

WESTERN OHIO WATERCOLOR SOCIETY BYLAWS

Dated May 6, 1992 (Amended March 17, 2020)

Article I – Name and Purpose

- Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Western Ohio Watercolor Society (“WOWS”).
- Section 2. The purpose of WOWS shall be to further interest in, and add stature to, the use of watercolor and water media for the benefit of each member and to encourage public interest in watercolor and water media.
- Section 3. The terms “watercolor” and “water media” shall include water-based paint, casein, thinned acrylic, gouache, and egg tempura, executed on paper (including synthetic paper like Yupo), canvas, or board, done in an aqueous manner. If mixed media or collage is used on the painting, the predominant medium must be watercolor and/or water media, as described in this section. Water soluble oil paints are not permitted.

Article II – Membership

- Section 1. A member whose dues are paid is a member in good standing.
- Section 2. Charter members are members who attended the September 1974 organizational meeting and who are members in good standing. Charter members may vote and hold office.
- Section 3. Life Members are active members who have been awarded Life Membership by vote of the Executive Board, having all privileges of membership without requirements of payment of dues. “Life Member” is a special honor bestowed upon an active member who has contributed significantly during their membership to further the purpose of WOWS, as stated in Article I, Section 2, above.
- a. Any active member or Executive Board member may nominate another active member to the Executive Board for consideration of this special recognition.
 - b. This nomination must be in writing, outlining and giving the specific contributions the nominee has made to WOWS and be signed by the recommending member.
 - c. The current Executive Board will then consider the nomination and a two-thirds vote of the attending Executive Board is required to grant this honor which would be presented at the following general meeting of the membership.

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- d. Only one Life Member honor may be granted every three (3) years (i.e., 1990, 1993, 1996, etc.), however, there is no requirement that the honor MUST be bestowed every third year automatically, since this honor requires significant and above average contributions by a member of WOWS. The only requirement is there must be a three (3) year interval between any Life Member awards, except as stated in Article II, Section 3.e., below.
- e. If unusual circumstances should warrant a second Life Member nomination in a three (3) year period, that second nomination must be submitted as stated herein to the Executive Board. However, that second nomination must come before the membership and a two-thirds vote of the membership present at that business meeting is required to grant this honor.

Section 4. Honorary Members are individuals who have been awarded honorary membership for exceptional service to WOWS by vote of the Executive Board. Honorary members may attend meetings but shall have no other privileges or responsibilities.

Section 5. Members may vote and hold office.

Article III – Dues

Section 1. Dues shall be determined by the Executive Board and approved by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular business meeting.

Section 2. The fiscal year shall begin May 1 and end April 30 with dues payable by July 1.

Section 3. Members pay dues of \$30 by July 1. Any member whose dues are not paid by July 1 shall not be included in the annual membership roster.

Article IV – Executive Board

Section 1. The Executive Board shall consist of all elected officers, all Standing Committee Chairmen and the immediate Past President.

Section 2. All Charter Members, Life Members and members, all in good standing, are eligible to serve on the Executive Board.

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- Section 3. Election of officers shall take place in April, every two years, beginning in year 2000.
- a. The President shall appoint three members in good standing to act as the nominating committee. This committee shall submit nominations at the April business meeting at which time nominations may be made from the floor.
 1. All officers shall be elected by a majority vote of members present.
 2. All officers shall be installed at the April meeting and shall assume their responsibilities at that time every other year.
 - b. When a vacancy occurs in any elected office the President shall appoint a successor until a new officer is elected at the next business meeting.
 - c. If the President is unable to serve, the Executive Board shall appoint an acting President by majority vote until a new President is elected at the next business meeting.
- Section 4. Officers shall be President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Corresponding Secretary. Term of office shall be two (2) years.
- a. The President shall preside over all meetings, shall appoint committee chairmen and shall sign and endorse checks in the absence of the Treasurer. The President shall host receptions for shows and shall assist in the entertainment of judges and speakers.
 - b. The First Vice-President shall preside in the absence of the President and shall serve as program chairman, planning and acquiring programs for the year and introducing speakers and programs. The program chairman shall confirm dates and location of meetings and provide necessary equipment for programs.
 - c. The Second Vice-President shall serve as show chairman, confirming dates and locations of shows, securing judges and assuring that entries conform to the purpose of WOWS as established in Article I, Section 3 of these by-laws and in the rules of the show. The show chairman shall submit a report of show details to the Executive Board.

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- d. The Treasurer shall receive dues; handle all financial transactions; maintain a bank account; record all income and disbursements; and report at Executive Board and business meetings. The books shall be audited by two members of the Executive Board appointed by the President at the end of the fiscal year.
- e. The Recording Secretary shall record minutes of all Executive Board meetings and shall provide copies of those minutes to each member of the Executive Board prior to the next Executive Board meeting. Said minutes shall be submitted into the record at the next Executive Board meeting, or as soon thereafter as convenient. The Recording Secretary shall mail rosters when dues are paid, in cooperation with the membership chairman and shall notify the board of all changes in membership status.
- f. The Corresponding Secretary shall attend to all correspondence with the membership, including the email, website, FaceBook page, printing and mailing/e-mailing of the monthly newsletter to all members and shall assist in the mailing/e-mailing of entry forms for shows for non-email members.

Section 5. Committees shall be membership, publicity, nominating, social and workshop and shall consist of a chairperson appointed by the President and committee members appointed by the chairperson, unless otherwise selected to assist in the executive committee responsibilities.

- a. The membership committee shall collect dues and create a list of the names of the members who have paid dues. The membership chairman shall maintain records of members with correct addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses and shall coordinate with the Corresponding Secretary. Corresponding Secretary regarding compiling and printing the roster before the first meeting in October.
- b. The publicity committee shall publicize shows and major events in regional news media.
- c. The nominating committee shall prepare the slate of nominees for office, securing the consent of the nominee and notifying the Executive Board before the March board meeting. The nominating committee shall submit nominations and introduce nominees to the membership at the business meeting in April every other year.

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- d. The social committee shall plan parties and arrange refreshments for meetings and shall assist the Executive Board with the entertainment of speakers and judges. The social committee shall provide nametags for the membership at all meetings.
- e. The workshop committee shall serve as the coordinator of workshops by confirming dates for the event(s); selecting the workshop director; setting rates with the advice and consent of the Executive Board; arranging for the necessary publicity; studio; collecting fees, and assisting with the conduct of the workshop.

Article V – Meetings

- Section 1. General membership meeting shall be held March, April, May, June, September October on the third Tuesday of every month, except for January, February, July and August when no meeting will be held.
 - a. WOWS shall hold business meetings in September and April.
 - b. Additional business meetings may be called during any general membership meeting at the discretion of the Executive Board or upon request of a majority of voting members present at the meeting.
- Section 2. Executive Board meetings shall be held immediately preceding general membership meetings or when the business of WOWS requires action.
- Section 3. The membership shall be informed of meetings by the Corresponding Secretary in the newsletter.
- Section 4. A quorum shall consist of the voting members present at any business meeting.
- Section 5. Questions of order shall be resolved according to Roberts Rules of Order Revised.

Article VI – Amendments

- Section 1. The Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at any business meeting.