

## **CONSTITUTION** (last updated November 2009)

### **Article I – Name**

The Name of the organization shall be the Ohio Water Ski Association Inc., if incorporated. The abbreviation of which shall be OWSA.

### **Article II – Purposes**

The purposes of the organization are as follows:

1. The organization shall encourage water safety and promote organized and competitive water skiing in the state.
2. To encourage membership in the American Water Ski Assn.
3. To promote and coordinate competitive water skiing in Ohio by:
  - a. Providing a central agency for tournament scheduling in coordination with the council representative of Ohio.
  - b. Acting as an advisory and/or controlling committee for tournament rules.
  - c. Assisting and regulating procurement of tournament equipment and officials.
  - d. Offering education, equipment, and assistance to local groups planning water ski tournaments and/or educational clinics.
  - e. Encouraging new participants in the sport of water skiing.
  - f. Encouraging the passage of laws and regulations which allow a proper place for water skiing in the use of public and private waterways in the state.
  - g. Encourage and assisting in the procurement and development of new water ski sites and the preservation of existing ones.
  - h. To encourage and assist local water skiers and water ski clubs to participate in state, regional, and national water ski competitions.
  - i. To work toward establishing and maintaining an adequate group of qualified judges and other officials sanctioned by the American Water Ski Assn. to serve the needs of water skiers in the state.
4. OWSA shall be a volunteer nonprofit association or corporation. No official or member shall derive compensation for work in the organization. Operational expenses will be reimbursed upon approval of the treasurer. All other expenses will be reimbursed for goods and services as approved by the treasurer. Capital expenses and equipment purchases shall be approved at regular meetings.

### **Article III – Membership**

- Individual membership in OWSA is open to anyone.
- Club membership is open to water ski clubs in Ohio and other states wishing to participate.
- Dues shall be decided by OWSA membership.

- Each OWSA Member shall designate only one club for team trophy at the time of registration. A skier may not switch teams after the start of the tournament. The winning team will be determined from the top five members of that team using total NOPS points unless otherwise determined by the State Championship Committee which shall be specified on the sanction.
- Only Ohio residents may be eligible to compete for placement in the Ohio State tournament.
- The term of club membership shall be from spring meeting to spring meeting.
- Family Memberships shall consist of one Head of Household, one spouse, and dependent children age 17 and under as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of that year and who reside at the same address.

#### **Article IV – Organization of the Governing Body**

The governing body shall consist of:

- The Elected Officers
- The Board of Directors
- The Ohio Council Representative.

The elected officers and duties are the following:

President:

- Preside at all meetings.
- Appoint all committees, subject to the approval of the board, and be a member ex-officio of all committees except the nominating committee.
- Call regular and special meetings in accordance with these by-laws.
- Conduct the business of the association subject to the direction of the board.
- Execute all contracts and agreements in the name of the association.
- See that the books, reports, statements, and certificates required by the statutes are properly kept, made and filed according to the law.
- Enforce these by-laws and perform all the duties incident of the office of president.
- Appoint a successor to fill any vacancy in the offices of Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer or Council Rep. for the remainder of any unexpired term with the approval of the board.

Vice President:

- During the absence and/or inability of the president to render and perform the duties of the office, the Vice President shall have all of the powers and be subject to all the responsibilities of the president.

Secretary:

- Keep an accurate record of the names and addresses of the members of the governing body.
- Keep the minutes of all membership and board meetings in appropriate books.
- Notify all members of the board of all regular and special meetings in writing at least two weeks in advance.
- Give and serve all notices of the association.
- Be custodian of the records.
- Present to the board at their stated meetings all communications addressed to the secretary officially by the president or any officer or member clubs of the association.
- Perform all the duties incident to the office of secretary.

Treasurer:

- Be responsible for all funds of OWSA.
- Approve expenses and sign all checks in the name of the association, for payment of incurred debts according to procedures as determined by the board.
- Exhibit books and accounts to the president or to any director of the association upon request.
- Render a statement of the financial condition of the association at each regular meeting.
- Maintain appropriate financial records and perform all duties incident to the office of treasurer.

The elected officers shall be elected for a one year term by a majority vote of OWSA members present at the summer meeting at the Ohio State Championships. All elected officers and board members must be in good standing of OWSA and AWSA. Not more than one officer may be from any one club unless running unopposed for an officer position. All officers shall be required to turn over all records and books to their successor in office. Any officer who grossly misuses or neglects the duties of his office may be removed by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the governing body.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall consist of one member from each affiliated club in the state. Each affiliated club shall designate their own representative by their own method of choosing. That representative shall serve as a voting member of the OWSA board of directors. In the event a director from a given club cannot attend a meeting in person, his vote may be transferred by written proxy only.

Additionally, each USAWS sport discipline shall have one seat on the board. If a club representative is also a sport discipline representative, they shall only have one vote in any business matter.

A person who is a member of the Board of Directors may also be elected to any other office except Ohio Council Rep, and may serve in both capacities. However, all elected officers, members of the Board of Directors, and Ohio Council Rep must be a member of

the American Water Ski Association, Ohio Water Ski Association, and eighteen years of age or older. The Ohio Council Rep may not hold any other office.

All matters of business shall be decided by a vote of the board of directors. The only item that shall be voted on by the general membership is the election of officers.

#### **Article V – Meetings**

The governing body shall meet at least semi-annually, places and time to be designated by the President. Written notice, including email, must be sent to all members of the governing body at least two weeks in advance. A meeting of the governing body shall be held prior to the American Water Ski Association Mid-West Regional Council meeting. Special meetings may be called at any time by the president or by one-third (1/3) vote of the governing body after two weeks written notice. Two-thirds (2/3) of the governing body must be present or have signed proxies to constitute a quorum. If a quorum is not present, an eighty percent (80%) vote by those OWSA members present is required for the transaction of business. The summer meeting of the governing body at the Ohio State Championships shall be the annual meeting. During this meeting the vote shall be taken and counted for the election of the elected officers and the members at large of the board of directors. Officers shall take office immediately at the summer meeting. The procedure at all meetings of the association shall be in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order.

#### **Article VI – Council Representative**

The OWSA shall elect the state council rep as directed by the AWSA Midwest Regional Bylaws, Article V, Section 4, stated as follows:

Section 4. The regional Council Representative shall be selected in the following manner: Any state whose AWSA senior membership numbers 125 or more in the midwest region as shown by AWSA records on June 1 shall elect one Council Representative at their AWSA sanctioned state tournament and shall notify AWSA senior members in that state of the time, place and purpose of this meeting at least 10 days in advance.

The Ohio Council Rep. shall hold no other OWSA office or position.