

**Association By-Laws of the**  
**Widows Sons**  
**Motorcycle Association of Wisconsin**

**Adopted on:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed By:**

President selected: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-President selected: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary selected: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer selected: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Sergeant at Arms selected: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian of Membership selected: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

By Signing this document, all Parties agree to adhere to the By-Laws in accordance with the *Constitution* of **The Widows Sons Motorcycle Association of Wisconsin Grand Chapter.**

**By-Laws of**  
**Widows Sons**  
**Motorcycle Association**  
**Wisconsin Grand Chapter**

**DEDICATION**

**Commitment to:**  
**Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter.**

**MEMBERSHIP:**

It is the pledge of the membership to support the welfare and general well being of the Widows Sons Association.

It is the pledge of the membership to obey, without reservation, all laws, edicts and orders imposed on the Widows Sons Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter by the President of Widows Sons Association, Wisconsin Grand Chapter.

It is the pledge each member to conduct himself or his business, when wearing the Widows Sons patch, in direct accordance to the by-laws of the Grand Lodge Free & Accepted Masons of Wisconsin, the Blue Lodge in which he is a petitioner or member thereof, and the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association, Wisconsin Grand Chapter.

It is the pledge of the Chapter President and Officers to enhance the welfare and general well being of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association, Wisconsin Grand Chapter.

It is the pledge of the President and his Officers to rule and guide the organization with regularity, and to base all decisions on the betterment or improvement of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association, Wisconsin Grand Chapter.

By-Laws of  
**Widows Sons**  
**Motorcycle Association**  
**Wisconsin Grand Chapter**

**CONSTITUTION**

**Article 1:**

**NAME**

**Section 1.01**

This organization shall be known as the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter, a not for profit organization with the principle mailing address of: Widows Sons – Wisconsin Grand Chapter, P.O. Box 341714, Milwaukee, WI 53234.

**Section 1.02**

This organization, The Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter shall be the parent chapter for all Wisconsin based Affiliated Widows Sons Chapter Associations, and shall have jurisdiction over membership of any and all Wisconsin based Chapters as described in this constitution.

**Section 1.03**

The right to reserve districts for chapter organization throughout the boundaries of the State of Wisconsin are reserved for future consideration by the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter.

**Section 1.04**

The Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter reserves the right to issue or deny any and all use of the copyrighted Widows Son patch to any chapter it has designated a chapter of Widows Sons in Wisconsin, and also reserves the right to revoke the charter or copyrighted patches of any chapter(s) and/or members, in which a patch has been issued within the boundaries of the State of Wisconsin, who violate the by-laws of the Grand Lodge F&AM of Wisconsin, and/or the by-laws of the Widows Sons, and/or governs themselves in an un-Masonic manner, and/or brings disgrace or embarrassment to any chapter of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association and/or any Blue Lodge, Grand Lodge or other body of Masons.

## **Article 2**

### **PURPOSE**

#### **Section 2.01**

It shall be the goal and objective of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter to persuade and encourage all chartered Widows Sons chapters under its parent chapter jurisdiction to encourage their membership to remain in good standing in the records of their blue lodge, to engage in proper conduct, and reasonable and legal activities designed to persuade the public opinion of the desirability of Widows Sons Motorcycle Association. It shall be the objective of the Grand Chapter to obtain proper, reasonable and legal means whereby we may protect the Widows Sons Association from any threat caused by person(s) outside or within any chapter. It shall be the objective of any and all chapters to file in writing, within five (5) business days; any potential that may violate this section of this constitution.

#### **Section 2.02**

This organization shall not engage in political, religious or any activities that promote separation rather than unity, or cause disharmony within the chapter. It is the duty of the President to cease any activity within his chapter that may cause disagreement or controversy in his chapter.

No member shall wear support apparel for any 1% Club or organization. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS; any violation will result in immediate expulsion of member(s).

Any member who is proven to disregard or disobey a direct order by the President to cease any activity determined by the president or any officer to be injurious to the chapter will be expelled from the chapter. Neglect or weak enforcing of this policy is grounds for the Grand Chapter to remove a President and/or his officers from their office.

#### **Section 2.03**

It shall be the objective of each chapter of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association of Wisconsin to contribute to the relief of the widows of Master Masons within the boundaries of their jurisdiction, and to donate to the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter Charity Fund.

#### **Section 2.04**

It shall further be an object of this organization to receive, manage, invest, expend or otherwise use the funds and property of this organization to achieve the objectives set forth in this constitution and for such additional purposes and objects not inconsistent therewith as will further the interests of this organization, and its members directly or indirectly.

#### **Section 2.05**

We recognize that the interests and objects of our organization are not limited solely to those things and objects which directly affect those matters and things set out in this article, but extend to all types of economic and social activities, including, but not limited to activities of fraternal, charitable, welfare, and of a social nature which further the interests of this organization and its members, directly or indirectly. Therefore, participation of this organization in any such activities or which are in pursuance of any of the objectives and purposes set out in this article, to the extent of the Widows Sons

Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter may from time to time determine, shall be considered as for the sole benefit of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter and its affiliate chapters.

## **Article 3**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Section 3.01**

Masonic Members of this organization shall be composed of Master Masons recognized by the Grand Lodge F & AM of Wisconsin.

#### **Section 3.02**

Upon approval of the Widows Sons Wisconsin Grand Chapter, petitions for membership in the Association can be accepted from those who have successfully petitioned a blue lodge recognized by the Grand Lodge F & AM of Wisconsin upon the Lodge's acceptance of their petition. Such members accepted into the Widows Sons cannot be considered for any office, or vote in any business matters until the time they are advanced to the degree of Master Mason.

#### **Section 3.03**

Members accepted into the Widows Sons who are not yet Master Masons are required to complete their unfinished work within 1 year of membership. Widows Sons who are not Master Masons and have been unable to complete their Master Mason degree within one (1) year due to their Lodge being unable to advance them in a timely manner, must provide their Chapter with a written explanation signed by their Lodge Secretary or Worshipful Master.

#### **Section 3.04**

All Widows Sons Wisconsin Chapters may admit Non-Masonic Associate Members to their chapters. Associate Membership will not be allowed to exceed one third of the chapter's membership role.

Associate Members must meet the following criteria:

1. Must be males, 18 years of age or older.
2. Must submit an application signed by two (2) members of the Widows Sons.
3. All Associate Members must be of sound mind and body.

The application fee and dues for Non Masonic Associate Members will be the same as Masonic Members.

Associate Members will be allowed to vote on Non Masonic issues. Anything that is pertaining to Masonry or Masonic Charity they will not be allowed to vote on.

Associate Members will have the same rights and privileges as Masonic Members.

Associate Members may hold trustee positions within the chapter.

### **Section 3.05**

All Widows Sons Wisconsin Chapters, which have been chartered by the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter, and are in the geographic jurisdiction of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter, which is inclusive of the State of Wisconsin, shall affiliate with Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter and comply with its Constitution and or by-laws.

### **Section 3.06**

No Chapter shall include in their membership anyone who is not a Master Mason in good standing in the records of his lodge, or any petitioner whose petition has not been accepted by a recognized lodge of the Grand Lodge Free and Acceptor Masons of Wisconsin, nor shall they accept into any form of membership, anyone who is a member of a clandestine lodge, or a lodge that is not recognized by the Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Wisconsin.

### **Section 3.07**

It shall be the Order of the President of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association of Wisconsin Grand Chapter that all past and present Most Worshipful Grand Masters of Wisconsin be made an Honorary Member whether he own a motorcycle or not. He shall receive a Lifetime Membership card and all that any other member is due to receive.

### **Section 3.08**

Each member of this organization shall have equal rights and privileges in connection with attending meetings and the participation in the deliberations of such meetings. Each Affiliate Chapter shall be entitled to four (4) delegates, who shall consist of its President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall attend one (1) communication per year of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter. The delegates attending the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter Communication shall vote on one special charitable organization that is to receive a one-time donation from the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter and its affiliates. There shall be no proxy votes.

## **Article 4**

### **OFFICERS**

#### **Section 4.01**

All officers must be Masonic Members of the chapter. The Principle Officers of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter shall have a Guardian of Membership and a Sergeant at Arms and four (4) appointed Trustees. The Officers of Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter shall be the Grand Board of Officers for all Chapters of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association of Wisconsin.

#### **Section 4.02**

The President of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter shall be the General President of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Organization of Wisconsin. He shall enforce all provisions of the constitution and by-laws. The President shall have the power to establish such committees he may deem necessary, provided that there shall be an auditing committee. The President may determine the order of business and shall regulate all debates and the conduct of the members. The President will be the Chairman of all committees.

### **Section 4.03**

The Vice-President, in absence of the President, shall preside and perform all duties pertaining to the office of the President, and render such assistance as may be required.

### **Section 4.04**

The Secretary shall keep current records of the proceedings of the association and shall keep a separate account and register for each member of the association. He shall conduct all association correspondence under the direction of the president. He shall issue all notices when directed. He shall receive all monies paid into the association and shall record the amounts in the monthly financial record which shall become part of the minutes of each meeting and pay them over to the Treasurer, taking his receipt thereof. The Secretary shall take over the duties of the President in the absence of the President and Vice President. He shall present an annual report at the annual meeting.

### **Section 4.05**

The Treasurer shall have charge of the funds of the association and shall keep regular and accurate accounts of all monies received by him. He shall pay them out by the order of the President and with the consent of the association. He shall keep them in deposit in a bank in the name of the association and shall render a detailed report of the receipts and duly established disbursements at the annual meeting and at other times as requested by the President. The Treasurer shall take over the duties of the President in the absence of the President, Vice President and Secretary.

### **Section 4.06**

Two (2) appointed Trustees shall be Road Captains and shall be responsible for ensuring that all members' motorcycles are in compliance with Wisconsin State laws, and each member is in condition to participate on the ride. The Road Captain will also be responsible to work with a committee and organize runs. He will also be responsible for routing the run and providing all members with directions. The road captain will also be responsible for informing others who ride with the chapter of what is expected and the intended route. The Road Captain will inform the other members when it is time to ride.

### **Section 4.07**

Two (2) appointed Trustees shall be Activity Directors and shall be responsible for all fund raising activity.

### **Section 4.08**

The Guardian of Membership shall ensure that the by-laws are respected, members conduct themselves in a Masonic manner, and that the intentions of the Organization are carried out in the best interest of the membership.

## **Section 4.09**

The Sergeant at Arms shall be responsible for accommodating visiting brethren, superintending the membership during meetings, maintaining copies of all member's driving/motorcycle license and current insurance policy, and assisting the Guardian-of-Membership in the performance of his duties.

## **Section 4.10**

Each Chapter shall have the same number of Officers as the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter with the same authority over its Chapters as the Officers of the Grand Chapter. Each Chapter shall have a Guardian of Membership.

## **Section 4.11**

Each Chapter shall submit to the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter a copy of their by-laws, which conform to the Constitution of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter for approval.

## **Section 4.12**

In order to become an affiliated Chapter, each Principle Officer of the Chapter must be a Masonic member, and remain a member in good standing of the Blue Lodge of which they are a member.

## **Article 5**

### **ELECTIONS**

#### **Section 5.01**

An Annual Election of Officers of a chapter is to be conducted during the Chapters annual meeting. The annual meeting of the Wisconsin Grand Chapter of Widows Sons is heretofore designated as the first meeting in September. Elected and appointed officers shall assume their duties as of the first meeting in October. The order of elections shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

#### **Section 5.02**

Any Master Mason in good standing may be considered for the office of Wisconsin Grand Chapter or Affiliate Chapter President. Candidates must declare their intent to run for office no less than one (1) month prior to the annual meeting.

#### **Section 5.03**

Each President-elect must appoint a Guardian of Membership and Sergeant-at-Arms no later than 30 days after taking office. In cases where no members are available to accept the positions of Guardian of Membership or Sergeant at Arms, any elected officer may assume this duty upon request or appointment by the president.

## **Section 5.04**

In cases where only one qualified candidate has been nominated for office, the candidate shall be declared elected by acclamation. When more than one candidate has been nominated for office, balloting shall be conducted by paper ballot. A simple majority shall elect candidates. In the case of a tie or deadlock, a ballot may occur up to three (3) times. In the event a tie is not broken after three ballots, the president shall declare or appoint a winner from the pool of candidates. All members present are required to vote. A committee of three (3), none of which are candidates for any current office, shall count ballots. No member may leave the premises or communicate secretly or otherwise with any other member while elections are in progress.

## **Section 5.05**

Any offices vacated due to resignation, the forced removal of an officer, or because an officer is unable to complete his term, shall be filled by special election. The president shall set the date for any special elections. The secretary, no later than two (2) weeks prior to the special election, must notify in writing, or in person, all members of the upcoming election.

## **Section 5.06**

Elected officers who are unable to attend annual meetings or special elections may vote by write-in ballot. Write-in ballots must be delivered to the secretary no later than three (3) days prior to an election.

## **Article 6**

### **MEETINGS**

#### **Section 6.01**

The monthly meeting shall be held on the first Sunday of each month, with exception of the months of December thru February. These months shall be dark. Special meetings may be called at the discretion of the President.

An Annual Communication of the Wisconsin Grand Chapter will be held during the month of January.

#### **Section 6.02**

Any Officer who cannot attend must notify the President, Vice-President, or Secretary of his absence.

#### **Section 6.03**

Affiliate Chapters will have one (1) business meeting per active month with an annual report sent to the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter.

#### **Section 6.04**

The meeting place can be determined by the officers of the Chapter, when at all possible ascertaining the use of a lodge dining hall is recommended as the use requires a donation to the Lodge and this

supports the Blue Lodge. At no time is there to be a meeting of the Widows Sons inside the Blue Lodge body itself, nor shall, at anytime, any member of the Widows Sons take any non mason inside the body of the Lodge that is tiled or in communication, or conducting other lodge business.

### **Section 6.05**

Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the Roberts Rules of Order. Meetings shall not at any time be conducted in any manner that resembles the Blue Lodge.

The order of meetings should be as follows:

Opening of Meeting, called to order by Sergeant at Arms

Introductions of Officers (Sergeant at Arms)

Opening prayer.

Visitors introduced by the member whom brought them.

Minutes read by the Secretary, new applications read.

Announcements from the Treasurer, Secretary, and Vice President.

New members who have been verified then receive their “Colors” and are welcomed by all existing members at that time.

Then any announcements from the President will be done and any communication in regards to other chapters.

The trustees will then inform all members of any rides that are upcoming so that there can be a general vote as to participation.

The floor is open for any announcements.

Closing prayer.

Meeting room is cleaned before departure.

### **Section 6.06**

The Grand Chapter will send a quarterly communication to the Chapters for distribution to the members of their Chapter.

### **Section 6.07**

Regular or Special Business Meetings may be attended by any Member, Associate Member or those who have petitioned for membership. Spouses, significant others, family members or guests may not participate in any business or special meeting when business is being conducted. Exceptions to this article can be made for Special Event meetings, non-stated or special business meetings, where guests may be invited to participate in or otherwise support the planning and execution of an event.

### **Section 6.08**

When a member is traveling, he shall make contact and visit other Chapters in the area of his travels if within his power to do so.

### **Section 6.09**

Members must wear a Widows Sons logo at all meetings and events. Exceptions to this article can be made in the event that the sponsors of an event require that no organizational, association or club identification be worn.

## **Section 6.10**

All conversations and discussions about Widows Sons matters at meetings must stay within the boundaries of this organization.

No member of the Widows Sons may speak on behalf of the Widows Sons to any member or representative of a 1% Club, except to state that their chapter is part of an International Masonic Motorcycle Riders Association. Further comments, information or support questions must be directed to the Chapter President or Vice President. An exception to this article may be made when a Chapter President extends permission to a member to speak on his behalf. In such a case, the member must report all conversation, with accuracy, to his President or Vice President at the earliest possible time.

Members of the Widows Sons who violate this section or cause the Association to experience negative or detrimental relations with any 1% Club, will be subject to immediate expulsion from the Widows Sons.

## **Section 6.11**

Every chapter is charged to strictly exclude from its meetings and official functions all intoxicating liquors and fermented malt beverages.

## **Article 7**

### **BIKES**

#### **Section 7.01**

Members and guests participating in Chapter Rides are required to have a valid Wisconsin Driver's License with Motorcycle Endorsement, liability insurance, current license plates, and ensure that their bikes are street legal and conform to the State of Wisconsin vehicle standards.

#### **Section 7.02**

At the time of application, all members are required to provide the Sergeant at Arms of their chapter with a copy of the following: Valid Drivers/Motorcycle License and Current Insurance Certificate. An updated copy of this information will be submitted annually at the March meeting.

#### **Section 7.03**

All members are responsible to maintain their bikes, and insure that they are in good running order

#### **Section 7.04**

When non-members participate in a Chapter Ride, it shall be the duty of the Road Captains to assure all guests are in compliance with Section 7.01 before the ride begins.

#### **Section 7.05**

The Road Captain(s) will assure all persons participating in rides sponsored by a Chapter and open to public participation have signed a Waiver of Liability, prior to their participation in the ride.

### **Section 7.06**

If a chase/support vehicle is used, the Road Captain(s) will review the route and safety information with the driver(s) of the chase/support vehicle(s).

### **Section 7.07**

When on a Ride, the President or designee shall ride in the lead position.

### **Section 7.08**

At the back of the line, the Sergeant at Arms or his designee shall ride. In the event of any break down or accidents, he will immediately advise the leading Officer of the incident. The Sergeant at Arms is required to have two-way communications with the leading Officer.

### **Section 7.09**

When the Road Captain(s) announce “kickstands up”, they will assure all members are ready to ride. Upon verification that all riders are ready, the Road Captain will so advise the Sergeant at Arms who will communicate the same to the lead Officer. All riders come together and leave together.

### **Section 7.10**

Members who do not own motorcycles will provide/attain four wheeled vehicles to be used as chase/support vehicles during chapter rides, when needed. Section 7.01 shall apply to all chase/support vehicles and drivers.

## **Article 8**

### **FUNERALS**

#### **Section 8.01**

Each Chapter shall follow the proper Blue Lodge proceedings for funerals. Widows Sons patches will not be worn at Funeral proceedings.

#### **Section 8.02**

Where possible and if requested, the Chapter shall be responsible for assisting the family members with all arrangements, parties, police, processions, etc.

## **Article 9**

### **LOGOS**

## **Section 9.01**

The Secretary of the Chapter will order, hold and distribute patches and all items with the Widows Sons logos for the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter.

Affiliate Chapter Secretaries must order all Widows Sons patches from the Wisconsin Grand Chapter Secretary.

## **Section 9.02**

The Widows Sons official “patch” may only be attached to a black leather vest or black leather jacket.

## **Section 9.03**

The Chapter state, WISCONSIN will appear above the Widows Sons official patch on the back of all member’s jackets or vests.

The Chapter Name will appear below the Widows Sons official patch on the back of all member’s jackets or vests.

The small Widows Sons official patch shall be worn on the right breast of all member’s jackets or vests. The Chapter City/Region will appear below this patch.

Grand Chapter members shall wear gold embroidered patches. Affiliate Chapter members shall wear silver embroidered patches.

An American Flag will be displayed on the left-hand breast of all Widows Sons jackets and vests.

## **Section 9.04**

Masonic Members will display a Masonic emblem on the left-hand shoulder of their Widows Sons vests. The emblem is to be the square and compasses, they being the universally recognized symbols of Freemasonry.

## **Section 9.05**

Non Masonic Associate Members will wear patchwork designated for Associates. The working tools of a Master Mason will not be included on such patchwork. Non Masonic Associate Members will not wear a square and compasses on their vest or jacket. Non Masonic Associate Members will wear an “Associate” patch to be displayed at the top, center, on the back of their jacket or vest.

## **Section 9.06**

Past Masters are entitled to wear the approved Past Master’s Emblem at the top, center, on the back of their vest or jacket. No Member shall display any other emblem in this location.

## **Section 9.07**

No patch/pin may be displayed on a Widows Sons vest or jacket, unless it has been approved by the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association, Wisconsin Grand Chapter. The Widows Sons Grand Chapter will maintain a catalog of all approved patches and pins.

## **Article 10**

### **PROPERTY**

#### **Section 10.01**

The Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter has the authority to suspend, trustee, or revoke any Chapter. In the event the Chapter is suspended, trustee, or revoked, all of its funds, books, papers, and other properties shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter, who shall hold them for reorganization. If no reorganization occurs within a period of two (2) years, such funds shall be transferred to the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter.

The Widows Sons patch is copyrighted by Carl Davenport (IL) and Armando Nunez (FL).

## **Article 11**

### **FINANCES**

#### **Section 11.01**

Initiation fees for members shall be fifty dollars (\$50). For every new member, each month, each chapter will send ten dollars (\$10.00) of the member's application fee to the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association of Wisconsin Grand Chapter.

#### **Section 11.02**

Each Chapter shall submit five dollars (\$5) per capita tax per member annually by the last day of January, to the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter. Any Chapter becoming three (3) months in arrears will be suspended and their patches shall be forfeit until their per capita taxes and dues are remitted.

#### **Section 11.03**

The dues of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter shall be fifty dollars (\$50) per year due on March 1 of each year.

#### **Section 11.04**

Each Affiliate Chapter shall pay to the Secretary and Treasurer of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter a monthly per capita tax of two (2) dollars per member for the Widows and Orphans Fund. Said payment may be paid quarterly if approved by the Grand Chapter Secretary.

## **Section 11.05**

Each Member shall pay for their own Official Widows Sons patches, which will be ordered by the Secretary of their chapter, who will then order them from the Secretary of the Grand Chapter.

## **Article 12**

### **MANDATORY RUNS**

#### **Section 12.01**

There shall be one mandatory annual run or event, which shall be voted into acceptance by a full member vote within a Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Chapter meeting. The Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter may call additional runs or events as agreed upon by the membership. It is a mandatory requirement for each member to participate in at least one annual event or run. In cases where a member cannot attend due to family or work conflicts, such members are required to participate financially or by offering support services prior to the event. All members will wear logos for runs and events.

#### **Section 12.02**

Other runs or events shall be for the raising of funds for charities that the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter has selected. Each chapter will have at least one (1) annual party or picnic per year to raise funds for their charitable organization. All Chapters shall make every attempt to attend other Chapters functions to assist in raising funds for their charitable organization. All members are expected to participate in organizing any events hosted by their chapter.

## **Article 13**

### **CHARGES AND DISPUTES**

#### **Section 13.01**

An Executive Council consisting of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall hear and rule on any charges or disputes between members, officers, and/or Chapters. All members will have the right, if a member is found guilty, to vote on disciplinary action.

#### **Section 13.02**

Whenever charges are preferred against any member or officer of a Chapter, the charges shall be filed in writing with the Secretary of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter.

#### **Section 13.03**

No member or officer of a Chapter shall be tried unless he has been served by the Secretary or Guardian of Membership, in person or by Certified Mail, with a written copy of such charges specifying the nature of the offense of which he is accused. Thereon, the accused shall be required to

appear before the Executive Council for a hearing, at the time and place designated by the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter. The accused may select only one member, in good standing with his chapter, to assist him in his defense; and the charging party may select only one member, in good standing with his chapter, to assist him in the presentation of evidence in support of the charges.

### **Section 13.04**

A member of one chapter shall have the right to file charges against a member of another chapter. Such charges must be filed with the Board of Officers of the Grand Chapter of Wisconsin. The Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter will set a date for a hearing.

### **Section 13.05**

If charges filed against any member, officer, or Chapter are sustained by the Grand Chapter, the members of the Chapter in question shall render judgment and impose disciplinary action. A written copy of findings shall be forwarded by the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter to the affiliate chapter.

### **Section 13.06**

Upon filing of charges that are of such magnitude and seriousness as to jeopardize the interests of the Chapter, The Grand Board of Officers of The Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Wisconsin Grand Chapter may suspend such member, officer or Chapter, pending hearing.

## **Article 14**

### **GUIDELINES FOR AFFILIATE CHAPTERS**

#### **Section 14.01**

An Affiliate Chapter may be formed with a minimum of four Master Masons as founding members/officers/delegates.

Master Masons wishing to form an affiliate Widows Sons Chapter will complete and submit to the Grand Chapter an 'Affiliate Chapter Application' along with an 'Application for Membership' completed for themselves, and/or any new members they intend on starting the Chapter with.

A 'one time' affiliation fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) must be submitted with the 'Affiliate Chapter Application'.

Any Affiliate Chapter being formed will have all four delegates read, and sign the Grand Chapter Constitution and Bylaws and submit a copy of the proposed Constitution and Bylaws for the new chapter.

A Charter will be awarded to an Affiliate Chapter upon completion of one year of activity.

#### **Section 14.02**

No Chapter shall include in their membership anyone who is not a Master Mason in good standing in the records of his lodge, or any petitioner whose petition has not been accepted by a recognized lodge of The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Wisconsin, nor shall they accept into any form of membership, anyone who is a member of a clandestine lodge, or a lodge that is not recognized by The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Wisconsin. All Non Masonic Associate Members will have to meet the Non Masonic qualifications and keep in good standing.

### **Section 14.03**

The Four Delegates will be held accountable for all financial matters concerning their Chapter. In all Chapters the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer will be on the account at the financial institution in which they choose to have the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Widows Fund established at. All Chapters will have all four of the Principle Officers on the signature card, whereas signing any instrument requires one (1) officer's signature. The Widows Sons Motorcycle Association (your region) Widows Fund is to be the name on the account.

### **Section 14.04**

Each affiliated Chapter shall be entitled to four (4) delegates, who shall consist of its President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. If such a need shall arise, the chapter may require the officers to take a double role (i.e., the Treasurer can also be the Sergeant at Arms). This can be temporary or permanent, depending upon the decisions that shall be made by the officers of their chapter.

### **Section 14.05**

All officers must be Masonic Members of the chapter. The Officers of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Affiliate Chapter shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and four (4) appointed Trustees. The Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Affiliate Chapter shall have a Guardian of Membership and a Sergeant at Arms. The Officers of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association of Wisconsin Grand Chapter shall be the Grand Board of Officers for all Chapters of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Affiliate Chapters of Wisconsin.

### **Section 14.06**

Each Chapter shall have the same number of Officers as the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association of Wisconsin Grand Chapter with the same authority over its Chapters as the Officers of the Grand Chapter. Each Chapter shall have a Guardian of Membership.

### **Section 14.07**

All Widows Sons Motorcycle Association Affiliate Chapters of Wisconsin are required to adhere to the by laws of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association of Wisconsin Grand Chapter, however, they may make changes as long as they are greater than the by-laws. Any and all changes must be presented to the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association of Wisconsin Grand Chapter. The Executive committee will then convene and inform the Chapter secretary of the outcome in a timely manner.

### **Section 14.08**

If needed the President of any Affiliate Chapter of the Widows Sons can call upon the Grand Chapter officers and request a Special Meeting be conducted to instate new by-laws if it is determined by the officers of said Chapter that immediate action need be taken.

### **Section 14.09**

In order to become an Affiliated Chapter, all Masonic Members must remain in good standing with their Blue Lodge. Any member who is found not to be in good standing must either remedy with their Blue Lodge or return all property of the Widows Sons to their Secretary. All Non Masonic Associate Members must remain in good standing as well.

### **Section 14.10**

Affiliate Chapters will have one (1) business meeting per month with an annual report sent to the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association of Wisconsin Grand Chapter Secretary. The Grand Chapter will send a quarterly communication to the Chapters to distribute to the members of their Chapter.

### **Section 14.11**

When a member is traveling, the Officers and/or members of their chapter shall contact the chapter in the area in which they are traveling, or contact the Grand Chapter if it is within their power to do so.

### **Section 14.12**

No member of the Widows Sons may speak on behalf of the Widows Sons to any member or representative of a 1% Club, except to state their chapter is part of an International Masonic Motorcycle Riders Association. Further comments, information and/or support questions must be directed to the Chapter President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer. An exception to this article may be made when a Chapter President extends permission to a member to speak on his behalf. In such a case, the member must report all conversation with accuracy, to his President or Vice President at the earliest possible time.

Members of the Widows Sons, who violate this section or cause the Association to experience negative or detrimental relations with any 1% club, will be subject to immediate expulsion from the Widows Sons.

### **Section 14.13**

All Widows Sons Wisconsin Chapters, which have been chartered by the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association of Wisconsin Grand Chapter, and are in the geographic jurisdiction of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association of Wisconsin Grand Chapter, which is inclusive of the State of Wisconsin, shall affiliate with Widows Sons Motorcycle Association of Wisconsin Grand Chapter and comply with its Constitution and or by-laws.

### **Section 14.14**

It is the Order of The Widows Sons Motorcycle Association of Wisconsin Grand Chapter that no Chapter at any time have a “probationary” status for new members who want to participate. Nor shall any member be “ordered” to do anything for the Association as we are Master Masons and Non Masonic members and no member is better than another. This is in order to prevent any affiliation of The Widows Sons Motorcycle Association of Wisconsin as a “gang”, MC or as a 1% Club which we

are not. Any deviation of this or any other intentional variation will be grounds to revoke a chapter's charter. We ask that our members act in a way that will reflect well on our association and motorcycling in general.

### **Section 14.15**

No Chapter shall hold a poker run or 50/50 on any Lodge property, however, they may hold runs at places other than the Lodge.

## **Article 15**

# **CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

### **Section 15.01**

Any questions regarding the meaning or intent of these bylaws will be forwarded to the Chapter's Executive Committee for clarification. The decision of the Executive Committee will be final.

Proposed changes or amendments to these bylaws will be published thirty (30) days prior to the Chapter's Annual Meeting and will require an affirmative vote of seventy-five percent (75%) of the members present to be enacted.

The Executive Committee, upon majority vote, will have the power to immediately implement any proposed bylaw changes or amendments until said change or amendment is voted on by the membership.

## **Article 16**

# **MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE**

### **Section 16.01**

We pledge that as members of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association, we above all others, shall set a good example and never bring dishonor to the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association, Freemasonry, or ourselves.

We pledge that we will support our brethren in the Widows Sons regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin, and will never knowingly bring reproach upon a fellow brother of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association.

We pledge to combat any forces, which would seek to undermine or bring reproach upon the Widows Sons Motorcycle Organization or its members, and we shall always strive to bring respect and dignity to the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association.