

REQUEST OF:

J HARRIS CROSBY

DATE: 06/03/94 TIME: 02:00 PM

BOOK: 752 PAGE: 131 - 165

# AMENDED AND RESTATED DECLARATION OF

COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

### KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That whereas, ESCUDILLA CATTLE COMPANY, an Arizona Limited Partnership ("Declarant") has heretofore caused a certain "Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions" regarding a subdivision known as "Noble Mountain Estates" to be recorded in Docket 502, page 365-372 of the records of Apache County, Arizona, Declarant HEREBY SUPERSEDES THOSE CCR'S OF DOCKET 502 with this Amended and Restated Declaration and, as the owner of the property described below, DOES HEREBY DECLARE that the following Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions are hereby established for the following described real property (the "Property"), namely, Noble Mountain Estates, Amended, per plat recorded in TM. pages 37383940 records of Apache County, Arizona (the "Noble Mountain Estates").

- A. DECLARATION: The Declarant desiring to establish the nature of the use and enjoyment of the Property which have been carefully and thoughtfully laid out, does hereby declare said Property subject to the following covenants, conditions and restrictions as to the use and enjoyment thereof, all of which are to be construed as restrictive covenants running with the title to the Property and with each and every parcel and lot thereof, and with all conveyance of the Property or any portion thereof hereafter made, to-wit:
- B. RESTRICTIONS AND OTHER MATTERS OF RECORD:
  Conditions, reservations and restrictions that run with the land including zoning restrictions should be investigated by any purchaser. Copies of recorded items may be inspected at the office of the Apache County Recorder. Information about zoning may be obtained at the office of the Planning and Zoning Commission.
- C. WARNING TO PURCHASERS: Prospective purchasers should satisfy themselves as to what effect, if any, these Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions may have on the use of the land.
- D. <u>COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION</u>: Declarant desires to form a nonprofit corporation, the Noble Mountain Community Association, which will (1) own, manage and maintain the Common Areas within Noble Mountain Estates; (2) levy, collect and disburse the Assessments and other charges imposed hereunder; and (3) as the

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agent and representative of the Noble Mountain Community Association, enforce the use restrictions and other provisions of this Declaration.

### ARTICLE I

### DEFINITIONS

The following words, phrases or terms used in this Declaration shall have the following meanings:

- 1.1 "Annual Assessment" shall mean the charge levied and assessed each year against each Lot and Owner pursuant to Section 7.2 hereof.
- 1.2 "Articles" shall mean the Articles of Incorporation of the Association as amended from time to time.
- part or parts thereof as may from time to time constitute Exempt Property.
- 1.4 "Assessment" shall mean an Annual Assessment, Special Assessment, transfer fee (as provided in Section 6.6) Maintenance Charge, Special Use Fee, or any other fees, fines or charges assessed hereunder.
- 1.5 "Assessment Lien" shall mean the lien created and imposed by Article VII.
- 1.6 Section 7.7. "Assessment Period" shall mean the term set forth in
- 1.7 "Association" shall mean the Arizona nonprofit corporation to be organized by Declarant to administer and enforce the Covenants and to exercise the rights, powers and duties set forth in this Declaration, and its successors and assigns. Declarant intends to name the Association "NOBLE MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION".
- 1.8 "Association Land" shall mean such part or parts of Noble Mountain Estates, together with the buildings, structures and improvements thereon, and other real property which the Association now or hereafter owns in fee or in which the Association now or hereafter has a leasehold or easement interest, for as long as the Association is the owner of the fee, leasehold or easement interest. From time to time, Declarant may convey easements, leaseholds or fee title to property within Noble Mountain Estates to

the Association and upon such conveyance or dedication to the Association, such property shall be deemed accepted by the Association and thereafter shall be maintained by the Association at its expense for the benefit of all its Members.

- 1.9 "Board" shall mean the Board of Directors of the Association.
- 1.10 "Builder" shall mean any entity constructing or installing improvement(s) on any Lot in connection with the original development of such Lot. "Builder" shall not include any entities constructing improvements on any Lot after the original development of such Lot is completed.
- 1.11 "Bylaws" shall mean the Bylaws of the Association as the same may from time to time be amended or supplemented.
- 1.12 "Common Area and Common Areas" shall mean (1) all Association Land; (2) all land within Noble Mountain Estates which the Declarant, by this Declaration or other written instrument, makes available for use exclusively by Members of the Association; (3) all right-of-way easements within Noble Mountain Estates; and (4) any other areas with respect to which the Association has assumed in writing administrative or maintenance responsibilities, whether or not such areas are located on a Lot or Parcel.
- 1.13 "Covenants" shall mean the covenants, conditions, restrictions, assessments, charges servitudes, liens, reservations, and easements set forth herein.
- 1.14 "Declarant" shall mean Escudilla Cattle Company, an Arizona Limited Partnership, and the successors and assigns of Declarant's rights and powers hereunder. Any assignment of all or any portion of the Declarant's rights and powers shall be made by a recorded instrument executed by the assignor Declarant.
- 1.15 "Declaration" shall mean this DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS FOR NOBLE MOUNTAIN ESTATES, as amended or supplemented from time to time.
- 1.16 "Design Guidelines and Rules" shall mean the design guidelines and standards and the review and approval procedures established by the Design Review Committee for the appearance and development of property in Noble Mountain Estates.
- 1.17 "Design Review Committee" shall mean the Design Review Committee of the Association to be created pursuant to Article XII.

- 1.18 "Dwelling Unit" shall mean any building or portion of a building situated upon a Lot designed and intended for use and occupancy as a residence by a Single Family.
- 1.19 "Exempt Property" shall mean all Association Land, for as long as the Association is the owner thereof. All Exempt Property shall be exempt from assessments and membership in the Association and its associated privileges and responsibilities, but shall nevertheless be subject to all other provisions of this Declaration, including but not limited to, the use restrictions and design controls.
- 1.20 "Lot" shall mean and refer to each numbered Lot shown upon the Noble Mountain Estates Amended Plat.
- 1.21 "Maintenance Charges" shall mean any and all costs assessed pursuant to Sections 10.2 and 10.3.
- 1.22 "Member" shall mean any person holding a Membership in the Association pursuant to this Declaration.
- 1.23 "Membership" shall mean a Membership in the Association and the rights granted herein to the Owners and Declarant with respect to the Association.
- 1.24 "Owner" (when so capitalized) shall mean the record holder of legal, beneficial or equitable title to the fee simple interest of any Lot including, without limitation, one who is buying a Lot under a recorded contract, but excluding others who hold such title merely as security. Owner shall not include a lessee or tenant of a Lot. In the case of Lots, the fee simple title to which is vested of record in a trustee pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes, Section 33-801 et seq., legal title shall be deemed to be in the Trustor. In the case of Lots, the fee simple title to which is vested in a trustee pursuant to a subdivision trust agreement or similar trust, the beneficiary of any such trust entitled to possession shall be deemed to be the Owner. An Owner shall include any person who holds record title to a Lot in joint ownership with any other person or holds an undivided fee interest in any Lot.
- 1.25 "Parcel" shall mean and refer to Parcels A, B, C, D, E, F, G as shown on the Noble Mountain Estates Amended Plat.
- 1.26 "Visible From Neighboring Lot" shall mean with respect to any given object that object is or would be visible to a person six feet tall standing on the level of the base of the object being viewed.

### ARTICLE II

### PERMITTED USES AND RESTRICTIONS

- 2.1 Single Family Use: Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, all Lots shall be used only for single family residential purposes. Only a private Dwelling Unit and garage for not more than three (3) cars shall be erected, placed or permitted to remain on any of the Lots.
- 2.2 No Commercial Use: No trade, business, or other type of commercial activity shall be carried on upon any Lot covered by these restrictions, except for individual professional and artistic endeavors. Prohibited uses, include without limitation, the following: No store, office or other place of business of any kind, and no hospital, sanitarium, or other place for the care or treatment of the sick or disabled, physically or mentally, nor any theater, saloon, or other place of entertainment, nor any church, shall ever be erected or permitted upon any of the Lots.
- 2.3 No Division of Lots: No Lot shall be resubdivided into smaller lots nor be conveyed or encumbered in less than the full original dimension of the Lot as shown by the Noble Mt. Plat, except for public utilities.
- 2.4 Parking: Automobiles of the private passenger class and pickup trucks not exceeding three-quarter ton may be parked on the side of any Lot; provided that any such parking area shall comply with the same setback requirements as the residential dwellings. Campers, horse trailers, motor homes and boats may be parked on the back of any Lot; provided that any such parking area shall be attractively screened or concealed from neighboring Lots, roads or streets. All other trucks, vehicles and equipment shall not be kept on any Lot or street except in a private garage. No motor vehicle which is under repair or not in operating condition shall be kept on any Lot or unit.
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- 2.5 Signs: No sign in excess of 60 square inches shall be used on any Lot. Exceptions to this restriction will be the Declarant's signs during construction and sale of property.
- for the storage of rubbish or any character whatsoever, (including, but not limited to, household garbage), nor for the storage of any property or thing that will cause such Lot to appear in an unclean or untidy condition or that will be obnoxious to the eye; nor shall any substance, thing, or material be kept upon any Lot that will

emit foul or obnoxious odors, or that will cause any noise that will or might disturb the peace, quiet, comfort, or serenity of the surrounding property. Each Lot shall be kept and maintaned free from weeds, underbrush, or other unsightly growths.

- 2.7 Fires: No incinerators shall be kept or maintained on any Lot. Open fires or brush burning of any kind are expressly prohibited. Lot owners shall be individually, jointly and severally liable and fully responsible for any and all damages resulting within Noble Mountain Estates from any violation thereof.
- 2.8 Tanks: Any tank for use in connection with any Dwelling Unit on the Lots, including tanks for storage of gas, fuel oil, gasoline, or oil, must be screened to conceal the tank or tanks from neighboring Lots or streets. No Lot Owner shall in any way permit any fluids, solvents or other toxic liquids or solids to enter into the water table, nor shall any such be disposed of on any Lot.
- 2.9 Native Growth and Terrain: purposes of actual construction upon a Lot, no stone, sand, gravel, soil, or natural growth shall be removed from any Excepting for the soil, or natural growth shall be removed from any Lot; provided, however, that the Declarant, its successors or assigns, in carrying out the improvement and development of Noble Mountain Estates shall have the right of ingress and egress upon all Lots for the purpose of grading and excavating thereon, constructing and completing street improvements, installation of public utilities, to provide ditching along property lines if any surface waters need to be rerouted, and to do any and all things necessary to complete the Declarant's general plan of improvement. Unless suitable retaining walls are constructed to support the earth, the natural angle of repose of the ground shall not be altered by excavation within seven (7) feet of any boundary line or any Lot by other than a slope of one and one-half (1-1/2) feet horizontal to one (1) foot vertical; provided, however, that nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to prevent any such alteration in any manner with or without retaining walls, by the Declarant, its successors or assigns, in carrying out the development and improvement of Noble Mountain Estates.
  - 2.10 Two-Story Dwellings: Two-story dwellings may be constructed, but must be designed in such a manner as to not interfere with the view of another homesite.
  - 2.11 Roofs: No metal or shiny reflective types of roofs will be permitted. Shake shingles, slate, tile, or dark stone, but no light color roofs of any of the above-mentioned will be allowed. All metal flashings as roof accessories must be painted or stained to blend with roof materials.

- 2.12 <u>Drainage</u>: Final grades shall not be disturbed in any manner which may adversely affect any other Lot or property whether within Noble Mountain Estates or elsewhere; nor shall any Owner divert or cause diversion of the surface water from the street adjacent to his property onto any other property. All surface waters shall be left free to their natural flow unless lawfully diverted to a drainage ditch. The provisions of this paragraph shall be subordinate to the Apache County subdivision regulations governing such drainage.
- 2.13 <u>Diseases and Insects</u>: No Owner shall permit any thing or condition to exist upon any property within Noble Mountain Estates which shall induce, breed or harbor infectious plant diseases or noxious insects.
- 2.14 Air-Conditioning Equipment--Satellites: No heating (except solar heating) and no air conditioning or refrigeration equipment, or satellite television receiver dish, shall be placed, allowed or maintained anywhere other than on the ground. If solar heating is utilized, it must strictly keep the specifications of Section 2.11 Roofs.
- 2.15 Firearms: No target practice, no shooting, and no hunting shall be allowed on any Lot. No discharge or use of any firearms or weapons shall be permitted.
- 2.16 Compliance With Ordinances: No building or structure shall be erected or permitted on any Lot in any manner contrary to the planning and zoning ordinances of Apache County, Arizona, except as may be allowed by the Apache County Board of Supervisors.
- 2.17 No Structure on Easements: No structure of any kind or nature shall be erected, permitted or maintained on, over or across the easements or reservations for roadways, utilities and/or drainage as shown on the Noble Mt. Plat except by written permission of the Declarant or the Design Review Committee.
- 2.18 Setback Requirements: No portion of any building or structure shall be erected within twenty (20) feet of any front lot line or within twenty (20) feet of the private road network shown on the Noble Mt. Plat, within twenty (20) feet of any rear lot line or within twenty (20) feet of any side lot line, except that where one person shall own two or more contiguous Lots, the Lots may be considered as one Lot, in which event the aforesaid setback lines shall be measured from the external rather than internal lot lines of the two or more contiguous Lots and the easement reservation shall apply to the external lot lines.

Water Conservation: No water service to gardens, 2.19 horticulture, green houses, or glass hot houses, or lawns, or landscaping is permitted. Only culinary, sanitary, and domestic water will be furnished through any future water company or water services or water system. This covenant and limitation is made to conserve water as a vital resource.

# Minimum Size--Limit on Trailers:

- All Dwelling Units shall have a minimum of eight hundred (800) square feet living space area excluding storage, and also exclusive of any portion thereof used for open porches, pergolas, patio, carports or garages, whether or not they are attached to, or adjacent to, a Dwelling
- (b) Travel trailers or campers may occupy Lots only during the actual period of home or cabin construction, not to exceed six (6) months.

  2.21 New Construction--Height Limit: All structures within the subdivision shall be of new construction not exceeding forty (40) feet in height, and shall have concrete foundations and hardwood or concrete floorings. Any alternate flooring must be approved by the Design Review Committee.
  - Temporary Buildings: No temporary buildings may be moved onto or constructed on any Lot in said development, with the exception of temporary shop or office structures erected by contractors or builders during actual bona fide construction of a permitted structure, provided the contractor or builder agrees to remove such temporary shop or office structure within five (5) days after the actual final completion date of his construction activities on the premises.
  - Moveable Buildings: No buildings shall be moved from any other location or any Lot with the exception of new prefabricated or new pre-erected dwellings. Any pre-fabricated or preerected homes must receive written approval of the Design Review Committee.
  - 2.24 No Mobile Homes: The Property is restricted against the use of mobile homes or house trailers for residences and cannot be used for a trailer park.
    - 2.25 Sewage Facilities: None of the Lots shall be used for residential purposes prior to the installation thereon of water flush toilets, and all bathroom, toilet, or sanitary convenience shall be connected to a septic tank or sewer system.

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- 2.26 No Mineral Exploration: No Lot shall be used in any manner to explore for or to remove oil or other hydrocarbons, minerals of any kind, gravel, earth or any earth substance.
- otherwise expressly Except as Design Review: 2.27 provided in this Declaration (a) no improvements (whether temporary or permanent), alterations, repairs, excavation, grading, lighting, landscaping (except landscaping within an enclosed back yard which is not Visible From Neighboring Lot) or other work which in any way alters the exterior appearance of any Lot within Noble Mountain Estates or improvements thereon from its natural or improved state existing on the date this Declaration was recorded shall be made or done, and (b) no building, fence, exterior wall, residence, or other structure or grading shall be commenced, erected, maintained, improved, altered or made on any Lot, at any time, unless and until the Design Review Committee has, in each such case, reviewed and approved the nature of the proposed structure, work, improvement, landscaping and the plans and specifications No changes or deviations in or from the plans and therefor. specifications once approved by the Design Review Committee shall be made without the prior written approval of the Design Review Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained Committee. herein, the Design Review Committee may, in its sole and absolute discretion, upon written request from an Owner who has violated this Section 2.27, elect to retroactively approve work done or an alteration made without prior written approval. The Declarant shall be exempt from the requirements of this Section 2.27 and therefore all structures, improvements, alterations, or landscaping or other work performed, constructed or installed by the Declarant shall be deemed approved by the Design Review Committee.

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- 2.28 Lot 26--Sherwood Lodge: A multi-family lodge is in existence and may be maintained and used as such on Lot 26. Travel trailers and campers are permitted on Lot 26 for not to exceed five (5) days and four (4) nights once each calendar year.
- 2.29 Repair of Structures: No structure or improvement in Noble Mountain Estates shall be permitted to fall into disrepair and each such structure and improvement shall at all times be kept in good condition and repair and adequately painted or otherwise finished, as required by the Design Review Committee. In the event any structure or improvement is damaged or destroyed, then, subject to the approvals required by Section 2.27 above, such building or structure shall be promptly repaired, rebuilt or demolished. In the event an Owner fails to comply with this provision, the Board may give notice to the offending Owner, and may then proceed to repair the building or improvement and charge the Owner therefor as permitted in Section 10.3

- reasonable notice to the Owner or other occupant of a Lot, any member of the Design Review Committee, any member of the Board or any authorized representative of either of them, shall have the right to enter upon and inspect any Lot, and the improvements constructed or being constructed thereon (except for the interior portions of any completed and occupied Dwelling Unit) to determine compliance with this Declaration, the Design Guidelines and Rules and/or any approval stipulations required by the Design Review Committee or to perform repairs and maintenance as provided in Section 10.3, and such persons shall not be deemed guilty of trespass by reason of such entry. In addition, the Association shall have an easement and right of entry upon any Lot at any time or times without notice in order to perform emergency repairs.
- 2.31 <u>Declarant's Exemption</u>: Nothing contained in this Declaration shall be construed to prevent the erection or maintenance by Declarant or by its agents, of structures, improvements or signs necessary or convenient (in the Declarant's sole discretion) to the development or sale of Property within Noble Mountain Estates.

### ARTICLE III

### VARIANCES--EASEMENT RESERVATION

- The Board may, at its option and in Variances: extenuating circumstances, grant variances from the restrictions set forth in Article II of this Declaration, if the Board determines in its discretion (a) either (i) that a restriction would create an unreasonable hardship or burden on an Owner or (ii) that a change of circumstances since the recordation of this Declaration has rendered such restriction impractical or obsolete and (b) that the activity permitted under the variance will not have any substantial adverse affect on the Owners and Residents of Noble Mountain Estates and is consistent with the quality of life intended for the Residents and The request for a variance must Owners of Noble Mountain Estates. be made in writing and be accompanied by adequate supporting The Board, in writing, shall approve or disapprove documentation. request as promptly as possible under the All decisions of the Board shall be final and circumstances. nonappealable.
- 3.2 Utility Easements: There is hereby created a blanket easement upon, across, over and under Noble Mountain Estates for ingress to, egress from, and the installation, replacing,

repairing and maintaining of, all utility and service lines and systems, including, but not limited to water, sewer, gas, telephone, electricity, television cable or communication lines and other systems, as such utilities are installed in connection with the initial development of the Property. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Section, no sewers, electrical lines, water lines, telephone lines or other utilities or service lines may be installed or relocated on any area in Noble Mountain Estates except as approved by the Declarant or the Design Review Committee.

### ARTICLE IV

### COMMON AREAS

- County: As set forth in the Noble Mt. Plat, a network of private roads, thirty (30) feet in width has been dedicated to provide access to each Lot. If any Lot is not crossed by and is not adjacent to that network, an easement thirty (30) feet in width from that road network to such Lot at a location hereafter established by Declarant is hereby reserved for the benefit of such Lot. That network of roads shall be considered to be a Common Area owned by the Association and shall be maintained by the Association. Apache County shall have no duty to maintain that network of private roads.
- 4.2 Gate--Signs: The entrance to Noble Mountain Estates shall be controlled by a gate maintained by the Association with one or more signs advising that the road network is privately owned and maintained.
- Open Space Parcels: Parcels A and B shall be Common for the benefit of the Owners.
  - be Common Areas owned by the Association for the installation and operation of springs, tanks and/or equipment to provide a system of water delivery to the Lots. Neither Declarant nor the Association represents nor guarantees that a functional water delivery system will always exist or be maintained, but it is intended that reasonable efforts will be made to establish a water source and delivery system to be owned by the Association for the benefit of the Lots. To the extent that water is available from time to time, system. The Board of the Association shall establish an equitable fee system for water usage or for the availability of water whether or not water is actually used.

\*NOBLE MOUNTAIN ESTATES AMENDED PLAT

4.5 Leaching Field Parcels: Parcels F and G shall be Common Areas owned and maintained by the Association. A sewage leaching field shall be established and maintained within Parcel F for the benefit of Lots 47, 48, 49, 50, 51 and 52, and those six Lots shall each bear an equal assessment to pay the cost of maintaining the leaching field in Parcel F. Likewise, a sewage leaching field shall be established and maintained within Parcel G for the benefit of Lots 20, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29,30, and these 7 lots shall each bear an equal assessment to pay the cost of maintaining the leaching field in Parcel G.

### ARTICLE V

### ORGANIZATION OF ASSOCIATION

- 5.1 Formation of Association: The Association shall be a nonprofit Arizona corporation. Upon incorporation, the Association shall be charged with the duties and vested with the powers prescribed by law and set forth in its Articles, Bylaws and this Declaration. Neither the Articles nor Bylaws shall, for any reason, be amended or otherwise changed or interpreted so as to be inconsistent with this Declaration.
- 5.2 Board of Directors and Officers: The affairs of the Association shall be conducted by the Board and such officers as the Board may elect or appoint in accordance with the Articles and the Bylaws as the same may be amended from time to time. The Board may also appoint various committees and may contract with a Manager who shall, subject to the direction of the Board, be responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Association. The Board shall determine the compensation to be paid to the Manager and any employees of the Association.
- 5.3 The Noble Mountain Rules: By a majority vote of the Board, the Association may, from time to time and subject to the provisions of this Declaration adopt, amend, and repeal rules and regulations concerning all aspects of the Association's rights, activities and duties to be known as the Noble Mountain Rules. Those Rules shall not discriminate among Members and Residents except to reflect their different rights as provided herein, and shall not be inconsistent with this Declaration, the Articles or the Bylaws. A copy of the Noble Mountain Rules as adopted or amended shall be available for inspection at the office of the Association during reasonable business hours.
- 5.4 <u>Personal Liability</u>: No Board member, commmittee member, employee or officer of the Association shall be personally liable to any Member or to any other person or entity, including the

Association, for any damage, loss or prejudice suffered or claimed on account of any act, omission, error or negligence; provided, however, the limitations set forth in this Section 5.4 shall not apply to any person who has failed to act in good faith or has engaged in willful or intentional misconduct. The Association shall indemnify its committee members, directors, and officers when acting on behalf of the Association, to the full extent permitted by law.

### ARTICLE VI

### MEMBERSHIPS AND VOTING

- 6.1 Owners of Lots: Every Owner of a Lot which is subject to assessment shall be a Member of the Association. Each such Owner shall have one Membership for each Lot.
- 6.2 <u>Declarant</u>: The Declarant shall be a Member of the Association for so long as the Declarant owns any land in Noble Mountain Estates.
- 6.3 <u>Voting</u>: The Association shall have two classes of voting Memberships:

Class A. Class A Memberships shall be all Memberships except the Class B Memberships. An Owner shall be entitled to one vote for each Class A Membership held by the Owner, subject to the authority of the Board to suspend the Owner's voting rights for violations of this Declaration as provided herein.

Class B. The Class B Memberships shall be all Memberships held by the Declarant. Except as otherwise provided in this Declaration, the Declarant shall be entitled to three (3) votes for each Class B Membership owned. The Class B Memberships shall cease and be automatically converted to Class A Memberships when the first of the following events occurs:

(a) One Hundred and Twenty days after the date when the total votes outstanding in the Class A Memberships equal the total votes outstanding in the Class B Memberships.

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(b) When the Declarant notifies the Association in writing that it relinquishes its Class B Membership.

- Membership shall be effective for voting purposes unless and until the Board is given actual written notice of such change and is provided satisfactory proof thereof. The vote for each such Membership must be cast as a unit; fractional votes shall not be allowed. In the event that a Membership is owned by more than one person or entity and such Owners are unable to agree among themselves as to how their vote or votes shall be cast, they shall lose their right to vote on the matter in question. If any Member casts a vote representing a certain Membership, it will thereafter be conclusively presumed that he was acting with the authority and consent of all other Owners of the same Membership unless objection thereto is made to the Board, in writing, at or prior to the time the vote is cast. In the event more than one vote is cast for a particular Membership, all such votes shall be deemed void.
- 6.5 Membership Rights: Each Member shall have the rights, duties and obligations set forth in this Declaration, and in the Articles, Bylaws and Noble Mountain Rules, as the same may be amended from time to time.
- of the Owner of a Class A Membership: The rights and obligations of the Owner of a Class A Membership in the Association shall not be assigned, transferred, pledged, designated, conveyed or alienated in any way except upon transfer of ownership of an Owner's Lot and then only to the transferee thereof. A transfer of ownership of a Lot may be effected by deed, intestate succession, testamentary disposition, foreclosure or such other legal process as permitted by Arizona law. Any attempt to make a prohibited transfer shall be void. Any transfer of ownership of a Lot shall operate to transfer the Membership(s) appurtenant to said Lot to the new Owner. Upon the transfer of ownership of any Lot (excluding the initial sale by the Declarant) the Board, in its sole discretion, may assess a reasonable transfer fee to cover the Association's administrative costs associated with said transfer of ownership.

### ARTICLE VII

### COVENANT FOR ASSESSMENTS AND CREATION OF LIEN

7.1 Creation of Lien and Personal Obligation for Assessments and Maintenance Charges: The Declarant, for each Lot, hereby covenants and agrees, and each Owner by acceptance of a deed therefor (whether or not it shall be so expressed in such deed) is deemed to covenant and agree, to accept and be subject to mandatory Membership in the Association, and to pay to the Association the following: (1) Annual Assessments, (2) Special Assessments, (3) Maintenance Charges, and (4) Special Use Fees (including, but not

limited to fees for water use or availability for water use) incurred by the Owner or any Resident occupying the Owner's Lot or any portion thereof. The Annual Assessments, Special Assessments, Maintenance Charges, Special Use Fees and any other fees, fines and charges which are the obligation of an Owner hereunder, together with interest, costs, collection agency fees, and reasonable attorneys' fees of the Association incurred in connection with the enforcement and collection thereof or in otherwise enforcing this Declaration, shall be a charge and continuing servitude and lien upon the Lot against which such Annual or Special Assessment, Maintenance Charge or other charge is made and against the Lot of an Owner liable for a Special Use Fee or other charge and, in addition, shall be the personal obligation of the Owner of such Lot at the time when such payment becomes due and payable. The Annual and Special Assessments against each Lot shall be based on the number of Memberships appurtenant to the Lot. The personal obligation for delinquent Assessments and other charges shall not pass to the successors in title of the Owner unless expressly assumed by them; however, the Lot shall remain subject to the lien of the delinquent Assessment except as provided in Section 8.3 below. Maintenance Charges may be assessed against any property initially covered by this Declaration. No Owner may waive or otherwise exempt himself from liability for the Assessments provided for herein, including, but not limited to, by non-use of Common Areas or abandonment of his The obligation to pay Assessments is a separate and independent covenant on the part of each Owner. No diminution, abatement or set-off shall be allowed by reason of any action or failure to act of the Board or Association.

- 7.2 Annual Assessments: In order to provide for the uses and purposes specified in Article IX hereof, including the establishment of replacement and maintenance reserves, the Board in each year, shall prepare and adopt a budget and shall assess against each Lot an Annual Assessment. Subject to the provisions of Section 7.4 hereof, the amount of the Annual Assessment shall be in the sole discretion of the Board but shall be determined with the objective of fulfilling the Association's obligations under this Declaration and providing for the uses and purposes specified in Article IX.
- 7.3 Uniform Rate of Assessment: The amount of any Annual or Special Assessment against each Lot shall be fixed at a uniform rate per Membership, except as specified hereafter with respect to the Declarant. Declarant shall pay only twenty-five percent (25%) of the Annual or Special Assessments otherwise attributable to undeveloped property owned by the Declarant. For purposes of this paragraph, a Lot owned by the Declarant shall be deemed to be "undeveloped" until a certificate of occupancy has been issued with respect to that Lot. Notwithstanding the foregoing, so long as the Declarant is paying reduced Annual and Special

Assessments, the Declarant shall pay to the Association any deficiency in funds resulting from Declarant's decreased Assessment and necessary for the Association to be able to timely pay its expenses. This obligation may be satisfied in the form of a cash subsidy or by "in kind" contributions of services or materials or a combination of these.

7.4 Maximum Annual Assessment: The Annual Assessment to be established by the Board may not exceed a certain amount hereinafter referred to as the "Maximum Annual Assessment", which Maximum Annual Assessment shall be determined and shall vary in accordance with the following provisions:

(a) Until Loce Noer 3/5, 1993, the Maximum Annual Assessment against each Owner shall be dollars (\$60.00) per each Membership, which is equivalent to dollars (\$5.00) per month.

(b) From and after <u>scember 3/5</u>, 19<u>93</u>, the Maximum Annual Assessment shall be automatically increased effective January 1 of each year without a vote of the Members by an amount which is equal to the greater of:

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(i) what percent (20%) of the Maximum Annual Assessment for the year just ended; or

(ii) the increase during the twelve month period measured from the preceding September to September, of the Consumer Price Index published in the Monthly Labor Review by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and designated "Consumer Price Index--U.S. City Average for All Urban Consumers, 1967 Equals 100, All Items".

In the event the Bureau of Labor Statistics shall cease to publish the Consumer Price Index and such information is not available from any other source, public or private, then a new formula for determining the automatic annual increase of the Maximum Annual Assessment pursuant to subparagraph (b)(ii) shall be adopted by the Board.

- (c) From and after beautoe3, 1973, the Maximum Annual Assessment may be increased above the Maximum Annual Assessment otherwise determined under Subsection (b) above by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of each class of Members who are voting in person or by proxy at a meeting duly called for such purpose.
- (d) Notwithstanding the foregoing limitations described in (a), (b) and (c) above, the Maximum Annual Assessment may be increased as required by increased utilities and water costs charged to the Association.
- Special Assessments for Capital Improvements and Extraordinary Expenses: In addition to the Annual Assessments authorized above, the Association may levy a Special Assessment for the purpose of defraying in whole or in part, the cost of any construction, reconstruction, repair or replacement of a capital improvement upon Association Land, including fixtures and personal property related thereto, or for the purpose of defraying other extraordinary expenses, provided that any such assessment shall have the assent of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes of each class of Members who are voting in person or by proxy at a meeting duly called for such purpose. Owners qualifying for paying a reduced Annual Assessment attributable to their Memberships pursuant to 7.3 above shall also be permitted to pay a reduced (at the same rate) Special Assessment otherwise attributable to each such Membership unless such Owner is determined by the Board to be directly benefited by the capital improvement financed in whole or in part by such Special Assessment, in which event the Owner shall pay the full amount of Special Assessment attributable to his Membership. provisions of this Section are not intended to preclude or limit the assessment, collection or use of Annual Assessments for aforesaid purposes.
- 7.6 Notice and Quorum for Any Action Authorized Under 7.4 and 7.5: Written notice of any meeting called for the purpose of taking any action authorized under 7.4 or 7.5 shall be sent to all Members no fewer than thirty (30) days nor more than sixty (60) days in advance of the meeting. At the first such meeting called, the presence of Members or of proxies entitled to cast sixty percent (60%) of all the votes (exclusive of suspended voting rights) 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 (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.

- 7.7 Annual Assessment Period: The period for which the Annual Assessment is to be levied (the "Assessment Period") shall be the calendar year, except that the first Assessment Period shall commence upon the incorporation of the Association and shall terminate on December 31st of that year. The Board in its sole discretion from time to time may change the Assessment Period by recording with the County Recorder of Apache County, Arizona, an instrument specifying the new Assessment Period.
- Billing and Collection Procedures: The Board shall have the right to adopt procedures for the purpose of making, billing and collecting the Annual and Special Assessment, Charges and Special Use Fees provided that Maintenance procedures are not inconsistent with the provisions hereof. failure of the Association to send a bill to a Member shall not relieve any Member of his liability for any Assessment or charge under this Declaration, but the Assessment Lien therefor shall not be foreclosed or otherwise enforced until the Member has been given not less than fifteen (15) days written notice prior to such foreclosure or enforcement, at the address of the Member on the records of the Association, that the Assessment or any installment thereof is or will be due and of the amount owing. Such notice may be given at any time prior to or after the delinquency of such payment. It shall be the responsibility of the Member to inform the Association in writing of a change of address. The Association shall be under no duty to refund any payments received by it even though the ownership of a Membership changes during an Assessment Period; successor Owners of Lots shall be given credit prepayments, on a prorated basis, made by prior Owners. In case the Owner of a Membership becomes liable for payment of an increased sum pursuant to 7.3 during the Assessment Period, he shall notify the Association but his failure to notify the Association shall not relieve him of the liability for such amounts. Annual Assessments shall be collected on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis as determined by the Board and Special Assessments shall be collected specified by the Board unless otherwise determined by the resolution of the Members of the Association approving the Special Assessment.
- Assessments: Any Assessment, Maintenance Charge, Special Use Fee or installment thereof not paid when due shall be deemed delinquent and shall bear interest from ten (10) days after the due date until paid at a rate equal to the greater of (a) twelve percent (12%) per annum, (b) the then prevailing interest rate on new loans guaranteed by the Veterans Administration, or (c) the rate set by the Board, and the Member shall be liable for all costs, including attorneys

fees, which may be incurred by the Association in collecting the same. The applicable interest rate on delinquent Assessments and other charges shall be determined on a daily basis or as otherwise provided by the Board. In addition, the Board may charge a late fee for all delinquent payments. The Board may also record a Notice of Delinquency against any Lot as to which an Assessment, Special Use Fee or Maintenance Charge is delinquent and constitutes a lien and may establish a fixed fee to reimburse the Association for the Association's cost in recording such Notice, processing the delinquency and recording a notice of payment, which fixed fee shall be treated as a collection cost of the Association secured by the Assessment Lien. Upon the complete curing of any default for which a Notice of Delinquency was recorded by the Association, the Association shall record an appropriate release of such notice. Notwithstanding the recording of any Notice of Delinquency, the obligation of each Owner to pay Assessments, Maintenance Charges, Special Use Fees and other amounts payable hereunder shall be secured by a continuing Assessment Lien.

Charges: Upon receipt of a written request and within a reasonable period of time thereafter, the Association shall issue to the requesting party a written certificate stating (a) that all Annual and Special Assessments, Special Use Fees and Maintenance Charges (including interest, costs and attorneys' fees, if any, as provided in Section 7.9 have been paid with respect to any specified Lot as of the date of such certificate, or (b) if such have not been paid, the amount(s) due and payable as of such date. The Association may make a reasonable charge for the issuance of such certificates, which charge must be paid at the time the request for any such certificate is made. Any such certificate shall be conclusive and binding with respect to any matter therein stated as against any bona fide purchaser of, or lender on, the Lot in question.

#### ARTICLE VIII

# ENFORCEMENT OF PAYMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND MAINTENANCE CHARGES AND OF ASSESSMENT LIEN

- 8.1 Association as Enforcing Body: As provided in Section 11.2, the Association and the Members shall have the right to enforce the provisions of this Declaration.
- 8.2 Association's Remedies to Enforce Payment of Assessments and Maintenance Charges: If any Member fails to pay the Annual or Special Assessments, Special Use Fees or Maintenance Charges when due, the Association may enforce the payment thereof and/or the Assessment Lien by taking either or both of the following

actions, concurrently or separately (and by exercising either of the remedies hereinafter set forth, the Association does not prejudice or waive its right to exercise the other remedy):

- (a) Bring an action at law and recover judgment against the Member personally obligated to pay the Annual or Special Assessments, Special Use Fees or the Maintenance Charges;
- (b) Foreclose the Assessment Lien against the appropriate Lot in accordance with the then prevailing Arizona law relating to the foreclosure of realty mortgages (including the right to recover any deficiency), and the Lot may be redeemed after foreclosure sale as provided by law. The Association may bid on the subject property at such a foreclosure sale.

Notwithstanding subordination of an Assessment Lien as described in 8.3, the delinquent Member shall remain personally liable for the Assessments and related costs after his Membership is terminated by foreclosure or deed in lieu of foreclosure or otherwise.

Subordination of Assessment Lien: The Assessment Lien shall be subordinate to any first mortgage lien held by, or first deed of trust of which the beneficiary is a lender who has lent funds with the Lot as security, or held by the lender's successors and assigns, and shall also be subject and subordinate to liens for taxes and other public charges which by applicable law are expressly made superior. Except as above provided, the Assessment Lien shall be superior to any and all charges, liens or encumbrances which hereafter in any manner may arise or be imposed upon each Lot. Sale or transfer of any Lot shall not affect the Assessment Lien; provided, however, that if the sale or transfer is pursuant to foreclosure of a mortgage or a deed of trust to which the Assessment Lien is subordinate, or pursuant to any trustee's sale or proceeding in lieu thereof, the purchaser at the mortgage foreclosure or deed of trust sale, or any grantee taking by deed in lieu of foreclosure, shall take the Lot free of the Assessment Lien for all Assessments and Maintenance Charges that have accrued up to the date of issuance of a sheriff's or trustee's deed or deed in lieu of foreclosure; provided, however, that such mortgage or deed of trust foreclosure sale purchaser or grantee shall take subject to all Annual and Special Assessments, Special Use Fees, Maintenance Charges and the Assessment Lien therefor accruing subsequent to the date of issuance of a sheriff's or trustee's deed or deed given in lieu of foreclosure. Nothing herein shall prohibit the Board from reallocating the amount of any Assessment Lien extinguished hereunder against all Owners as part of an Annual or Special Assessment.

### ARTICLE IX

### **ASSOCIATION FUNDS**

- Purposes for Which Association's Funds May Be The Association shall apply all funds and property collected and received by it (including the Annual and Special Assessments, fees, loan proceeds, surplus funds and all funds and property received by it from any other source) for the common good and benefit of Noble Mountain Estates and the Members and Residents by devoting said funds and property, among other things, to the acquisition, construction, alteration, maintenance, provision and operation, by any manner or method whatsoever, of any kind and all land, properties, improvements, facilities, services, projects, programs, studies and systems, within or without Noble Mountain Estates, which may be necessary, desirable or beneficial to the general common interests of Noble Mountain Estates, the Members and the Residents. The following are some, but not all, of the areas in which the Assocaition may seek to aid, promote and provide for such maintenance of rights-of-way and drainage areas common benefit: within and adjoining Noble Mountain Estates, recreation, liability insurance, communications, ownership and operation of recreational and other facilities, transportation, health, utilities, public services, reserve accounts, safety, and indemnification of officers and directors of the Association. The Association may use its funds for any purposes for which a municipality may expend its funds under the laws of the State of Arizona or such municipality's charter. The Association also may expend its funds in any manner as permitted under the laws of the State of Arizona for a nonprofit corporation.
- 9.2 <u>Borrowing Power</u>: The Association may borrow money in such amounts, at such rates, upon such terms and security, and for such periods of time as the Board deems necessary or appropriate.
- Year: The Association shall not be obligated to spend in any year all the sums received by it in such year (whether by way of Annual or Special Assessments, fees or otherwise), and may carry forward as surplus any balances remaining. The Association shall not be obligated to reduce the amount of Annual Assessment in the succeeding year if a surplus exists from a prior year and the Association may carry forward from year to year such surplus as the Board in its discretion may determine to be desirable for the greater financial security of the Association and the accomplishment of its purposes.

Eminent Domain: The term "taking" as used in this Section shall mean condemnation by eminent domain or sale under threat of condemnation. In the event of a threatened taking of all or any portion of the Common Area, the Owners hereby appoint the Board and such persons as the Board may delegate to represent all of the Members in connection with the taking. The Board shall act in its sole discretion with respect to any awards made or to be made in connection with the taking and shall be entitled to make a voluntary sale to the condemnor in lieu of engaging in a condemnation action. Any awards received on account of the taking shall be paid to the Association. In the event of a total or partial taking, the Board may, in its sole discretion, retain any award in the general funds of the Association or distribute pro rata all or a portion thereof to the Owners and all holders of liens and encumbrances, as their interests may appear of record, at a uniform rate per Membership.

### 9.5 Insurance:

- Authority to Purchase. The Association shall maintain insurance against liability incurred as a result of death or injury to persons or damage to property on the Common Areas or upon other areas maintained by the Association, in a total amount of not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000). reasonably available, the Association shall obtain officers and directors liability insurance in an amount deemed prudent by the Board. In the event the Noble Mountain Estates project has been approved by FHA, VA, FNMA of FHLMC and any loans have been made, insured, guaranteed or purchased through all or any of such agencies or entities, then the Association shall obtain and maintain such insurance as may be required by the approving agency (ies) or entity (ies). addition the Association may carry any other insurance coverage which the Board in its discretion deems necessary or desirable. The deductible shall be paid by the party who would be liable for the loss or repair in the absence of insurance.
- (b) Individual Responsibility. It shall be the responsibility of each Owner and Resident or other person to provide for himself insurance on his property interests within Noble Mountain Estates, including, but not limited to, his additions and improvements thereon, furnishings and personal

property therein, his personal liability to the extent not covered by the property and public liability insurance obtained by the Association, if any, and such other insurance as such person desires. No person shall maintain any insurance which would limit or reduce in any manner the insurance proceeds payable under any insurance maintained by the Association in the event of damage to the improvements or fixtures on the Common Areas. Neither the Association or any Board member nor the Declarant shall be liable to any person or mortgagee if any risks or hazards are not covered by the insurance obtained by the Association or if the amount of insurance is not adequate.

- (c) Insurance Claims. The Association is hereby irrevocably appointed and authorized by the Owners to adjust all claims arising under insurance policies purchased by the Association and to execute and deliver releases upon the payment of claims, and all other acts reasonably necessary to accomplish any of the foregoing. The Board has full and complete power to act for the Association in this regard and may, at its discretion, appoint authorized representative or committee, or enter into an insurance trust agreement wherein the trustee shall have authority to negotiate losses under any policy purchased by the Association. All proceeds from insurance acquired by the Association shall be payable to the Association. Any proceeds resulting from damage to the Common Areas shall be used to repair the damage, unless otherwise approved by a majority of the votes of each class of Members at a meeting called for such purpose. Any excess proceeds may be retained by the Association as reserves or to reduce future assessments or, if distributed to Members, such proceeds shall be distributed to Members and their mortgagees as their interests may appear at a uniform rate per Membership.
- 9.6 Reserve Fund: From the Annual Assessments received by the Association, the Board shall establish an adequate reserve fund for the maintenance, repair and replacement of the improvements on the Common Areas.

### ARTICLE X

### MAINTENANCE

## 10.1 Common Areas and PrivateRights-Of-Way:

- (a) Areas of Association Responsibility. The Association, or its duly delegated representative, shall maintain and otherwise manage all Common Areas and the improvements thereon.
- (b) Standard of Care. The Board shall use a reasonably high standard of care in providing for the repair, management and maintenance of the Common Areas and other properties maintained by the Association, however, the Board shall be the sole judge as to the appropriate maintenance of all such areas. The Common Areas and other areas and equipment maintained by the Association shall be used at the risk of the user and the Association shall not be liable to any person or entity for any claim, damage or injury occurring thereon or related to the use thereof.
- (c) Delegation of Responsibilities. In the event any subdivision plat, deed restriction or this Declaration permits the Board to determine whether or not Owners of certain Lots will be responsible for maintenance of certain Common Areas or Private right-of-way areas, the Board shall have the sole discretion to determine whether or not it would be in the best interest of the Owners and Residents of Noble Mountain Estates for the Association or for an individual Owner to be responsible for such maintenance, considering cost, uniformity of appearance, location and other factors deemed relevant by the Board. The Board may cause the Association to contract with others for the performance of the maintenance and other obligations of the Association under this Article X.
- event that the need for maintenance or repair of Common Areas, structures and other property maintained by the Association is caused through the willful or negligent act of any Owner, or that Owner's family, guests, or tenants, the cost of such maintenance or repairs shall be added to and become a part of the Assessment to which such Owner and the Owner's Lot is subject and shall be secured by the Assessment Lien. Any charges or fees to be paid by the Owner of a Lot pursuant to 10.1(c) in connection with a contract entered

into by the Association with an Owner for the performance of an Owner's maintenance responsibilities shall also become a part of such Assessment and shall be secured by the Assessment Lien.

- Improper Maintenance and Use of Lots: In the event any portion of any Lot is so maintained or not maintained as to present a nuisance, or substantially detract from the appearance or quality of the surrounding Lots or other areas of Noble Mountain Estates which are substantially affected thereby or related thereto, or in the event any portion of a Lot is being used in a manner which violates this Declaration, or in the event the Owner of any Lot is failing to perform any of its obligations under this Declaration, or the Noble Mountain Rules, the Board may by resolution make a finding to such effect, specifying the particular condition or conditions which exist, and pursuant thereto give notice thereof to the offending Owner that unless corrective action is taken within fifteen (15) days, the Board may cause such action to be taken at said Owner's cost. If at the expiration of said fifteen day period of time the requisite corrective action has not been taken, the Board shall be authorized and empowered to cause such action to be taken and the cost thereof including costs and attorneys' fees shall be added to and become a part of the Assessment to which the offending Owner and the Owner's Lot is subject and shall be secured by the Assessment Lien. Except in the case of emergency repairs, the Association shall institute judicial proceedings before any item of construction is altered or demolished.
- 10.4 Easement for Maintenance Responsibilities: The Association shall have an easement upon, across, over and under the Lots, for the purpose of repairing, maintaining and replacing the Common Areas, Common Area improvements, and other areas maintained by the Association and for the purpose of performing all of the Association's other rights, duties and obligations hereunder.

### ARTICLE XI

# RIGHTS AND POWERS OF ASSOCIATION

Articles and Bylaws: In addition to the rights and powers of the Association set forth in this Declaration, the Association shall have such rights and powers as are set forth in its Articles and Bylaws, which shall include all rights and powers as may be reasonably necessary in order to effect all the objectives and purposes of the Association as set forth herein. After incorporation of the Association, a copy of the Articles and Bylaws of the Association shall be available for inspection by Members, prospective purchasers, and mortgagees at the office of the Association during reasonable business hours.

- Enforcement of Provisions of This The Association, as the agent and representative of Instruments: the Owners, shall have the right (without obligation) to enforce, by any proceeding at law or in equity, the Covenants set forth in this Declaration and/or any and all covenants, restrictions, reservacharges, servitudes, assessments, conditions, liens or easements provided for in any contract, deed, declaration or other instrument which (a) shall have been executed pursuant to, or subject to, the provisions of this Declaration, or (b) otherwise shall indicate that the provisions of such instrument were intended to be enforced by the Association or by Declarant. Sanctions may include reasonable monetary fines and suspension of the right to vote and right to use recreational facilities on the Common Areas. In the event suit is brought or arbitration is instituted or an attorney is retained by the Association to enforce the terms of this Declaration or other document as described in this Section 11.2 and the Association prevails, the Association shall be entitled to recover, in addition to any other remedy, reimbursement for attorneys' fees, court costs, costs of investigation and other related expenses incurred in connection therewith including, but not limited to, the Association's administrative costs and fees. attorneys' fees, costs and expenses shall be the personal liability of the breaching Owner and shall also be secured by the Assessment Lien against said Owner's Lot. If the Association shall fail or refuse to enforce this Declaration or any provision hereof for an unreasonable period of time after written request by a Member to do so, then any Member may enforce the provisions of the Declaration at his own expense by any appropriate action, whether in law or in equity, but regardless of the outcome, no expenses of the action shall be paid for by the Association. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to prohibit any Owner from instituting a legal proceeding against the Association for the failure to comply with this Declaration or the provisions of any other instrument described in this Section.
- 11.3 Contracts Others With for Performance Association's Duties: Subject to the restrictions and limitations contained herein, the Association may enter into contracts transactions with others, including the Declarant and its affiliated companies, and such contracts or transactions shall invalidated or in any way affected by the fact that one or more directors or officers of the Association or members of any committee are employed by or otherwise connected with Declarant or affiliates, provided that the fact of such interest shall be disclosed or known to the other directors acting upon such contract transaction, and provided further that the transaction contract is fair and reasonable. Any such director, officer or

committee member may be counted in determining the existence of a quorum at any meeting of the Board or committee of which he is a member which shall authorize any contract or transaction described above or grant or deny any approval sought by the Declarant, its affiliated companies or any competitor thereof and may vote thereat to authorize any such contract, transaction or approval with like force and effect as if he were not so interested. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, during the period when the Declarant has a Class B vote, any professional management contract entered into by the Association must be terminable with or without cause, upon no more than ninety (90) days witten notice and without payment of any penalty.

- 11.4 Procedure for Change of Use of Association Land: Upon (a) adoption of a resolution by the Board stating that in the Board's opinion the then present use of a designated part of the Association Land or of the Association's interest in other Common Areas is no longer in the best interests of the Owners and Residents and (b) the approval of such resolution by a majority of the votes of each class of Members at a meeting duly called for such purpose, the Board shall have the power and right to change the use thereof (and in connection therewith, construct, reconstruct, alter or change the buildings, structures and improvements thereon in any manner deemed necessary by the Board to accommodate the new use), provided such new use (i) shall be for the benefit of the Owners and Residents, and (ii) shall be consistent with any deed restrictions and zoning regulations restricting or limiting the use of the Alternatively, the Board upon satisfaction of subsection (a) above may, in lieu of calling a meeting, notify in writing all Owners of the proposed change of use and of their right to object thereto and, if no more than ten percent (10%) of the Class A Memberships eligible to vote object in writing within thirty (30) days after receipt of such notice, the propsed transaction shall be deemed approved by the Members and a meeting of the Members shall not be necessary.
- Association shall have the right to dedicate or transfer all or any part of the Common Areas to any public authority or utility. In addition, the Association shall have the right to change the size, shape or location of the Common Areas, to exchange the Common Areas for other property or interests which become Common Areas, and to abandon or otherwise transfer Common Areas (to a nonpublic authority) upon (a) the adoption of a resolution by the Board stating that ownership and/or use of the relevant Common Area is no longer in the best interests of the Owners and Residents and that the change desired shall be for their benefit and shall not substantially adversely affect them and (b) the approval of such

resolution by a majority of the votes of each class of Members, voting in person or by proxy, at a meeting called for such purpose. Alternatively, the Board upon satisfaction of subsection (a) above may, in lieu of calling a meeting pursuant to subsection (b) above, notify in writing all Owners of the proposed transaction and of their right to object thereto and, if no more than ten percent (10%) of the Class A Members eligible to vote object in writing within thirty (30) days after receipt of such notice, the proposed transaction shall be deemed approved by the Members and a meeting of the Members shall not be necessary.

### ARTICLE XII

### DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE

- established to perform the functions of the Design Review Committee set forth in this Declaration. The Design Review Committee shall consist of three regular members and such number of alternate members as the Board may designate. During the first ten (10) years following the recordation of this document or until such time as the Declarant has relinquished its appointment rights, all members and alternates of the Committee shall be appointed by the Declarant. Thereafter the members of the Design Review Committee shall be appointed by the Board. The Declarant may voluntarily relinquish its right to appoint all or some of the members of the Design Review Committee by recording an amendment to the Declaration executed by the Declarant alone. Members of the Design Review Committee need not be architects, Owners or Residents and need not possess any special qualifications of any type.
- 12.2 Meetings; Guidelines: The Design Review Commiteee shall keep a record of the minutes of all meetings. A quorum for any such meeting shall consist of a majority of the regular members of the Committee and the concurrence of a majority of the regular committee members shall be necessary for any decision of the Design Review Committee. Alternate member(s) may participate at any meeting in lieu of absent regular member(s), may constitute a quorum by his (their) presence and shall have all of the authority of a regular member while so participating. The Design Review Committee shall promulgate Design Guidelines and Rules to be used in rendering its decisions, including procedures for the preparation, submission and determination of applications for approval. The Design Guidelines and Rules shall be fair and reasonable, shall be consistent with the provisions of this Declaration, the Articles and Bylaws, and shall have the same force and effect as if set forth In the event of inconsistency between rules adopted by the Board and the Design Guidelines and Rules, the Design Guidelines and

Rules will control. A copy of the Design Guidelines and Rules shall be available for inspection at the office of the Association during reasonable business hours. Members of the Committee shall not be entitled to compensation for their services, unless otherwise approved by the Board.

- Discretion of Committee; Liability: The Design Review Committee shall be under no duty or obligation to pass upon, approve or disapprove any structural stability matter or matters pertaining to the stability of footings or foundations or matters pertaining to geological conditions involved in any foundation or footings and may indicate on any plans or specifications or drawings or other materials or in any certificate that the Committee has not passed upon, approved or disapproved any such matters. All actions of said Committee authorized under this Declaration, including without limitation the approval or disapproval of specifications, drawings, plot plans, grading plans and height, as well as other matters in which the Committee is authorized hereunder to act, shall be in the sole and complete discretion of said Neither the Design Review Committee nor any member thereof shall be liable to any Owner, or to any other party, for any damage, loss or prejudice suffered or claimed on account of
  - (a) the approval or disapproval of any plans, drawings or specifications, whether or not defective;
  - (b) the construction or performance of any work, whether or not pursuant to approved plans, drawings and specifications;
  - (c) the development of any property within Noble Mountain Estates;
  - (d) the execution of any estoppel certificate, whether or not the facts therein are correct; or
  - (e) the enforcement of this Declaration and the Design Guidelines and Rules;

provided, however, that with respect to the liability of a Committee member, such member has acted in good faith on the basis of such information as may be possessed by him. The approval by the Design Review Committee of any plans, specifications or other matter shall not be deemed to constitute a waiver of any right to withhold approval of any similar plans, specifications or other matter subsequently submitted for approval.

- Response Within Thirty (30) Days: Any approval required under this Declaration by the Design Review Committee shall not be withheld unreasonably. Failure by such Committee to send notice of its approval or disapproval of a request within thirty (30) days after such request is filed with the Committee shall waive the approval requirement. Notice of disapproval shall be written and it shall set forth the reason or reasons for the disapproval. Notwithstanding Section 14.10, no request shall be deemed filed with a Committee until it is actually received, and all submissions to the Committee shall be made Ъy certified mail or personal delivery. In any event, after the expiration of one (1) year from the completion of construction of any structure, work, improvement, alteration, or landscaping, the said structure, work, improvement, alteration, or landscaping shall, in favor of purchasers encumbrancers in good faith and for value, be deemed to be in compliance with all the provisions of the approval of the Design Review Committee, unless, within such one year period, actual notice of noncompliance executed by the Design Review Committee shall appear of record in the office of the County Recorder of Apache County, or a complaint has been filed to enforce compliance.
- 12.5 Committee's Certificate: Any approval of any plans and specifications or other matter by the Design Review Committee given or made pursuant to the provisions of this Declaration which is evidenced by a certificate signed by at least a majority of the members of said Committee shall be irrevocable and not subject to change by such Committee. Any such certificate may be conclusively relied upon by all parties, including, but not limited to, any Owner, tenant or purchaser of any Lot or Dwelling Unit or of any interest therein; by any lender taking any Lot as security; and by any title insurance company. Any such certificate may be recorded by said Committee in the office of the County Recorder of said Apache County.
- Committee members appointed by the Declarant shall be final and nonappealable except as hereafter set forth. At any time after the earlier of (a) ten (10) years from the date of the recording of this Declaration, or (b) the date when the Declarant has relinquished its right to appoint the Design Review Committee members, any Owner or other Resident aggrieved by a decision of the Design Review Committee may appeal the decision to the Board in accordance with procedures to be established by the Board. In the event the decision of the Design Review Committee is overruled by the Board on any issue or question, the prior decision of the Design Review Committee shall be deemed modified to the extent specified by the Board and, for purposes of this Declaration, such decision, as so modified, shall thereafter be deemed the decision of the Design Review Committee.

12.7 <u>Fee:</u> The Board may establish a reasonable processing fee to cover the costs of the Association and the Design Review Committee in considering any requests for approvals submitted to it, which fee shall be paid at the time the request for approval is submitted.

### ARTICLE XIII

### TERM; AMENDMENTS; TERMINATION

- Term; Method of Termination: This Declaration shall be effective upon the date of recordation hereof and, as amended from time to time, shall continue in full force and effect for a term of twenty (20) years from the date this Declaration is From and after said date, this Declaration, as amended, shall be automatically extended for successive periods of ten (10) years each. This Declaration may be terminated at any time if twothirds of the authorized votes of each class of Members shall be cast in favor of termination at an election held for such purpose. If the necessary votes are obtained, the Board shall cause to be recorded with the County Recorder of Apache County, Arizona, a Certificate of Termination, duly signed by the President or Vice President and attested by the Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the Association, with their signatures acknowledged. Thereupon these Covenants shall have no further force and effect, and the Association shall be dissolved pursuant to the terms set forth in Any Association funds remaining following such termination and dissolution shall be distributed to the Members and their mortgagees as their interests may appear at a uniform rate per Membership.
- 13.2 Amendments: This Declaration may be amended by recording with the County Recorder of Apache County, Arizona, a Certificate of Amendment, duly signed and acknowledged as required for a Certificate of Termination in Section 13.1. The Certificate of Amendment shall set forth in full the amendment adopted, and, except as provided hereafter, shall certify that at an election duly called and held for this purpose pursuant to the provisions of the Articles and Bylaws, the Members casting seventy-five percent (75%) of the votes cast at the election voted affirmatively for the adoption of the amendment; provided, however, that for the purpose of an election to amend this Declaration, the Declarant shall have only one vote per Class B Membership. The Declaration may be amended with respect to all or any portion of Lots covered hereby. Within ten (10) years from the date of recording this Declaration and so long as the Declarant is the owner of any Lot in Noble Mountain Estates this Declaration may be amended or terminated only

with the written approval of the Declarant. This Declaration may not be amended to reduce or alter the rights of the Declarant without the approval of the Declarant. The Declarant alone may amend this Declaration at any time to amend as permitted in Section 13.3 hereafter. In addition, at any time, the Declarant alone shall have the right to amend the Declaration to comply with applicable law or to correct any error or inconsistency in the Declaration if the amendment does not adversely affect the rights of any Owner.

13.3 Right of Amendment if Requested by Governmental Agency or Federally Chartered Lending Institutions: Anything in this Article to the contrary notwithstanding, Declarant reserves the right to amend all or any part of this Declaration to such extent and with such language as may be requested by the Federal Housing Administration ("FHA"), the Veterans Administration ("VA"), the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation ("FHLMC") or the Federal National Mortgage Corporation ("FNMA") and to further amend to the extent requested by any other federal, state or local governmental agency which requests such an amendment as a condition precedent to such agency's approval of the Declaration, or by any federally chartered lending institution as a condition precedent to lending funds upon the security of any Lot(s) or any portions thereof. such amendment shall be effected by the recordation by Declarant of an Amendment duly signed by or on behalf of the authorized agents of Declarant with their signatures acknowledged, specifying federal, state or local governmental agency or the federally chartered lending institution requesting the amendment and setting amendatory language requested by the such agency or Recordation of the Amendment shall be deemed institution. conclusive proof of the agency's or institution's request for such an Amendment, and such Amendment, when recorded, shall be binding upon all of Noble Mountain Estates and all persons having an interest therein.

### ARTICLE XIV

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

14.1 Interpretation of the Covenants: Except for judicial construction, the Association, by its Board, shall have the exclusive right to construe and interpret the provisions of this Declaration. In the absence of any adjudication to the contrary by a court of competent jurisdiction, the Association's construction or interpretation of the provisions hereof shall be final, conclusive and binding as to all persons and property benefited or bound by the Covenants hereof.

- 14.2 <u>Severability</u>: Any determination by any court of competent jurisdiction that any provision of this Declaration is invalid or unenforceable shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any of the other provisions hereof.
- 14.3 Change of Circumstances: Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Declaration, no change of conditions or circumstances shall operate to extinguish, terminate or modify any of the provisions of this Declaration.
- 14.4 Rules and Regulations: In addition to the right to adopt rules and regulations on the matters expressly mentioned elsewhere in this Declaration, the Association (through its Board and Committees) shall have the right to adopt rules and regulations with respect to all other aspects of the Association's rights, activities and duties, provided said rules and regulations are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Declaration.
- 14.5 Declarant's Disclaimer of Representations: Anything to the contrary in this Declaration notwithstanding, and except as otherwise may be expressly set forth on a recorded plat or other instrument recorded in the office of the County Recorder of Apache County, Arizona, Declarant makes no warranties or representations whatsoever that the plans presently envisioned or the complete development of Noble Mountain Estates can or will be carried out, or that any land now owned or hereafter acquired by Declarant is or will be subjected to this Declaration or any other declaration, or that any such land (whether or not it has been subjected to this Declaration) is or will be committed to or developed for a particular (or any) use, or if that land is once used for a particular use, such use will continue in effect.
- 14.6 No Warranty of Enforceability: While Declarant has no reason to believe that any of the Covenants contained in this Declaration are or may be invalid or unenforceable for any reason or to any extent, Declarant makes no warranty or representation as to the present or future validity or enforceability of any such Covenants. Any Owner acquiring a Lot in Noble Mountain Estates in reliance on one or more of the Covenants shall assume all risks of the validity and enforceability thereof and by acquiring any Lot agrees that Declarant shall have no liability therefor.
- 14.7 References to the Covenants in Deeds: Deeds or any instruments affecting any part of Noble Mountain Estates may contain the Covenants herein set forth by reference to this Declaration; but regardless of whether any such reference is made in any Deed of instrument, each and all of the Covenants shall be binding upon the grantee-Owner or other person claiming through any instrument and his heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns.

- 14.8 Gender and Number: Wherever the context of this Declaration so requires, words used in the masculine gender shall include the feminine and neuter genders; words used in the neuter gender shall include the masculine and feminine genders; words in the singular shall include the plural; and words in the plural shall include the singular.
- 14.9 <u>Captions and Titles</u>: All captions, titles or headings of the Articles and Sections in this Declaration are for the purpose of reference and convenience only and are not to be deemed to limit, modify or otherwise affect any of the provisions hereof or to be used in determining the intent or context thereof.
- by the Board or of any committee or of any meeting is required by applicable law, this Declaration or resolution of the Board to be given to any Owner or Resident then, unless otherwise specified herein or in the resolution of the Board, such notice requirement shall be deemed satisfied if notice of such action or meeting is published three times in any newspaper in general circulation within Apache County. This Section shall not be construed to require that any notice be given if not otherwise required, and shall not prohibit satisfaction of any notice requirement in any other manner. If notice is made by mail, it shall be deemed to have been received twenty-four (24) hours after a copy of the same has been deposited in the United States mail, postage prepaid, addressed to such person at the address given by that person to the Association for the purpose of service of such notice, or to the address of the Lot owned by such person if no address has been given. Notice to the Board shall be delivered or mailed to the office of the Association.
- 14.11 FHA and VA Approval: If this Declaration has been initially approved by FHA or VA in connection with any loan programs made available by FHA or VA and any loans have been made which are insured or guaranteed by FHA or VA, then as long as there is a Class B Membership, the dedication of Common Areas and the amendment or termination of this Declaration will require the prior approval of FHA or VA as applicable, unless the need for such approval has been waived by FHA or VA.
- 14.12 Litigation: No judicial or administrative proceeding shall be commenced or prosecuted by the Association unless approved by Members holding seventy-five (75%) percent of the outstanding votes. This Section shall not apply, however, to (a) actions brought by the Association to enforce the provisions of this Declaration (including, without limitation, the foreclosure of

liens), (b) the imposition and collection of Assessments as provided in Article VII hereof, (c) proceedings involving challenges to taxation, or (d) counterclaims brought by the Association in proceedings instituted against it. This Section shall not be amended unless such amendment is made by the Declarant or is approved by the percentage votes necessary to institute proceedings as provided above.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, ESCUDILLA CATTLE COMPANY, an Arizona Limited Partnership, has hereunto caused its name to be signed by the signature of its duly authorized official as of the day and year first above written.

ESCUDILLA CATTLE COMPANY, an Arizona Limited Partnership, By Its General Partner, ESCUDILLA MANAGEMENT CORP., an Arizona corporation,

Its Disident

STATE OF ARIZONA )

Apache ) ss.

County of Maricopa )

This instrument was acknowledged before me this 3rd of June, 19934 by J. Harris Crosby

President of ESCUDILLA MANAGEMENT CORP., an Artz corporation.

Notary Public