

# **CHARTER OF THE SOCIETY OF WILD WEASELS**

## **ARTICLE I – NAME, PURPOSE, AND AUTHORITY**

The organizational name is the Society of Wild Weasels (SOWW). The SOWW is a non-profit military fraternal organization established to educate, preserve, and perpetuate the Wild Weasel (WW) Concept—destruction of hostile electronic emitters. The SOWW is established for those who have an interest in or have participated in the WW program, concept, and mission. By filing Articles of Incorporation with the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, Government of the District of Columbia, Washington, DC on 10 March 2000 the Society became a Washington, DC non-profit corporation.

## **ARTICLE II – INSIGNIA**

The official emblem of the SOWW is a silver rhombus skewed to the right with rounded corners and a broad sky-blue lightening bolt signifying the Electronic Warfare Mission superimposed with a caricature of a standing angry Weasel named “Willie.” Willie is adorned with aviator goggles, flowing golden scarf, gold lightening stroke shield and harness with gold tipped javelin weapon in the right paw, and control stick in the left paw. The Latin slogan “CAVE PUTORIUM,” loosely translated to “Beware the Wild Weasel,” is inscribed across the bottom in bold black script.

## **ARTICLE III – ORGANIZATION**

The SOWW consists of a Board of Officers, Committees formed as necessary, Local Force WW Organizations, and the membership as described in Article VIII.

1. Board of Officers: The Board of Officers (Board) is comprised of four (4) elected officials—the Chief, Deputy Chief, Treasurer, and General Secretary—plus the Chief WW Emeritus. The Board has general authority and operational control of the SOWW, its affairs, and shall execute the powers entrusted by its members, this charter, Articles of Incorporation, and By-Laws. The delegated and vested powers of any officer, member, committee, agent, or employee of the SOWW may be limited, altered, or revoked by the Board. Operating By-Laws describing the management responsibilities and processes of the SOWW will be developed and approved by a majority vote of the Board.
2. Committees: The Chief may form committees to advise or mentor the Board and assist with the day-to-day operation of the SOWW. Committee members appointed by the Chief, are approved by the Board, and serve until they resign or are requested to resign by a majority vote of the Board.
3. Local Force Wild Weasel Organizations: Local Force WW Organizations may be formed to facilitate members in carrying out the purpose of the SOWW.

## **ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS**

General Membership Meetings occur as directed by the Board and are mandatory at every reunion.

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## ARTICLE V – DUES

Annual Regular dues, Life Membership dues, and other fees are determined and set by the Board, and documented in the By-Laws.

## ARTICLE VI – SOCIETY FUNDS

SOWW funds shall be invested in such financial institutions as the Board may determine—to only be withdrawn as determined by the Board under special or general authority. The Treasurer is responsible for the accounting of funds, financial reporting, and tax filing.

## ARTICLE VII – POSITIONS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The following are the duties and responsibilities of the elected members who make up the Board:

1. Chief Wild Weasel: Has general charge of and control over the affairs of the SOWW and final Board decisions. Presides over Board, Committee, and Membership Meetings, interprets the Charter, and represents the SOWW as necessary.
2. Deputy Chief Wild Weasel: Fills in for the Chief as required. Performs duties assigned or delegated by the Chief WW.
3. General Secretary: Principle Communications and Administrative Officer.
4. Treasurer: Responsible for managing SOWW financial resources. Develops and maintains appropriate financial records, audits, and reports as required by law.
5. Chief Wild Weasel Emeritus: The immediate past Chief WW. Serves as primary advisor to the Chief, Board, and the SOWW General Membership on precedents and considerations pertaining to their decisions and actions.

The following are the duties and responsibilities of the key committee members appointed by the Chief to advise the Chief and assist the Board with the day-to-day operations of the Society:

1. Wild Weasel-At-Large: Represents General Membership issues to the Board. Coordinates membership activities and leads SOWW outreach activities. Assists Board as necessary.
2. Historian: Responsible for coordinating the collection and documentation of the WW history. Coordinates with museums and historical agencies displaying and archiving WW memorabilia.
3. Technical Director: Oversees the SOWW technical requirements and coordinates and contracts for automated services.
4. General Counsel: Attorney-In-Fact and SOWW General Counsel authorized to execute Powers of Attorney.
5. General Member: Responsible for long-range planning and advice. Assists the WW-At-Large in representing member issues, outreach, and recruiting activities.

SOWW Officers are empowered to execute their described duties, but such officers, singly, are not authorized to commit the SOWW or any members to pecuniary liability without due consideration and approval by a majority of the Board.

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Obligations created by officers or employees on behalf of the SOWW shall be binding upon the SOWW provided that no obligation, contract or liability shall attain in favor of the party contracted with or against any officer, member, agent or employee of the SOWW, but that such party contracted with shall look solely to the assets of the SOWW for satisfaction of such contract, and the SOWW will defend and indemnify any such individual acting within his authority on behalf of the corporation.

## ARTICLE VIII – MEMBERSHIP

Members or former members of the United States Armed Forces, Industry, Civil Service, and other organizations or individuals as defined below are eligible for regular SOWW membership:

1. U.S. Armed Forces: A military member that actively participated in the WW Hunter-Killer Mission or contributed to the WW program, concept, or mission.
2. Industry: Made unique contributions to the WW program, concept, or mission as a contractor.
3. Civil Service: Contributed to the WW program, concept, or mission as a U.S. Government civilian employee.
4. Other Organizations or Individuals: Supporters of the WW program, concept, or mission other than those defined above, as determined by UNANIMOUS VOTE of the Board.

Regular Member:

1. Life Member: Active member that has paid life membership dues. A WW who becomes a Prisoner of War (POW) during the execution of a WW Mission is automatically a Life Member.
2. Active Member: Dues paid through 31 December of the current year.
3. Inactive Member: Dues in arrears more than six months.

Honorary Member: Individuals that have an interest, belief, and support the SOWW and WW Concept but do not qualify for Regular Membership. Selection requires unanimous vote of the Board.

Surviving Family Member: Family members of a deceased member, eligible to participate in SOWW functions.

Ermine: Title given to a member of the spouse's SOWW auxiliary.

## ARTICLE IX – MEMBERSHIP RIGHTS

Active and Life Members are authorized all rights and privileges of the SOWW. Any Active or Life Member may run for office, submit nominations for office, and submit proposals for Charter revision or other business to be considered and voted upon by the Board or Membership. Members proposing alterations or amendments to the Charter to the Board must present them in writing, with proper justification, at least 60 days prior to a scheduled General Membership Meeting.

## ARTICLE X – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Nominated members and elected or appointed officers must be Regular Members (Active or Life Members) in good standing. Good standing is determined by a majority vote of the Board.

Elections for officers are normally conducted during General Membership meetings. Once elected, officers serve a four-year (4) term, and may be elected again.

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Should an office become vacant, a replacement shall be appointed by the Chief WW to serve the remaining term of the vacated office. If there is a Chief WW vacancy, the Deputy Chief WW fills the position until the next election. The Deputy Chief position may either remain vacant or the Board may appoint an interim until the next election.

The Chief WW, with the concurrence of a majority of the Board, may replace an appointed officer.

## **ARTICLE XI – VOTING**

Active and Life Members are eligible and entitled to one (1) vote.

Elections are normally conducted during General Membership Meetings. If this is not practical, the Board can determine an alternate voting method – by mail, by e-mail, or some other means.

Active and Life Members attending General Membership Meetings shall constitute a quorum for transacting business.

A simple majority vote shall be required to elect officers.

A two-thirds (2/3) majority of eligible members is required to approve or change the charter, alter delegated powers, or to remove an elected officer.