

# CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN POLICE

September 2007

## ARTICLE IV

### Members and Meeting of Members

1. **Membership:** This association shall have six classes of members: Active, Associate, Corporate, Honorary, Sustaining, and Affiliate.
  - a. **Active:** All law enforcement officers with the power of arrest, who are/were full time officers, are eligible for active membership in the Association. Members in good standing, after retirement from active duty, have the privilege of continuing as active members by payment of annual dues. This shall include those active members who have met those criteria and are now job sharing.
  - b. **Life:** Any applicant eligible for active membership may become a life member upon payment of dues/fees listed in the Standing Rules.
  - c. **Associate:** All others in law enforcement/criminal justice or any person who by training, experience or other professional attainments in law enforcement work, as determined by the Membership Committee, including persons employed as reserve officers, seasonal officers, and those privately employed as security officers, and those individuals who actively promote and support women within law enforcement through training, development or representation, may become associate members of this Association. Associate members shall have all the privileges of active membership except that of holding office and voting.
  - d. **Corporate:** Any proprietorship, partnership, firm or corporation that sells products or provides services of interest to law enforcement/criminal justice is eligible to become a corporate member of this Association. The dues for this membership category are to be set by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Corporate members shall have the specific rights and privileges determined by the Board of Directors.
  - e. **Honorary:** Persons of distinction whose vocations and interests are similar to those of women in law enforcement/police services, upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors at a regular meeting of the Association, may be elected to honorary membership by a vote of two-thirds of all the members present. Applications for honorary members shall be submitted to the Board of Directors. Honorary members shall have all the rights and privileges of active members except those of holding office and of voting and shall be exempt from the payment of dues.
  - f. **Sustaining:** Any individual interested in fostering the aims and objectives of this Association may, upon an annual monetary contribution, become a sustaining member. A sustaining member shall have all the privileges of active membership except those of holding office and voting.
  - g. **Affiliate:** This Association shall have affiliate membership of women police associations which have been duly and lawfully incorporated in accordance with the statutes of their respective countries. Affiliation is also extended to

women police associations which are comprised of multiple areas as one association. Each affiliate organization shall be recognized as an affiliate member of the IAWP while retaining or determining its own organizational title. Membership for affiliate organization members shall adhere to the same guidelines as IAWP membership.

1. **Eligibility:** The Sergeant at Arms shall confirm the eligibility of potential members. The Association reserves the right to refuse membership. In the event that the application is rejected the fee shall be returned to the applicant. The status of a member at the date of adoption of this constitution will not change.
2. **Rights of Members:** Only those members with currently paid dues shall be considered members in good standing. Membership dues are payable in the anniversary month of the original dues payment date. Except as qualified by definitions of membership above, the rights of a member to vote and all right, title, and interest in or to the Association shall cease on the termination of membership. No member shall be entitled to share in the distribution of the corporate assets upon the dissolution of the Association.
3. **Members in Arrears:** The Association shall endeavor to provide notice of yearly dues; however, responsibility for timely payment of these dues rests with the member.
4. **Resignation of Members:** Any member may resign from the Association by delivering a written resignation to the President or Secretary of the Association.
5. **Annual Meetings:** The annual meeting of the members of the Association shall be held at such time and place as determined by the Board of Directors for the purpose of electing officers and/or for the transaction of business.
6. **Notice of Annual Meeting:** Notice of the time, place and purpose of the annual meeting shall be published in the official publication and on the IAWP website not less than thirty days prior to the meeting.
7. **Emergency Meetings and Notice:** Special meetings of the members, other than those regulated by statute, may be called at any time by the President or First Vice President or by two officers. The meeting must be called by the President or First Vice President upon the receipt of a request of one-third of the members of the corporation. The notice of a special meeting shall include the time, place, and purpose of the meeting. Notice shall be made by email or other means of communication that includes each member in good standing, not less than thirty days prior to each meeting.
8. **Quorum:** At the annual meeting of members of the Association, the presence of twenty (20) of the members eligible to vote in person shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for all purposes except as otherwise provided. The act of a majority of the members present at any meeting at which there is a quorum shall be the act of the full membership except as may be otherwise specifically provided by statute or by this Constitution.
9. **Voting:** At every meeting of the members each active good standing member shall be entitled to vote in person except as otherwise provided. Each active member in good standing and Affiliate of the Association shall be entitled to one vote. Upon the demand of any members, the vote, upon any question raised in the meeting, shall be by written secret ballot.
10. **Waiver of Notice:** Whenever under the provisions of any law or under the provisions of the certificate of incorporation or Constitution of this Association, the Association or Board of Directors or any committee thereof is authorized to take any action after notice to the members of the Association or after the elapse of a

prescribed period of time. Such action may be taken without notice and without the lapse of any period of time. At any time before or after such action is completed, such requirements may be waived in writing by the person or persons entitled to such notice or entitled to participate in the action to be taken or by her authorized representative.

11. **Removal of Members or Officers.** Any member or officer may be removed from membership or from office by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the full membership registered at any regular meeting, for conduct detrimental to the interests of the Association. Any such member or office holder proposed to be removed shall be given notice in writing by registered mail, and/or, by return receipt email with confirmed delivery, sent at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which such removal is to be voted upon, and shall be entitled to appear and be heard at such meeting.

*Amended September 2017*  
*Amended September 2019*  
*Amended September 2022*