

The Bylaws Committee and your current Board of Directors have reviewed the Bylaws and submits their revisions to the Membership for approval. The revisions substantially simplify and reorganize the Bylaws. Areas of specific change 1) clarify the composition and duties of the Board of Directors, 2) clarify the Categories of Membership, and 3) establish a Nominating Committee. Members are asked to read the whole document and vote on it in its entirety. The current bylaws (Revised 2008) are available for comparison on the [WSPA web page](#).

## WOMEN SOARING PILOTS ASSOCIATION BYLAWS

### ARTICLE I – Name and Purpose

- A. The name of the Association is Women Soaring Pilots Association, a Division of the Soaring Society of America.
- B. The Association is a 501c3 organization, incorporated in the State of Texas.
- C. The purpose of the Association is to encourage the growth of women's participation in soaring.
- D. To that end, the Association may:
  - 1. Establish and maintain a community of women soaring pilots through print and online media.
  - 2. Sponsor soaring seminars.
  - 3. Offer scholarships to women for flight training and participation in soaring activities.
  - 4. Establish handicapped records to recognize women's soaring achievements.
  - 5. Support members who fly in soaring competitions.
  - 6. Represent women soaring pilots at conventions, trade shows, and other venues.

### ARTICLE II – Membership

- A. All women glider pilots, holding at least a student pilot certificate, are eligible for Full or Life membership in the Association.
- B. To maintain Division status in the Soaring Society in America at least a majority of U.S. members must also be members of the Soaring Society of America.
- C. Categories of membership
  - 1. Full Member: a woman glider pilot who has paid annual dues. As a Full Member, she is entitled to a voice in the affairs of the Association, is entitled to one vote in all elections, may attend meetings and seminars, may apply for scholarships and records, and will receive the Association newsletter.
  - 2. Associate Member: a person interested in supporting the organization but who does not qualify for Full Membership. Associate Members pay dues, receive the Association newsletter, and may attend meetings and seminars, but are not eligible to vote or apply for scholarships or records.
  - 3. Life Member: Full or Associate Member who pays dues in advance for a specified number of years as outlined in the Standing Rules. Only Life Members who are Full Members are entitled to vote or apply for scholarships or awards.
  - 4. Honorary Member: a person conferred by the Board of Directors to be worthy of the honor due to contribution to the advancement of the interests of the Association. This person does not pay dues. The period of honorary membership shall be determined by the Board. Honorary Members receive the Association newsletter and may attend meetings and seminars, but are not eligible to vote or apply for scholarships unless they also meet the requirements of Full Membership.

### ARTICLE III – Dues

Dues of the membership shall be determined by the Board of Directors, approved by the membership and posted in the Standing Rules.

### ARTICLE IV – WSPA Regions

For administration and representation, the WSPA membership is divided into four geographical regions: Eastern, Central, Western North America and International. These regions are defined in the Standing Rules.

### ARTICLE V – Board of Directors

- A. The Board of Directors shall be made up of seven elected regional representatives. When possible, two shall be from each North American region and one from the International region.
- B. The terms of all elected representatives shall be for two years, ending when successors have been duly elected. Terms begin January 1, following the November election.

- C. The positions of President, Vice-President, and Secretary will be chosen from within the seven representatives by vote from the seven.
- D. The Treasurer shall be by Presidential Appointment after the vote of the Board, for a biennial period and shall be a non-voting member
- E. The positions of President, Vice-President and Secretary will constitute the Executive Committee.
- F. Should a vacancy occur to any elected office, such vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the term by the Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE VI – Duties of Officers and Directors**

- A. Duties of the President:
  - 1. Preside at meetings of the Association, Board of Directors, and Executive Committee
  - 2. Appoint all committees not otherwise provided for in these Bylaws
  - 3. Perform such other duties as the advancement of the Association may require.
- B. Duties of the Vice President:
  - 1. Coordinate the Women Soaring Seminars
  - 2. Serve as a liaison to committees as requested by the President
  - 3. Preside at meetings when the President cannot be present.
- C. Duties of the Secretary:
  - 1. Conduct Correspondence of the Association
  - 2. Keep minutes of the Association’s annual meeting, Board of Director meetings and Executive Committee meetings
  - 3. Maintain a file of e-mail and/or conference call meetings of Board of Directors or Executive Committee
  - 4. Serve as a liaison to committees as requested by the President.
- D. Duties of the Treasurer:
  - 1. Receive money from those owing such funds and deposit such funds in the name of the Association
  - 2. Disburse funds in payment of accounts against the Association as authorized by the President, Executive Committee or a majority of the Board of Directors
  - 3. Collect dues and maintain a list of paid members
  - 4. Submit a monthly report of financial activity to the Executive Committee and a quarterly balance sheet and Profit and Loss statement to the entire Board of Directors
  - 5. Arrange for an annual audit of the Association’s financial affairs
  - 6. File the required Federal and State income tax returns
  - 7. Serve as a liaison to committees as requested by the President.
- E. Duties of the non-officer Regional Representatives:
  - 1. Coordinate the advancement of the Association within the region they represent.
  - 2. Encourage the growth of the Association.
  - 3. Participate in Board meetings.
  - 4. Serve as liaisons to committees as requested by the President.

**ARTICLE VII – Elections**

- A. Elections shall be held every two years in November.
- B. Candidates for Board of Directors are selected by the Nominating Committee. Only Full Members of the Association may hold an office.
- C. The slate of candidates shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors, then presented to the Newsletter Editor and the Webmaster for publication.
- D. Ballots are counted by the Webmaster and two other persons appointed by the President.
- E. Election results are published in the January newsletter.
- F. Details of the election process shall be outlined in the Standing Rules.

**ARTICLE VIII – Committees**

- A. Executive Committee
  - 1. Has the authority to conduct the business of the Association
  - 2. Keeps the remaining Board members informed and involved in said business
  - 3. For the purpose of conducting said business, at least three members of the committee are required.
- B. Nominating Committee

1. Shall be three members appointed by the President
  2. Solicits qualified candidates for the Board of Directors
  3. Submits initial slate of candidates to the Board of Directors
  4. Prepares the official Slate of Candidates after approval of the Board and submits to the Newsletter Editor and Webmaster.
- C. Scholarship Committee:
- 1) Shall be appointed by the President
  - 2) Determines with the board the amount for scholarships each year
  - 3) Shall determine the winners for each scholarship for the year
  - 4) Shall report to the board.
- D. Public Relations Committee: Shall be of three members appointed by the President: Chair, Scholarship Chair and Editor of "Hangar Soaring"
- E. Records Committee: Consists of the Association Record Keepers who shall be appointed by the Board for an indefinite term and shall be chaired by the President. The committee shall process and award Anne M. Lindbergh Challenge Trophy.
- F. Other committees may be established or dissolved to meet the needs of the Association.
- G. Details of committee functions may be outlined in the Standing Rules.

#### **ARTICLE IX – Meetings**

- A. An annual membership meeting shall be held.
- B. For the purpose of conducting business at the annual meeting, a quorum is defined as the number of Full Members present.

#### **ARTICLE X – Publications**

- A. The official newsletter of the Association shall be called HANGAR SOARING . It shall be distributed to the membership and others at regular intervals during the year.
- B. The Editor of the newsletter shall:
  1. Be appointed by the Board of Directors
  2. Prepare and distribute the Association newsletter
  3. Maintain a distribution list for the newsletter
  4. Have the authority to reject, in whole or part, any material deemed unsuitable for publication after discussion with the board.
- C. Additional details about the newsletter and the duties of the Editor can be found in the Standing Rules.

#### **ARTICLE XI – Amendments**

- A. These Bylaws shall not be amended, altered, or repealed, unless such changes are:
  1. Submitted in writing to the Board of Directors
  2. Presented to the membership at least 30 days before a call to vote
  3. Approved by a simple majority of those members voting.
- B. Changes so made become effective immediately upon passage. Unchanged articles and provisions shall remain in effect continuously.

#### **ARTICLE XII- Dissolution**

- A. A 2/3 vote of the membership is required for dissolution
- B. Assets of the Association at the time of dissolution shall be used to pay outstanding debts. Any remaining assets shall be donated to the Southwest Soaring Museum.