

WISCONSIN STATE PATROL



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, Inc.

By-Laws

By-Laws adopted (August 19, 2011)

Revised June 12, 2012



BY-LAWS

ARTICLE 1 - NAME

The name of this organization shall be: **“Wisconsin State Patrol Alumni Association, Inc.”** hereinafter referred to as the **“WSPAA”**.

ARTICLE 2 - LOCATIONS

The principal place of business of the WSPAA shall be in **The State of Wisconsin** with its main office in the City of Madison, Wisconsin.

ARTICLE 3 - OBJECTIVES, VISION & VALUES

Section 1 - OBJECTIVES:

The WSPAA is a non political and nonprofit organization that exists to perpetuate the heritage of the Wisconsin State Patrol and to provide a mechanism for social and fraternal interaction and communication between and among all of its retired and active employees and the program administrators in the development, furtherance and promotion of programs that enhance police professionalism and highway safety and services to the motoring public.

Section 2 - VISION:The vision of the WSPAA is the promotion of fraternal activity, preservation of history, and the sharing of information amongst the current and former employees of the Wisconsin State Patrol.

Section 3 - OUR CORE VALUES:

- Promote collegiality, fraternity, and fellowship
- Support the mission of the State Patrol
- Honor professional public service
- Respect the diversity of State Patrol experience
- Preserve the heritage of the Wisconsin State Patrol
- Keep members informed about the WSP, the state retirement system, and the activities of current and former WSP employees

ARTICLE 4 - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 – Qualifications

(a) Full Member

Any current employee of the Wisconsin State Patrol (WSP) who has successfully completed initial probation, or any former employee who have met the requirements of initial probation and has honorably terminated his or her employment with the WSP, is eligible to be a full member of the WSPAA. The qualifications of membership to the WSPAA, voting and other rights and privileges of members, and their liability to dues and assessments and method of collection thereof shall be as set forth in the By-Laws.

(b) Associate Membership

Is available to members of the other law enforcement arms and persons who have displayed an interest in, performed a service, or made a contribution to the general betterment of police services and to the Wisconsin State Patrol and who have been nominated for membership by an active member and approved by the Board of Directors. Associate members shall pay the same dues as active members but shall have no voting rights in the WSPAA matters.

(c) Honorary Membership

An Honorary Membership is mainly ceremonial and is granted to any person or organization which is deemed by the Board of Directors to have contributed substantially to the goals and purposes of this association. Selection as an honorary

member shall be upon submission of an appropriate application of a member and approval by the Board of Directors. Honorary members will not be required to pay dues nor will they have voting privileges.

Section 2 – Enrollment and Payment of Dues

- (a) Any applicant meeting the requirements in Section 1 of this Article may be granted membership upon the payment of current due, submittal of signed membership form, and approval by the Board of Directors.
- (b) Full members of the WSPAA shall be required to pay dues, in the amount as determined by the Board of Directors.
- (c) Full members of the WSPAA may be required to pay special assessments at such times and in such amounts as determined by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, subject to the approval of the WSPAA as provided herein after.
- (d) Dues increase shall be as recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by a simple majority of the membership by ballot.

Section 3 – Rights of Members

- (a) Full members of the WSPAA shall have equal voting rights.
- (b) Full members may seek election to WSPAA offices.
- (c) Full members may self nominate for WSPAA offices.

Section 4 – Termination of Membership

- (a) All rights of full membership or associate membership shall cease upon failure to pay required dues or assessments when due.
- (b) All rights of membership shall cease upon death or resignation from the Association.
- (c) Membership may be terminated by the Board of Directors for conduct inconsistent with the visions and values of the WSPAA.

ARTICLE 5 - OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

The officers of the association shall be the President, the Vice President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer. The officers of the WPSAA shall be the Officers of the Board of Directors. Officers shall be elected from the membership of the WSPAA.

Section 1 – President

- (a) The President shall be the chief executive officer and direct the business and affairs of the WPSAA. The President shall be the chairperson of the WSPAA and President of the Board of Directors. The President or designee shall represent the Association at meetings with other organizations.
- (b) The President shall appoint chairpersons of and have general supervision, directions and control of any committees.
- (c) The President shall be the active contact between the Superintendent of the Wisconsin State Patrol, and the heads of other governmental law enforcement agencies and traffic safety advocates.

Section 2 – Vice President

- (a) The Vice President shall act as President and perform all the duties of that office in the absence of the President. The Vice President shall also perform such other duties as may be delegated to the Vice President by the President.

Section 3 – Secretary

- (a) The Secretary shall be secretary of the Board of Directors and of the WSPAA.
- (b) The Secretary shall give, or cause to be given, notice of all meetings of the members and the Board of Directors required by the By-laws.
- (c) The secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the WSPAA and Board of Directors.
- (d) The Secretary shall maintain, or cause to be maintained, the official copies of By-laws.
- (e) The Secretary shall prepare newsletters as appropriate for distribution to the members.

Section 4 – Treasurer

- (a) The Treasurer shall collect and keep all the funds of the WPSAA in the manner prescribed by the Board of Directors.
- (b) The Treasurer shall disburse the funds of the WPSAA in the manner prescribed by the Board of Directors.

- (c) The Treasurer shall keep, or cause to be kept, an accurate accounting of all financial transactions of the WPSAA.
- (d) The Treasurer shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, all financial and tax reports required by the Board of Directors, these By-laws, or civil law.
- (e) The Treasurer shall make all financial records and books available to the Board of Directors upon their demand.
- (f) The Treasurer shall ensure that forms required by tax and civil law are filed in a timely manner.
- (g) The Treasurer shall be bonded.

Section 5 – Membership – Coordinator

- (a) The Membership – Coordinator will be appointed by the President and will serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors.
- (b) The Membership - Coordinator shall keep a register of members showing their names and addresses.
- (c) The Membership - Coordinator shall prepare and distribute annually a directory listing all members.
- (d) The Membership - Coordinator shall distribute all WSPAA newsletters.

Section 6 – General Requirements

- (a) Upon completion of their term of office, the Officers shall turn over all books, documents, records, funds and other property of the WSPAA to their successors.

ARTICLE 6 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The governance and direction of the WSPAA and the control of its assets shall be vested in the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors of the WSPAA shall be comprised of the Officers of the WSPAA and Regional Representatives equal to the number of Regional/Districts areas of the Wisconsin State Patrol.

Section 1 – General Limitations

- (a) The Board of Directors shall be subject to the limitation of these By-Laws, and the laws of the State of Wisconsin as to actions to be authorized and approved by members.
- (b) The Board of Directors shall not authorize any member or other persons to lobby upon its behalf for any political person or organization.
- (c) The Board of Directors will serve terms of two (2) years. They may succeed themselves if they are re-elected by the membership. A member is limited to two (2) consecutive terms in the office for which elected.**
- (d) No person shall be ineligible for election or appointment as a member of the Board by reason of race, color, creed, or sex.**

Sections 2 – General Authority

- (a) All WSPAA powers shall be exercised by, or under the authority of, and the business and affairs of the WSPAA shall be controlled by the Board of Directors.
- (b) The Board of Directors may cooperate with, contract with, or engage in joint action with other persons or organizations to achieve the WSPAA’s objectives.
- (c) The Board of Directors may act as an agent, or appoint an agent, to represent any member or members on any subject matter pertaining to the WSPAA’s objectives.

ARTICLE 7 - Regional Representative

Section 1 – Election and Duties

- (a) Regional Representatives shall be elected from the membership or appointed by the Board of Directors for a term of **2 (two)** years.
- (b) WSPAA Regional Representatives will be assigned to specific WSP regions/districts. They shall function as liaison persons between WSP Commanders and WSPAA members in said regions/districts.
- (c) Regional Representatives’ primary function will be to advance the directives set forth by the Board of Directors and the WSPAA by-laws.

ARTICLE 8 - ELECTIONS AND TERM OF OFFICE

Section 1 – Officers to be elected

- (a) The President, Secretary, and regional Representatives from the Northwest and Southwest Regions shall be elected during the even numbered calendar years for two (2) years by ballot.**
- (b) The Vice President, Treasurer, and Regional Representatives from the Southeast, Northeast, and Northcentral Regions shall be elected during the odd numbered calendar years for two (2) years by ballot.**

Section 2 – Nominations

- (a) Any member seeking office in the WSPAA shall notify the WSPAA officers and supply any qualifications for inclusion with ballot. Failure to provide a qualification statement shall not bar candidacy.
- (b) The names of the candidates shall be sent to all members via **U.S. Postal Service** or Electronic mail at least 30 days prior to the close of balloting.
- (c) If there is only one candidate for a position then that sole candidate is appointed by acclimation and without election. If there are no candidates and the incumbent declines a succeeding term, the President may appoint to fill the vacancy.

ARTICLE 9 - MEETINGS

Section 1 – General

- (a) The meetings of the membership shall be held every year in the fall to install Officers and Directors and/or to conduct such other business as may properly be brought before the meeting.

Section 2 – Special Meetings

- (a) Special meetings of the membership for any purpose or purposes, may be called by the Board of Directors, or shall be held upon petition of 10% of the membership of the WSPAA.
- (b) Special meetings of the membership shall be limited to the purpose or purposes for which called and no other business may be conducted.

- (c) The business of special meetings may also be transacted by secret ballot. The ballots may be distributed via email attachment and returned via U.S. Mail or as designated by, and in accordance with rules established by the Board of Directors.

Section 3 – Notice, Time and Place of Meetings

- (a) Notice of meetings shall be given in writing to members via Email attachment or U.S. Mail, not less than two weeks before such meetings. The day and hour and the exact location of all meetings of the members shall be designated by the Board of Directors, and in the case of a special meeting, the nature of the business to be transacted.

Section 4 – Quorum at the Meetings of Members

- (a) At meetings of the members a quorum for transaction of business shall be achieved if the total members at the meeting constitutive 3% of the members of the WSPAA plus at least two Officers.

Section 5 – Voting at Meetings of Members

- (a) Only **full** members of the WSPAA shall be entitled to vote or act on any business to be transacted.
- (b) Actions taken at a meeting of members become effective immediately unless otherwise specified.

ARTICLE 10 - MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1 – Regular Meetings

Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at such times and such locations and such means as the Board may prescribe. No further notice need be given for such regular meetings.

Section 2 – Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Board of Directors for any purpose(s) may be called at any time by the President or by a majority of the Board of Directors. Call for such special meetings shall specify the time, place, and means of meeting.

Section 3 – Quorum

A majority of members of the Board of Directors as fixed by these By-laws shall be necessary to constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE 11 - AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the By-laws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by any member. The Secretary shall draft the proposed amendment in accordance with the intent of the petition and shall mail written notice of same to the membership at least 30 days prior to the meeting at which it is to be discussed. The proposed amendment shall be discussed at the next meeting or at a special meeting of the Board of Directors and may be ruled out of order or amended in any manner pertinent to the petition by a majority vote of the Board. The finalized proposal shall be voted upon by the membership via U.S. mail. The Secretary shall notify the membership of the results.

ARTICLE 12 - DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution of the WSPAA, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payments of all of the liabilities of the WSPAA, dispose of all of the assets of the WSPAA to the Wisconsin State Patrol Media Center/Library.

APPENDIX

Articles of Organization of the WSPAA

The undersigned, a majority of whom are citizens of the United States of America, desiring to form a Non-Profit Corporation under the Non-Profit Corporation Law of Wisconsin, do hereby certify:

First: The name of the Corporation shall be: ***Wisconsin State Patrol Alumni Association, Inc.*** (WSPAA).

Second: The place in this state where the principal office of the Corporation is to be located is the City of Madison, WI, Dane County.

Third: Said organization is designed to perpetuate the Wisconsin State Patrol traditions, preserve its heritage and develop a social and fraternal organization. It is organized as an American tax exempt, non-profit corporation under the provisions of Section 501 (c) of the United States Internal Revenue code (26 U.S.C.)

The organizing Board of Directors is, Bruce L. Bishop, William A. Harvey, Janet G. Sabatke and Lyle R. Bliss.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names this day of January 28, 2011.

Bruce L. Bishop

William A. Harvey

Janet G. Sabatke

Lyle R. Bliss