

WOMEN IN THE WIND, INC.
INTERNATIONAL BYLAWS

*Revised January 2012

ARTICLE 1 - NAME

The name of this organization shall be WOMEN IN THE WIND, Inc.; a private, non-profit corporation.

ARTICLE 2 - LOGO

The club logo shall be a front view of a woman riding a motorcycle; the organization name is spelled out above the logo in a circular style.

ARTICLE 3 - PURPOSE

The purposes of the organization are:

- A. To unite women motorcyclists with friends of common interest.
- B. To promote a positive image to the public of women on motorcycles.
- C. To help educate its members on motorcycle safety and maintenance.

ARTICLE 4 - MEMBERSHIP

Types of membership shall consist of:

Chapter members:

- A. Chapter membership is open to women who own and/or operate a motorcycle of any make.
- B. Chapter membership requires that the member shall hold a lawful motorcycle driving endorsement or permit.
- C. Members of chapters in the United States shall pay *\$20 in dues to the international treasurer (See Article 7, section 3)
- D. Members of chapters in Canada shall pay \$20 US and all chapter members outside of the US shall pay \$25 US in dues to the international treasurer (See Article 7, section 2)
- E. Chapter membership shall be renewed by March 22 of each year.
- F. New chapter members' dues are prorated based on the date joined (See Article 7, section 3)
- G. Chapter members in good standing are entitled to full privileges and may purchase and wear club logo products.
- H. Each chapter member receives a copy of each newsletter published during the period she is a member in good standing.
- I. First year chapter members will receive a club logo patch at no extra charge. (Small patch only.)
- J. For each year dues are paid, the chapter member receives a membership card.
- K. Each chapter may, at its own option, include one non-riding member for each 5 riding members into its chapter, maximum of three non-riding members per chapter. Sections C through J of this Article shall apply to these members.

Associate members:

- A. Associate membership is open to women who ride a motorcycle or are interested in learning more about female related activities in the motorcycling world.
- B. An associate member is one who is not involved in any chapter's

activities; if she is involved in chapter activities, she is considered a chapter member by WITW and shall submit dues to WITW as required of a chapter member.

- C. Associate members in the U.S. shall pay \$15 dues per year to the international treasurer; Canadian associate members shall pay \$20 US; those who reside outside of the U. S. or Canada shall pay \$25 US funds per year.
- D. If an associate member joins a chapter, her associate dues are applied toward dues required of chapter members.
- E. Associate membership is renewable one year from the date that WITW received the initial associate dues.
- F. Each associate member receives a copy of each newsletter published during the period for which she pays dues.
- G. Associate members are invited to international events.
- H. Associate members do not have voting rights and may not hold international office.
- I. Associate members may buy and wear all club logo products except for logo patches of any size.

Honorary members:

- A. An honorary member may be nominated by a chapter or associate member.
- B. An honorary member must meet a "special circumstance" to be eligible, such as great contribution.
- C. Honorary members are lifetime members of WITW International, regardless of whether she is a chapter member.
- D. Individual chapters may not have honorary members under this section. If a chapter chooses to have its own honorary member, that chapter is responsible for her chapter dues and she is considered a chapter member by WITW.
- E. Honorary members receive the WITW newsletter.
- F. Honorary members receive one club patch (small) and one WITW pin at no charge.
- G. Honorary members may buy any logo printed products.
- H. Honorary members are invited to all international events.
- I. At no time shall there be more than 10 honorary members in WITW.

ARTICLE 5 - INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS

International officers and their duties are:

President

- A. Preside over international meetings.
- B. Organize officer meetings when she determines one to be Supervise general affairs of the club.
- C. Appoint committees as needed.
- D. Oversee and approve new chapterships.
- E. Maintain bylaws, incorporating changes and updates.
- F. Write a column for each issue of the newsletter.

Vice President

- A. Assist president in all aspects.
- B. Fill in any office if post is vacated.

Secretary

- A. Take minutes at each international meeting.
- B. Prepare minutes and notes of the meetings for the newsletter.
- C. Prepare and send packets to new chapters.
- D. Responsible for the annual Safe Mileage Contest.

Treasurer

- A. Collect chapter and associate dues.
- B. Keep itemized account of all international monies.
- C. Supply each chapter with a copy of the annual treasury report.
- D. Order club logo merchandise and collect money for its distribution to members.

Newsletter Editor

- A. Collect articles submitted by members.
- B. Edit, design, and build international newsletter.
- C. Work with officers and publisher regarding printing and distribution

Web Mistress

- A. Maintain the womeninthewind.org website.

Canadian Coordinator

- A. Serve as the main contact for existing and prospective members and chapters in Canada.
- B. Assist with the formation of new chapters in Canada.

Safety Coordinator

- A. Submit safety related articles for each newsletter.
- B. May present a safety talk at international meetings.

Maintenance Coordinator

- A. Submit basic motorcycle maintenance ideas for each newsletter.
- B. May present a motorcycle maintenance talk at international meetings.

Motorcycle Rights Coordinator

- A. Submit motorcycle rights information for each newsletter.
- B. May present a motorcycle rights talk at international meetings.

ARTICLE 6 - NEW CHAPTERS

Basic requirements of a new Chapter are to:

- A. Make request to the international president and/or treasurer.
 - 1. Include proposed chapter name.
 - 2. Include a list of names and addresses of members.
 - B. Serve a minimum of three months as a probationary chapter.
 - C. Submit to the international president and/or treasurer results of at least three meetings or runs, including copies of flyers sent to prospective members.
 - D. Have at least three charter members.
 - E. Send applicable dues fee for each chapter member to the international treasurer. (see Article 4, section 2).
 - F. During probationary period, members have the same rights and privileges as associate members.
 - G. If a new chapter wishes to organize within 50 miles of an existing chapter, a formal meeting including both chapters should occur.
- 1. *US chapter members - *\$20 per member per year
 - 2. Canadian chapter members - \$20 US funds
 - 3. Chapter members outside of the U.S. and Canada - \$25 US funds.
 - C. All chapter dues are payable on March 22 of each year.
 - D. *Dues for new chapter members are prorated as follows:
If received between:
 - 1. *March 22 and June 30, dues are as stated above;
 - 2. *July 1 and September 30 - \$15
 - 3. *October 1 and December 31- \$10
 - 4. *January 1 and March 21—\$5
 - E. Each chapter shall maintain names and addresses of all chapter members, informing the international secretary and newsletter editor of any changes.
 - F. Each chapter shall maintain a minimum of three members.
 - G. Each chapter shall submit input to the newsletter.
 - H. Chapter members shall represent themselves, first and foremost, as members of Women in the Wind, and secondly, as a chapter. This is to be reflected in any and all representations made by the chapter, including, but not limited to; web pages, printed material such as flyers, advertising, chapter stationary or business cards, and articles of clothing or accessories.
 - I. The word “chapter” must be used with the chapter name, anywhere the chapter name is used, along with the words, “Women in the Wind.”
 - J. A chapter name must be sufficiently unique from existing ones as so as not to cause a likelihood of confusion.
 - K. A chapter that no longer belongs to the organization cannot use the WOMEN IN THE WIND name or logo.
 - L. A chapter member who is no longer a member of her chapter must surrender her logo back patch to her chapter. A former member who does not surrender her logo back patch, including each member of a dissolved chapter, is considered not in good standing, and will not be allowed to renew her membership, whether it is as an associate, in another chapter, or to start a new chapter, until the back patch is returned to the chapter. An exception can be made if a chapter gives its approval that the former member keep her patch. It is the responsibility of the chapter to inform the international officers when a former chapter member does not surrender her back patch.
 - M. A new or existing chapter may not choose or change the color on its back patch to the same color as an existing chapter within 50 miles, without approval from the existing chapter that is already wearing that color.
 - N. It is the responsibility of each chapter to police and control its own members at meetings, rides and any public event.
 - O. Each chapter may, but is not required to, have its own treasury and officers.
 - P. Each chapter may, but is not required to, draw up its own bylaws to be used on a local basis.
 - Q. A chapter may not create and use its own logo. The only exception is if a chapter already has an existing approved logo, it may ONLY be used on a patch no larger than 16 square inches, and only on an article of clothing that displays the WITW back patch. Any chapter using an existing approved logo in violation of these bylaws, or using an unapproved chapter logo, is subject to sanctions according to Article 14. No new chapter logos will be approved.

ARTICLE 7 - FULL CHAPTERS

Chapter responsibilities and guidelines:

- A. The head of each chapter may have the title of Coordinator or President; whichever the chapter prefers.
- B. Each chapter shall submit dues to the international treasurer as follows:

ARTICLE 8 - LOGO PRODUCTS

Guidelines for buying and producing logo items:

- A. All logo items must be purchased through the organization.
- B. Permission must be given to individual chapters to produce an original logo printed item for sale to members; that chapter then has exclusive rights to produce and sell that item.
- C. Logo products may be purchased by members only.

ARTICLE 9 - INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

The newsletter shall be called: "SHOOTIN' THE BREEZE."

The newsletter shall be printed a minimum of four times per year.

The newsletter shall include:

- A. News from each chapter.
- B. Articles and biographies from associate members.
- C. Editorials from international officers.
- D. News of club business and events.
- E. Want ads from members (no charge).
- F. Personal messages by members.
- G. Photos, jokes, etc.

ARTICLE 10 - INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

International meetings shall include:

- A. Summer ride-in meeting.
- B. Winter meeting.
- C. Officers meeting.
- D. Meetings are hosted by an approved, volunteering chapter, which chapter is responsible to organize the meeting.
- E. WITW members and guests of members shall obey all laws, including those pertaining to not riding while under the influence of alcohol; drug use is not tolerated. Carrying firearms or weapons, even where legal, are seriously discouraged.
- F. After attending an international meeting, the international officers and newsletter editor shall be reimbursed for their registration fees and one way mileage. Mileage reimbursement is calculated using the most direct route, at a rate of \$10 per 100 miles traveled.

ARTICLE 11 - ELECTION OF INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS

- A. Election of officers shall be held at alternating summer international meetings.
- B. Nominations shall be announced in the newsletter.
- C. Newly elected officers take office immediately.
- D. Terms shall be two years, unless the next election is postponed.
- E. In such case, the term continues until an election can be arranged.

ARTICLE 12 - VOTING PROCEDURES; INTERNATIONAL ELECTIONS

- A. All voting shall be by ballot.
- B. Absentee ballots with guidelines are published in the newsletter.
- C. All chapter members in attendance, who did not submit an absentee ballot, shall receive a ballot before the international meeting at which the election takes place.
- D. Properly submitted absentee ballots are counted along with the ballots cast at the international meeting.

ARTICLE 13 - ALTERATIONS OF BYLAWS

- A. All articles included in the bylaws may be altered or deleted.
- B. Proposed changes of bylaws can be made only by chapter members.
- C. A chapter member wishing to alter, delete, or add bylaws must inform the international president of the proposal; the president shall organize a discussion and vote at the following international meeting.
- D. Majority vote shall prevail.

ARTICLE 14 - SANCTIONS FOR BYLAW VIOLATIONS

- A. First violation: One-year Disciplinary Probation, listed in newsletter for one year, under a heading of the same name and a \$100 fine.
 - 1. For selling an approved logo for an unapproved usage, approval for the logo item is revoked and the chapter is not allowed to sell any logo item during the one-year probationary period.
- B. Second violation: Disciplinary Probation and a \$500 fine.
- C. Third violation: chapter expulsion.
- D. Sanctions are imposed on chapters, not individual members.
- E. A chapter is responsible for the actions of its members.

ARTICLE 15 - EXPULSION OF MEMBERS AND CHAPTERS

- A. Any chapter membership or associate membership may be revoked if the chapter or member is not promoting Article 3, section 2.
- B. Any chapter may be withdrawn by international officers if Article 3 is not promoted, or in accordance with Article 14.
- C. Chapter officers may revoke membership of its own chapter members.
- D. International officers may revoke membership of an associate or chapter member.