

**ARTICLE I: NAME, LOCATION and INCORPORATION**

- SECTION 1. The NAME of this organization shall be the “Tri-County Wing Snappers, Inc.” which hereinafter shall be referred to as TCWSI. The use of the NAME in the form of “Tri-County Wing Snappers” is unofficial but acceptable.
- SECTION 2. The LOCATION or principle address of TCWSI shall be the address of the Secretary Officer of TCWSI unless otherwise specified by the TCWSI Board of Directors.
- SECTION 3. The INCORPORATION of TCWSI has been provided for and is under the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s Non-Profit Corporation Act.

**ARTICLE II: PURPOSE**

- SECTION 1. Subject to the limitations set forth in the TCWSI Articles of Incorporation, the primary objective of this organization is to promote and foster educational and scientific advancements in model aeronautics, to give recognition in modeling leadership and also to provide guidance and direction for local and national model aeronautic affairs by those individuals, who through their accomplishments in the model field, have demonstrated their qualifications for such responsibility. Some particulars are listed below but shall not be considered exclusive:
- a) To encourage the study and discussion of scientific and technical problems of model aviation;
  - b) To encourage, through recognition, leadership in model aviation;
  - c) To conduct local and national model contests held within the United States and to act through the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) as an insurer and aero modeling representative;
  - d) To direct local and national model activities to the end that model aviation may be advanced in the United States in a manner that will best serve aviation as a whole;
  - e) To encourage and support all types of safe aviation.

**ARTICLE III: BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- SECTION 1. The affairs of TCWSI shall be vested in the BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD) which consists of four (4) Officers and (3) Board Members. The BOD shall have the authority to establish and supervise all TCWSI affairs consistent with these BY-LAWS.
- As deemed necessary from time to time, the number of BOD members can vary based on the number of Officer positions in place.
- SECTION 2. The Chairman of the BOD shall be the President Officer.
- SECTION 3. All decisions and conclusions by the BOD must be by at least a 2/3 majority vote and shall not be at variance with these BY-LAWS.
- SECTION 4. The BOD shall be responsible for carrying out all business transactions on behalf of TCWSI, to include those expenditures already approved in the yearly budget voted on by the membership, without further action or approval required by the membership. Major purchases, or capital improvements, not already approved in the yearly budget in excess of \$500.00 will need to be voted on by the membership present at the regular monthly meeting, with a simple majority needed to approve the expenditure. The BOD shall have the authority to commit funds in excess of the \$500.00 limit without membership approval should a situation arise which is deemed to be urgent to the general welfare of TCWSI and its properties.
- SECTION 5. A vacancy on the BOD must be filled within thirty (30) days from the next scheduled monthly membership meeting by Presidential appointment and membership approval.

**ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS**

- SECTION 1. Officers of TCWSI shall consist of a President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. As deemed necessary, multiple positions may be held by a single person but no more than (2) positions can be held simultaneously.
- SECTION 2. The term of OFFICERS shall be one (1) calendar year and shall begin the first of January following the elections.
- SECTION 3. The PRESIDENT shall preside over all TCWSI meetings and shall ex-officio, be a member of all regular and special committees. Also, the PRESIDENT shall have authority to establish and dissolve any committee that is not BOD instituted. Also, the PRESIDENT may appoint / remove any committee chairman of any committee that is not BOD instituted.
- SECTION 4. The VICE-PRESIDENT shall temporarily fill in for the PRESIDENT with full capacities when requested by the PRESIDENT.
- SECTION 5. The TREASURER shall be the officer in charge of all TCWSI financial transactions and as such shall be responsible for monitoring and recording all these affairs. The TREASURER shall present an accurate and up to date financial report to the membership at each monthly meeting for their approval.
- SECTION 6. The SECRETARY shall take minutes and keep records for all types of TCWSI meetings and for administrative reasons.

**ARTICLE V: BOARD MEMBERS**

- SECTION 1. There shall be three (3) BOARD MEMBERS. As deemed necessary from time to time, the number of BOD members can vary based on the number of Officer positions in place.
- SECTION 2. The term of the BOARD MEMBERS shall be (3) calendar years and shall begin the first of January following election. As deemed necessary, the term of an existing BOD member may be extended beyond the first (3) year term upon the recommendation of the TCWSI President and the majority vote of the other BOD members.
- SECTION 3. BOARD MEMBERS shall be available for BOD meetings where the affairs of TCWSI are vested.
- SECTION 4. An UNEXPECTED VACANCY shall be filled according to (Article III, Sec. 5).

**ARTICLE VI : CONTEST DIRECTOR**

- SECTION 1. The term of CONTEST DIRECTOR shall be one (1) calendar year and shall begin the first of January following elections.
- a) CD's REINSTATEMENT is contingent upon rules set forth by AMA.
- SECTION 2. The CONTEST DIRECTOR shall have the charge and responsibility of all model contests set forth in the latest "Official Model Aircraft Regulations" of the AMA.

**ARTICLE VII: MEMBERSHIP**

- SECTION 1. An individual, who indicates a desire to build and/or to fly model aircraft, demonstrates an interest in aviation or wishes to further the purpose of TCWSI shall be eligible for membership.
- SECTION 2. The categories of MEMBERSHIP shall fall into the three (3) broad classifications of the AMA;
- a) CLUB MEMBER – active AMA and dues paying.
- b) HONORARY MEMBER – does not participate regularly and does not pay dues.
- c) ASSOCIATE MEMBER – active but does not operate models and does not pay dues.
- Other classes of MEMBERSHIP may be authorized by the BOD but they must be within the scope of a, b or c above.
- SECTION 4. Maintaining MEMBERSHIP requires compliance to the Articles of Incorporation, Official Model Aircraft and Safety regulations of the AMA, TCWSI Field Safety Rules, these BY-LAWS and decisions of the TCWSI's BOD. Also, maintaining MEMBERSHIP requires that dues are paid to date in the case of a CLUB MEMBER.
- SECTION 5. The privileges of MEMBERSHIP shall be as follows:
- a) The CLUB MEMBER has all privileges.
- b) The HONORARY MEMBER has all privileges including limited flying (twice per year) but cannot hold office.
- c) The ASSOCIATE MEMBER cannot fly, hold office or vote.

**ARTICLE VIII: RE-CLASSIFICATION, TERMINATION and REINSTATEMENT**

- SECTION 1. All such matters in this ARTICLE shall be considered on an individual basis by the BOD and their decision shall be conclusive.
- SECTION 2. TERMINATION can occur if said member violates any AMA requirement, AMA or TCWSI Safety Rule. In the case of VIOLATORS, these steps shall be taken:
- a) First offense shall prompt a verbal corrective given by an officer, BOD member or field marshal; stating what rule has been violated;
  - b) Second offense shall prompt sending a letter to the violator, warning that his/her actions could result in a thirty (30) day suspension of all membership privileges and that the third offence results in termination of membership.
  - c) Third offense results in TERMINATION of membership.
- SECTION 3. In the case of TERMINATION, the member shall have notice of at least thirty (30) days prior to the BOD addressing such action. The member is also invited to attend such TERMINATION portion of the BOD meeting and present causes as to why the membership status shall not be revoked.

**ARTICLE IX: NOMINATIONS and ELECTIONS**

- SECTION 1. Any CLUB MEMBER **who has been a CLUB MEMBER in good standing for a minimum of twenty four (24) months**, can be NOMINATED for office (i.e., any position on the BOD) by any other CLUB MEMBER or HONORARY MEMBER. This also applies to the position of CONTEST DIRECTOR.
- SECTION 2. All NOMINATIONS must be a matter of TCWSI record prior to ELECTIONS; therefore, NOMINATIONS should be final at a TCWSI meeting during the month of October.
- SECTION 3. A NOMINEE must accept NOMINATION before it becomes a matter of record.
- SECTION 4. ELECTIONS shall be held during the month of November and shall be conducted by written ballot. Only CLUB MEMBERS and HONORARY MEMBERS may vote and a simple majority of those present at the ELECTION will carry. However, in the case of the CONTEST DIRECTOR, this position is not final until approved by AMA.
- SECTION 5. Any number of special NOMINATIONS and ELECTION can be called by the PRESIDENT in order to fill the position of CONTEST DIRECTOR which will be satisfactory to AMA.
- SECTION 6. Once a CONTEST DIRECTOR is approved by AMA, TCWSI will assume approval in all subsequent years unless notified by AMA in writing.

**ARTICLE X: REPLACEMENT and IMPEACHMENT**

- SECTION 1. REPLACEMENT due to death, incapacity, inactivity, resignation or transfer out-of-district for filling remainder of term, shall be by the following procedure:
- a) PRESIDENT shall be replaced by the VICE PRESIDENT.
  - b) VICE-PRESIDENT shall be replaced by a BOARD MEMBER voted in by a simple majority within the BOD. This is the only exception to ARTICLE III, SECTION 3.
  - c) The PRESIDENT shall appoint replacements for TREASURER, SECRETARY and BOARD MEMBERS.
- SECTION 2. IMPEACHMENT of any BOD or CONTEST DIRECTOR can be accomplished by either a 2/3 majority BOD vote or 2/3 majority MEMBERSHIP vote of those attending the proceedings. The BOD or CONTEST DIRECTOR in question shall have, in both cases, a thirty (30) day notice so a cause as to why status should not be revoked can be prepared.

**ARTICLE XI: MEETINGS**

- SECTION 1. The three (3) types of MEETINGS shall be the MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING, SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING and the BOD MEETING.
- SECTION 2. MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS shall be held monthly as implied unless a simple majority of the MEMBERSHIP votes to suspend a MEETING. Only one MEETING at a time can be suspended.
- SECTION 3. SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS shall be called at the written request of fifteen (15) percent of the MEMBERSHIP.
- SECTION 4. BOD MEETINGS shall be called at any time when deemed necessary by the PRESIDENT or at least two (2) members of the BOD.
- SECTION 5. All MEETINGS shall be advertised at least three (3) days in advance to those involved.
- SECTION 6. MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP and SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS shall be open to all members (CLUB, HONORARY and ASSOCIATE) and guests. BOD MEETINGS shall be open to OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS, CONTEST DIRECTORS and those invited.
- SECTION 7. A quorum for the MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP and SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS shall be at least ten (10) percent of the MEMBERSHIP.
- SECTION 8. No BOD person can preside over a MEETING of any kind if that person is the subject of an impeachment proceeding.

**ARTICLE XII: ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- SECTION 1. The ORDER OF BUSINESS shall be determined by the PRESIDENT. However, at least once, the floor must be yielded to those present.
- SECTION 2. The PRESIDENT as CHAIRMAN of all MEETINGS may call for vote taking on any issues. At a monthly or special membership meeting, the votes of CLUB and HONORARY MEMBERS are considered as inputs to the BOD, unless the BOD agrees by 2/3 that a simple majority vote by these members will be the acceptable policies of the TCWSI.
- SECTION 3. Only one (1) vote per qualified voter can be cast for each issue on the floor.

**ARTICLE XIII: RECORDS**

- SECTION 1. The BOD and its members shall be responsible for keeping correct and accurate RECORDS on all types of TCWSI meetings and transactions.
- SECTION 2. Presentations at MONTHLY MEETINGS of TCWSI Club minutes and treasury report for MEMBERSHIP approval are mandatory. The minutes and report are the official RECORDS of the TCWSI.

**ARTICLE XIV: DUES**

- SECTION 1. The TCWSI has the authority to set and collect DUES and impose penalties when DUES are in arrears.
- SECTION 2. The TCWSI can also issue discounts on DUES if paid before a deadline.
- SECTION 3. Failure to pay DUES is grounds for having CLUB MEMBERSHIP status revoked.

**ARTICLE XV: PUBLICATION**

- SECTION 1. **If a newsletter is used as** the official PUBLICATION of TCWSI, it shall be called "THE CONTROL TOWER" and shall be published monthly.
- SECTION 2. The editor shall be the PRESIDENT or an appointment and distribution shall be the responsibility of the SECRETARY or Newsletter Editor.
- SECTION 3. The purpose of this PUBLICATION is to serve as a vehicle to accomplish the goals of TCWSI and disseminate information to the MEMBERSHIP and friends of TCWSI.
- Section 4. If a web site is used, the official TCWSI website shall use the domain [www.TCWS.org](http://www.TCWS.org), which domain shall be kept current. The website director will be a volunteer position of a club member.

**ARTICLE XVI: AMENDMENTS**

- SECTION 1. These TCWSI BY-LAWS shall be effective when adopted by an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the entire membership eligible to vote.
- SECTION 2. Proposed AMENDMENTS to these TCWSI BY-LAWS may be introduced by any member eligible to vote. The procedure requires presenting, in writing, the proposed AMENDMENT to a BOD member. The BOD member shall have the responsibility of distributing the proposed AMENDMENT(S) to the other BOD members as well as the entire membership to review.
- SECTION 3. AMENDMENTS to these TCWSI BY-LAWS may be made by an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the eligible membership voters present at the meeting advertised with the published AMENDMENT.