

BYLAWS OF THE WIL-INTERNATIONAL

ARTICLE I: NAME

This association shall be known WIL-International and will be referred to in the Bylaws as International.

ARTICLE II: STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of International shall be:

SECTION A: To maintain our /international communication, information, education and support network for all members of the Women's Leather community.

SECTION B: To role model the power and pride of all female adults who engage in Safe, Sane and Consensual, sexual expression and encourage those who fight for decriminalization of all sexual acts between consenting adults.

SECTION C: To support individual and organized political activism, visibility and education in order to eradicate stereotypical beliefs, misconceptions and media misrepresentation about the Leather family in the community at large.

SECTION D: To continue providing, through publications, educational material and conferences, a forum for the sharing of knowledge, viewpoints and practices of a diverse network of women.

SECTION E: To promote the success and welfare of individuals, organizations, publications and businesses within our community; especially against threats to their freedom of expression, freedom of the press, rights to free association and right to equal protection under the law.

SECTION F: To welcome Leather women, no matter color, transgendered/transsexuals, the deaf, the physically challenged, the economically disenfranchised, who have been discriminated against or poorly represented within the Leather community.

SECTION G: To attend, promote and support fundraising for deserving defense funds, projects, and clubs, organizations, and/or charities, which have given direct service to the Leather community.

SECTION H: To continue preserving a record of our history, traditions and culture.

ARTICLE III: FISCAL YEAR

International's Fiscal Year shall run from March 1st through February 28th.

ARTICLE IV: POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The POLICIES AND PROCEDURES established by the Executive Board of International shall be used to conduct the business of International.

ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION A: ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership in International shall be open to all females and female identified that understand and support the Statement of Purpose and pay the required dues.
2. Membership shall be determined for women without regard for race, creed, color, religion, marital or relationship status, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, citizenship or any sensory or physical challenge.

SECTION B: CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

1. Individual: Any female or female identified of at least 18 years of age or of the age of consent in her local jurisdiction, whichever is older.
2. Associate: Any male or female person at least 18 years of age or of the age of consent in her local jurisdiction, whichever is older.
3. Commercial: Any not-for-profit organization, business, partnership or similar entity.

SECTION C: PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP

1. Individual members shall be entitled to:
 - a. One vote in all membership elections
 - b. Hold office on the Executive Board
 - c. Propose nominees for the Executive Board
 - d. Receive discounts at International conferences; receive such discounts as Affiliate members offer to individual members of International
 - e. The right to petition for action
 - f. Such other privileges and/or benefits as may be determined by the Executive Board
2. Associate and Commercial Membership shall be entitled to:

- a. Receive discounts at International's conferences and functions not restricted to full voting members only.
- b. Receive vendor space discounts at International's Conferences.
- c. Such other privileges and/or benefits as may be determined by the Executive Board.

SECTION D: DUES

1. All members of International shall be assessed dues annually.
2. Determination of dues amount and manner of payment shall be set by the Executive Board.
3. In cases of financial hardship, dues may be reduced or restructured on an individual basis, according to the POLICIES AND PROCEDURES of the Executive Board.

SECTION E: REVOCATION OF MEMBERSHIP

The Executive Board may revoke by two-thirds (2/3) vote, any membership for cause as determined by that body in accordance to established POLICY AND PROCEDURES.

SECTION F: PROPRIETARY INTEREST IN THE NAME OF International

Privilege to use International name, in part or whole, as well as any other proprietary names, titles and/or logos shall be at the discretion of the Executive Board of International.

ARTICLE VII: EXECUTIVE BOARD

SECTION A: COMPOSITION

The Executive Board shall consist of:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Individual Membership Chair
6. History Keeper

SECTION B: POWERS

All powers vested in International not expressly reserved to the Membership, shall be exercised by the Executive Board.

SECTION C: MEETINGS

1. The Executive Board shall meet at least quarterly on the call of the President or presiding officer, or a majority of the Executive Board. A quorum shall be at least fifty percent (50%) of the Council members.
2. Emergency meetings of the Executive Board may be called without notice.
 - a. At least two-thirds (2/3) of the Executive Board must participate for any decision to be made.
 - b. Any decision made at an emergency meeting must be ratified at the next regular meeting of the Executive Board.

SECTION D: ELECTION

1. The President, Vice President and Secretary shall be elected by the General Membership by Official Mail Ballot for two (2) year terms in accordance with established POLICIES AND PROCEDURES. The Executive Board, based upon merits, shall appoint the Treasurer.
2. The Treasurer, Individual Membership Chair, Commercial Chair, Policy and Procedures Chair and Associate Chair shall be appointed by the Executive Board at the Annual General Membership Meeting for two (2) year terms in accordance with established POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.
3. The History Keeper shall be the immediate past President of International or a former Officer of International, to be appointed and serve as established by International POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.
4. As technology improves in accessibility and security, the Executive Board may move and ratify Internet voting by the General Membership, to complement or to supplant Official Mail Balloting by traditional paper mail.

SECTION E: VACANCY IN OFFICE

Should any Executive Board position become vacant prior to the completion of its term, the position shall be filled in accordance with established POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.

SECTION F: REMOVAL

Any officer or other member of the Executive Board may be removed from office by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the sitting Executive Board in accordance with established POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.

ARTICLE VIII: OFFICERS OF INTERNATIONAL

The officers of International are President, Vice President, History Keeper, Secretary and Treasurer.

ARTICLE IX: COMMITTEES

SECTION A: The Standing Committees of International are:

1. Individual Membership Committee
2. Budget and Finance Committee
3. Policy & Procedures Committee
4. Commercial Members Committee
5. Additional Committees as may be established by the Executive Board

ARTICLE X : MEETINGS

SECTION A: ATTENDANCE

All meetings of International shall be open to any member in good standing, except when the Executive Board meets in Executive Session.

1. The General Membership meeting of International shall be held annually.
2. Quorum is fifteen (15%) of the Individual Membership in good standing.
3. Additional meetings of the General Membership may be called by either the Executive Board or by petition of fifteen (15%) of the individual membership in good standing. Written notice of the meeting, including date, time, location and the proposed agenda must be published at least sixty (60) days prior to the scheduled date of the meeting.

SECTION B: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern International in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any POLICIES AND PROCEDURES International may adopt.

ARTICLE XI: INITIATIVE AND RECALL

SECTION A: INITIATIVE

Any member of International may petition the Executive Board for action.

SECTION B: RECALL

A petition for Recall of any Officer or other member of the Executive Board may be presented by fifteen (15%) of the individual membership in good standing. Recall must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of Mail Ballots returned by the Individual Membership.

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS

SECTION A: PROPOSAL

1. Any member may request in writing a Bylaw change to the Executive Board.
2. Amendments to these Bylaws shall be proposed by the Executive Board, or by Petition of fifteen (15%) of the individual membership in good standing.

SECTION B: PROCEDURE

1. The proposed Amendment(s) and Ballot must be mailed to the Individual Membership, and posted in International publications. In the event of authorized Internet voting, this would be accomplished by e-mail or a secured log-in voting site.
2. The returned Ballots must be postmarked no later than sixty (60) days from the date of mailing. In the event of authorized Internet voting, individuals would have exactly sixty days, from the time they were sent the proposed Amendment, to vote on it.
3. For Amendments to be voted upon at the Annual General Membership Meeting, this mailing shall occur within sixty (60) days of said Meeting. Votes shall be tallied and recorded by the Chair of the Meeting, and certified by the Policy and Procedures Committee. Those votes shall then be combined with the Mail Ballots.
4. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the total Ballots/Votes as certified by the Policy and Procedures Committee.

ARTICLE XIII: DISSOLUTION

SECTION A: PROCESS

- 1) Either three-fourths (3/4's) of the Executive Board, or twenty five percent (25%) of the General Membership in good standing may propose the dissolution of International.
- 2) The decision to dissolve International must be ratified by two-thirds (2/3's) of the General Membership in good standing.

SECTION B: LIABILITIES AND ASSETS

Upon dissolution of International, the Executive Officers shall:

- 1) Pay or make provision for payment of all liabilities of International.
- 2) Dispose of all assets of International in such manner and to such organization(s) who are sympathetic to the Statement of Purpose of International and are organized as a not for profit organization.