

# Women in the Wind, International, Inc.

## International Bylaws

Revised 8-5-17

### ARTICLE 1 - NAME

The name of this organization shall be WOMEN IN THE WIND INTERNATIONAL, INC.; an Ohio private corporation.

### ARTICLE 2 - LOGO

The 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 (trademarked in 2004).

### 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 all chapters shall pay \$20 in dues (U.S. Funds) to the International Treasurer (See Article 7, Section B). [The dues listed above begin March 22, 2016].
- D. Chapter membership shall be renewed by March 22 of each year.
- E. New chapter members' dues are prorated based on the date joined (See Article 7, Section D).
- F. Chapter members in good standing are entitled to full privileges and may purchase and wear WITW logo products.
- G. Each chapter member receives a copy of each newsletter published during the period she is a member in good standing.
- H. First year chapter members will receive a WITW logo patch at no extra charge (small patch only).
- I. For each year dues are paid, the chapter member receives a membership card.

- J. Each chapter may, at its own option, include one non-riding member for each five 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 both the United States and outside the U.S. shall pay \$15 dues (U.S. Funds) per year to the International Treasurer
- 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, delivered digitally to members outside the U.S., 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 WITW logo products except for logo patches of any size.

#### Honorary members:

- A. An honorary member may be nominated by a chapter or an 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 newsletter.
- F. Honorary members receive one WITW patch (small) and one WITW pin at no charge.
- G. Honorary members may buy any WITW logo merchandise.
- H. Honorary members are invited to all international events.
- I. At no time, shall there be more than 10 honorary members in WITW.

#### **Legacy Member**

- A. A Chapter Member who meets the following criteria
  - 1. Paid membership for twenty five (25) years cumulative
  - 2. Served in leadership as an officer in either a local or international capacity
  - 3. Participated in charitable works with the organization
  - 4. Rode their motorcycle to five (5) international meetings
- B. Candidates for Legacy membership shall submit a request for Legacy member status to the Executive Officers for review and approval.
- C. Legacy members shall have their international dues covered by the organization.
- D. Legacy members shall enjoy all privileges of a Chapter member.

### **ARTICLE 5 - INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS**

#### **International officers and their duties are:**

##### **Executive Officers:**

##### **President**

- A. Preside over international meetings.
- B. Organize officer meetings when she determines one to be necessary.
- C. Supervise general affairs of the organization.
- D. Appoint committees as needed.
- E. Oversee and approve the formation of all new chapters.
- F. Maintain bylaws, incorporating changes and updates.
- G. 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.
- C. Will accept requests and oversee the process of Women in the Wind merchandise being produced.
- D. Will enforce sanctions upon any chapter not following bylaws related to Article 8.

##### **Secretary**

- A. Take minutes at international and officers meetings.
- B. Prepare minutes and notes of the meetings for the newsletter.
- C. Responsible for the annual Safe Mileage Contest.

##### **Treasurer**

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

##### **Founder**

- A. Honorary Office to be held in perpetuity by Founder Becky Brown.

##### **Officers**

##### **Canadian Administrator**

- 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.

##### **European Administrator**

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

##### **Historian**

- A. Conduct and document historical research on the organization's past.
- B. Document future accomplishments, activities, and growth of the organization.
- C. Publish and/or present all findings to the membership.
- D. Oversee the Historical Committee.

### **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 International website.

### **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 start-up request to the International President.
  - 1. Include proposed chapter name.
  - 2. A chapter name must be sufficiently unique from existing chapters so as not to cause confusion. (Previously written under Article 7).
  - 3. 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 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 for each chapter member to the International Treasurer (see Article 4, Section C).
- F. During the probationary period, members have the same rights and privileges as associate members; with the exception that members moving from an established chapter:
  - 1) Will retain their voting rights

2) May hold an International Officer position

3) May continue to wear the small round patch.

- G. If a new chapter wishes to organize within 50 miles of an existing chapter, a formal meeting including both chapters should occur.

## **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 year, each chapter shall submit dues to the international treasurer as follows:
  - 1) Chapter members - \$20 per member
  - 2) Chapter members outside the U.S. shall make their dues payable in U.S. funds. Chapter dues are payable on March 22 each year.
- C. Dues for new chapter members are prorated in U.S. Funds as follows: If received between:
  - 1) March 22 and June 30:  
\$20 –Members
  - 2) July 1 and September 30:  
\$15 –Members
  - 3) October 1 and December 31:  
\$10 –Members
  - 4) January 1 and March 21:  
\$5 –Members
- D. Each chapter shall maintain names and addresses of all chapter members, informing the international treasurer, newsletter editor and web mistress of any changes.
- E. Each chapter shall maintain a minimum of three members.
- F. Each chapter shall submit input to the newsletter.
- G. 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.
- H. The words “Women in the Wind” and “Chapter” must always be used with the chapter name; everywhere the chapter name is used, along with the words “Women in the Wind.”
- I. A chapter that no longer belongs to the organization cannot use the WOMEN IN THE

WIND name or logo.

- J. A chapter member who is no longer a member of her chapter yet possesses a chapter back patch may keep her chapter back patch for memorabilia purposes only, and the back patch is no longer to be worn. However, if said member is deemed not in good standing by the International Board, said permission to keep a back patch may be revoked.
- K. 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.
- L. It is the responsibility of each chapter to police and control its own members at meetings, rides and any public event.
- M. Each chapter may, but is not required to, have its own treasury and officers.
- N. Each chapter may, but is not required to, draw up its own bylaws to be used locally and in addition to the international bylaws. Chapter bylaws should not be written to replace the international bylaws.
- O. 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 after January 31, 2009.

#### **ARTICLE 8 – MERCHANDISE**

Women in the Wind Merchandise includes any item with the words “Women in the Wind”, the letters “WITW” and our registered trademarked logo (see Article 2)

Guidelines for buying and producing items:

- A. All Women in the Wind merchandise must be purchased through the organization.
- B. Permission must be given to individual chapters by the organization to produce merchandise for rights to produce and distribute that item.
- C. WITW merchandise may be purchased, used, and/or worn by members only.
- D. International Event and Chapter Event shirts,

with Women in the Wind, WITW and our trademarked logo, may be purchased and worn by those attending the events, including men and children.

#### **ARTICLE 9 - INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER**

- A. The newsletter shall be called: "SHOOTIN' THE BREEZE."
- B. The newsletter shall be printed a minimum of four times per year.
- C. The newsletter shall include:
  - 1) News from each contributing chapter.
  - 2) Articles and biographies from associate members.
  - 3) Editorials from international officers.
  - 4) News of the organization's business and events.
  - 5) Want ads from members (no charge).
  - 6) Personal messages by members.
  - 7) 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, is strongly 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 on September

1st following the election allowing for a suitable transition period.

- 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, either electronic or hard copy.
- B. Absentee ballot guidelines are published in the newsletter.
- C. Properly submitted absentee ballots are counted along with the electronic ballots cast during the voting period prior to the international meeting.

**ARTICLE 13 – ALTERATIONS OF BYLAWS**

- A. All articles included in the bylaws may be altered or deleted.
- B. Proposed changes to the 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.
- D. The President shall distribute the proposed change to all Chapters and publish it in the Shootin’ the Breeze newsletter prior to the next international meeting at which a discussion and vote will be conducted.
- E. 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 WITW merchandise item for an unapproved usage, approval for the item is revoked and the chapter is not allowed to sell any WITW merchandise 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 B.
- B. Any chaptership may be revoked by international officers if Article 3 is not promoted, or in accordance with Article 14.
- C. Chapter officers may revoke the chapter membership of its own chapter members.
- D. International officers may revoke membership of an associate or chapter member.