

**BYLAWS  
OF  
EAST TENNESSEE WANDERERS**

**ARTICLE I**

**General**

These Bylaws are established to implement the Articles of Incorporation of this organization and the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Volkssport Association (AVA).

**ARTICLE II**

**Membership**

**Section 1. Classes of Membership.** There shall be two classes of membership in this corporation:

- a. Regular membership, which shall be limited to those individuals and families whose dues are current;
- b. Honorary membership, which may be conferred by the club on an individual whose actions have greatly assisted or promoted the aims of the club or the AVA.

**Section 2. Rights and Obligations of Members.**

- a. Rights. Every regular member, 16 years of age or older, is entitled to exercise the right to vote. (Honorary membership confers no voting privileges.)
- b. Obligations. All members of the organization are obligated to:
  - (1) Promote the aims and goals of the club and the AVA to the best of their abilities;
  - (2) Uphold the reputation of the club and the AVA at all times;
  - (3) Obey the Bylaws of the club and the Constitution and Bylaws of the AVA; and
  - (4) Pay dues as required.

**Section 3. Dues.** Regular members must pay annual dues of \$10.00 per individual or \$15.00 per family, payable in advance before the expiration of their current year's membership. Dues are payable by January 1 of each year with membership valid through December 31 of that year. Members who join in the months of July, August, or September will pay prorated dues of \$5 per individual or \$10 per family. Members who join after October 1 will have a valid membership through the following year (e.g., membership started in October 2009 is valid through December 31, 2010). Notification of dues shall be given one month prior to a member's expiration of membership. Dues not paid within thirty (30) days thereafter shall be automatically dropped from membership in the organization. At the Board's option, notification of dues may be provided through the monthly club newsletter.

**ARTICLE III**

**Officers**

**Section 1. Officers.** The officers of the organization shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Trailmaster. Trailmaster is an appointed position. Such other officers and assistant officers as may be deemed necessary may be elected or appointed by the President.

**Section 2. Eligibility During Initial Organization.** During the time of initial organization of the club, individuals may hold multiple offices, such as President and Trailmaster, and Vice-President and Treasurer. The only restriction being that the positions of President and Treasurer will not be held by the same person. The time of initial organization will be considered ended when the club has achieved 20 regular members.

**Section 3. Eligibility After Initial Organization.** After the "initial organization period," no member shall hold more than one office at a time.

**Section 3. Nomination Procedures.** At a regular meeting held in the month of March, a Nominating Committee of three (3) members shall be elected by the organization. It shall be the duty of this committee to nominate candidates for the offices to be filled at the annual meeting. The Nominating Committee shall make its report to the membership in the month of May no later than the meeting prior to the scheduled election. Before the election at the annual meeting, additional nominations from the floor are permitted.

**Section 4. Elections.** The officers shall be elected by ballot of the regular members of the organization at the annual membership meeting. Where only one (1) candidate for an office has been nominated, no ballots shall be cast by the members and the Secretary shall cast the unanimous ballot of the meeting. In the event that more than two (2) candidates are nominated for the same office and upon the first ballot no candidate receives a majority of the ballots cast, the two (2) candidates receiving the most ballots shall run against each other. Upon the subsequent ballot, the candidate receiving the majority vote shall be declared elected.

**Section 5. Terms of Office.** The officers shall hold office for a term of one year or until their successors are elected. Their term of office shall begin on July 1 each year.

**Section 6. Duties.** Club officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these Bylaws and by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

**a. President.** The President presides at all meetings of the organization and special meetings called by the Executive Board. The President nominates and the Executive Board approves appointments of committees to represent the organization officially in all affairs. The President is an ex officio member of all committees of the organization except the Nominating Committee.

**b. Vice-President.** The Vice-President shall act as President in the President's absence. The Vice-President plans the annual programs, monthly if applicable, of the organization.

**c. Secretary.** The Secretary shall be responsible for recording and maintaining minutes of all meetings of the regular membership and the Executive Board; sending out the call to each member for special membership meetings of the organization and of the Executive Board, maintaining the official list of officers and members of the organization, preparing general correspondence of the organization that is not a function of other officers or committees, and supervising the publishing of the club newsletter.

**d. Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping an accurate account of all monies of the organization, collecting all monies due and depositing them in the organization's bank account, and making payments which have been authorized, preparing a Treasurer's report for each meeting of the organization, submitting a full financial report to the members at the organization's annual meeting, and submitting a proposed annual budget to the membership at the annual meeting for review and

approval. The Treasurer prepares and submits financial reports required by AVA or local law.

**e. Trailmaster.** The Trailmaster shall be responsible for approval of all sanctioned AVA events, assuring that event routes are properly sanctioned and safe. The Trailmaster assures that the club has sufficient event-related supplies for start/finish and checkpoint locations, safety of participants and materials to mark trails for participants to follow. The Trailmaster shall keep an archive file of walk directions and maps for each sanctioned event conducted by the club.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Meetings**

**Section 1. Regular Meetings.** The regular meetings of the organization shall be held on the third Tuesday of each month unless otherwise ordered by the organization.

**Section 2. Annual Meeting.** The regular meeting each June shall be known as the Annual Meeting and shall be for the purpose of electing officers, receiving reports of officers and committees, and for any other business that may arise. The Secretary shall notify each member in writing of the date, time, and place of the Annual Meeting.

**Section 3. Special Meetings.** Special meetings may be called by the President or by the Executive Board and shall be called upon written request of ten (10) members of the organization. The purpose shall be stated in the call and no business shall be transacted except that mentioned in the call of the Special Meeting. Except in cases of emergency, at least five (5) days' written notice shall be given.

**Section 4. Quorum.** Twenty (20) percent of the regular members of the organization shall constitute a quorum.

**Section 5. Electronic Ballots.** With a majority vote of the Executive Committee, elections and club voting may take place via remote electronic submission, such as email. Election/voting results will be provided to any club member upon request, including each club member and their vote(s).

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Executive Board**

**Section 1. Members.** The officers of the organization shall constitute the Executive Board.

**Section 2. Powers.** The Executive Board shall have the general supervision of the affairs of the organization between its business meetings, fix the hour and place of meetings, make recommendations to the organization, and perform such other duties as are specified in these Bylaws. The Board shall be subject to the orders of the organization and none of its acts shall conflict with action taken by the organization.

**Section 3. Meetings.** Unless otherwise ordered by the membership, regular meetings of the Executive Board shall be held at the call of the President.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Committees**

**Section 1. Appointment.** Committees, standing or special, shall be appointed by the President, with the advice and approval of the Executive Board, as deemed necessary to carry on the work of the organization. The President shall be a member ex officio of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

**Section 2. Finance Committee.** A Finance Committee composed of the Treasurer and four (4) other members shall be appointed by the President promptly after each Annual Meeting. It shall be the duty of this committee to prepare a budget for the fiscal year and to submit it to the organization at its annual meeting. The Finance Committee may from time to time submit supplements to the budget for the current fiscal year.

**Section 3. Events and Trails Committee.** An Events and Trails Committee of up to seven (7) members shall be appointed by the President, whose duty it shall be to assist the Trailmaster and set the club's agenda for club events and year-round events (YRE) for the coming year.

**Section 4. Program Committee.** A Program Committee of up to five (5) members shall be appointed by the President to assist the Vice-President to plan annual and monthly, if applicable, programs of the organization.

**Section 5. Auditing Committee.** An Auditing Committee of three (3) members shall be appointed by the President at the regular meeting just prior to the organization's annual meeting, whose duty it shall be to audit the Treasurer's accounts at the close of the fiscal year and to report the results at the Annual Meeting.

**Section 6. Other Committees.** Such other committees, standing or special, shall be appointed by the President as the organization or the Executive Board shall from time to time deem necessary to carry on the work of the organization.

## ARTICLE VII

### Parliamentary Authority

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

## ARTICLE VIII

### Dissolution

The organization may be dissolved by a two-thirds vote of the membership. Upon dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more purposes within the meaning of section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose.

## ARTICLE IX

### Amendment of Bylaws

These Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the organization by a two-thirds vote of the membership, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting.

Date Approved: 7/11/2020

President: 

Secretary: 