors may participate in and vote during any regular or special meeting of the Board by telephonic conference call or similar communication equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time, and those directors participating by telephone shall be deemed to be present at such meeting for quorum and other purposes. Any such meeting at which a quorum participates shall constitute a regular meeting of the Board.

C. Powers and Duties.

- Section 18. <u>Powers.</u> The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the affairs of the Association and shall have all of the powers and duties necessary for the administration of the Association's affairs and, as provided by law, may do all acts and things as are not by the Declaration, Articles or these Bylaws directed to be done and exercised exclusively by the members. In addition to the duties imposed by these Bylaws or by any resolution of the Association that may hereafter be adopted, the Board of Directors shall have the power to and be responsible for the following, in way of explanation, but not limitation:
- (a) preparing and adopting an annual budget in which there shall be established the contribution of each Owner to the common expenses;

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(b) making assessments to defray the common expenses, establishing the means and methods of collecting the assessments and establishing the period of the installment payments of the annual assessment;

- (c) providing for the operation, care, upkeep and maintenance of all areas which are the maintenance responsibility of the Association;
- (d) designating, hiring and dismissing the personnel necessary for the operation of the Association and, where appropriate, providing for the compensation of such personnel and for the purchase of equipment, supplies and material to be used by such personnel in the performance of their duties;
- (e) collecting the assessments, depositing the proceeds thereof in a bank depository which it shall approve, and using the proceeds to administer the Association;
 - (f) making and amending rules and regulations.
 - (g) opening of bank accounts on behalf of the Association and designating the signatories required;
- (h) enforcing by legal means the provisions of the Declaration, these Bylaws and the rules and regulations adopted by it, and bring any proceedings which may be instituted on behalf of or against the Owners concerning the Association.
- (i) obtaining and carrying insurance against casualties and liabilities, as provided m the Declaration and paying the premium cost;
- G) paying the cost of all services rendered to the Association or its members which are not directly chargeable to Owners.
- (k) keeping books with detailed accounts of the receipts and expenditures affecting the Association and its administration and specifying the maintenance and repair expenses and any other expenses incurred; and
- (1) contracting with any Person for the performance of various duties and functions. The Board shall have the power to enter into common management agreements with trusts, condominiums or other associations. Any and all functions of the Association shall be fully transferrable by the Board, in whole or in part, to any other entity.
- Section 19. <u>Management Agent</u>. The Board of Directors may employ for the Association a professional management agent or agents at a compensation established by the Board of Directors to perform such duties and services as the Board of Directors shall authorize. The Declarant or an affiliate of the Declarant may be employed as managing agent or manager. The term of any management

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agreement shall not exceed one (1) year and shall be subject to termination by either party, without cause and without penalty, upon not more than thirty (30) days' written notice.

Section 20. <u>Borrowing</u>. The Board of Directors shall have the power to borrow money for any lawful purpose, including, without limitation, repair or restoration of the Common Property and facilities, without the approval of the members of the Association. However, the Board shall obtain membership

approval in the same manner as for special assessments, in the event that the proposed borrowing is for the purpose of modifying, improving or adding amenities, or the total amount of such borrowing exceeds or would exceed Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) Dollars outstanding debt at any one time.

- Section 21. <u>Fining Procedures</u>. The Board shall not impose a fine (a late charge shall not constitute a fine) unless and until the following procedure is followed:
 - (a) Notice. Written notice shall be served upon the violator specifying:
 - (i) the nature of the violation and the fine imposed;
- (ii) that the violator may, within ten (10) days from the date of the notice, request a hearing regarding the fine imposed;
- (iii) the name, address and telephone number of a person to contact to challenge the fine; hearing; and
 - (iv) that any statements, evidence and witnesses may be produced by the violator at the
 - (v) that all rights to have the fine reconsidered are waived if a hearing is not requested within ten (10) days of the date of the notice.
- (b) <u>Hearing.</u> If a hearing is requested, it shall be held before the Board in executive session and the violator shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard. The minutes of the meeting shall contain a written statement of the results of the hearing.

Article IV Officers

- Section 1. <u>Officers.</u> The officers of the Association shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Any two (2) or more offices may be held by the same Person, excepting the offices of President and Secretary. The President and Treasurer shall be elected from among the members of the Board of Directors.
- Section 2. <u>Election. Term of Office and Vacancies</u>. Except during the period in which the Declarant has the right to appoint the officers of the Association, the officers of the Association shall be elected annually by the Board of Directors at the first meeting of the Board following each annual

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meeting of the members. A vacancy in any office arising because of death, resignation, removal or otherwise may be filled by the Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the term.

- Section 3. <u>Removal.</u> Any officer may be removed by the Board of Directors whenever, in its judgment, the removal will serve the best interests of the Association.
 - Section 4. President. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association and

shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors. The President shall have all the general powers and duties which are incident to the office of the president of a corporation organized under the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code.

- Section 5. <u>Vice President.</u> The Vice President shall act in the President's absence and shall have all powers, duties and responsibilities provided for the President when so acting.
- Section 6. <u>Secretary</u>. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors and shall have charge of such books and papers as the Board of Directors may direct and shall, in general, perform all duties incident to the office of the secretary of a corporation organized in accordance with Georgia law.
- Section 7. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall have the responsibility for the Association's funds and securities and shall be responsible for keeping full and accurate financial records and books of account showing all receipts and disbursements, for preparing all required financial statements and tax returns and for the deposit of all monies and other valuable effects in the name of the Association or the managing agent in such depositories as may from time to time be designated by the Board of Directors.
- Section 8. <u>Resignation</u>. Any officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Board of Directors, the President or the Secretary. Such resignation shall take effect on the date of the receipt of such notice or at any later time specified therein and unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

Article V Committees

- Section 1. <u>General.</u> The Board of Directors is authorized to establish committees to perform those tasks and to serve for those periods that it designates. Each committee shall be composed and shall operate in accordance with the terms of the resolution of the Board of Directors designating the committee or with rules adopted by the Board of Directors.
- Section 2. <u>Neighborhood Committees</u>. In addition to any other committees appointed as provided above, there may be a Neighborhood Committee for each Neighborhood. Each Neighborhood Committee shall consist of three (3) members. The members of each Neighborhood Committee shall be elected annually by the vote of Owners of Lots within that Neighborhood. The first elections shall be called by the Board of Directors of the Association not later than sixty (60) days after conveyance

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of fifty-one (51%) percent of the Lots in the Neighborhood to Persons other than a builder or developer. Election of a Neighborhood Committee may be held by mail-in-ballot sent out by the Board of Directors for Neighborhood Committee. Each Owner shall have one (1) vote per Lot. Committee members shall be elected for a term of one (1) year and until their successors are elected. Any director elected to the Board of Directors from a Neighborhood shall be an ex-officio member of the Committee. It shall be the responsibility of the Neighborhood Committee to determine the nature and extent of services, if any, to be provided to the Neighborhood by the Association in addition to

those which the Association is obligated to provide pursuant to any applicable Supplementary Declaration and those provided to all members of the Association in accordance with the Declaration; provided, however, such special services requested by the Neighborhood shall have the approval of Owners representing at least fifty-one (51%) percent of the total votes of Lots in the Neighborhood. A Neighborhood Committee may advise the Board on any issue, but shall not have the authority to bind the Board of Directors. The Owners of Lots within the Neighborhood holding at least fifty one (51%) percent of the total votes of Lots in the Neighborhood shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Neighborhood. In the conduct of its duties and responsibilities, each Neighborhood Committee shall abide by the procedures and requirements applicable to the Board of Directors set forth in these Bylaws. Each Neighborhood Committee shall elect a chairperson from among its members who shall preside at its meetings and who shall be responsible for transmitting any and all communications to the Board of Directors.

Article VI Miscellaneous

Section 1. <u>Fiscal Year.</u> The fiscal year of the Association shall be determined by resolution of the Board. In the absence of such a resolution, the fiscal year shall be the calendar year.

Section 2. <u>Parliamentary Rules</u>. Roberts Rules of Order (current edition) shall govern the conduct of all Association proceedings, when not in conflict with Georgia law, the Articles of Incorporation, the Declaration, these Bylaws, or a ruling made by the Person presiding over the proceeding.

Section3. <u>Conflicts.</u> If there are conflicts or inconsistencies between the provisions of Georgia law, the Articles of Incorporation, the Declaration and these Bylaws (in that order) shall prevail.

Section 4. <u>Amendment.</u> These Bylaws may be amended unilaterally at any time and from time to time by Declarant with the consent of the holder of the Existing First Mortgage (so long as the Existing First Mortgage remains in effect) and the written consent of the Approved Builder(s), if any, (a) if an amendment is necessary to bring any provision into compliance with any applicable governmental statute, rule or regulation or judicial determination with which it is in conflict; (b) if an amendment is necessary to enable any reputable title insurance company to issue title insurance coverage with respect to the Lots subject to the Declaration; (c) if an amendment is required by an institutional or governmental lender or purchaser of mortgage loans, including, for example, the Federal National Mortgage Association or Federal Home Mortgage Corporation, to enable the lender or purchaser to make or purchase Mortgage loans on the Lots subject to the Declaration; or (d) if an amendment is necessary

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to enable any governmental agency or reputable private insurance company to insure or guarantee Mortgage loans on the Lots subject to the Declaration. However, any such amendment shall not adversely affect the title to any Owner's Lot unless any Lot Owner consents to the amendment in writing. Further, so long as Declarant has the right unilaterally to subject additional property to the Declaration, Declarant with the consent of the holder of the Existing First Mortgage (so long as the Existing First Mortgage remains in effect) and the written consent of the Approved Builder(s), if any, may unilaterally amend these Bylaws for any other purpose; provided, however, any such amendment shall not materially adversely

affect the substantive rights of any Lot Owner, nor shall it adversely affect title to any Lot without the consent of the affected Lot Owner. In addition to the above, these Bylaws may be amended upon the affirmative vote or written consent, or any combination of affirmative vote and written consent, of Owners holding at least a Majority of the total Association vote, the consent of the Declarant (so long as Declarant has an option unilaterally to subject additional property to the Declaration as provided in Article IX of the Declaration), and with the consent of the holder of the Existing First Mortgage (so long as the Existing First Mortgage remains in effect) and the written consent of the Approved Builder(s), if any. Amendments to these Bylaws shall become effective upon recordation, unless a later effective date is specified in the amendment. No provision of these Bylaws which reserves or grants special rights to the Declarant shall be amended without the Declarant's prior written consent so long as the Declarant owns any property in the Community, or subject to annexation to the Community, primarily for development and/or sale.