

**BYLAWS OF THE  
WESTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA, INC.**

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**ARTICLE I - NAME**

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the WESTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA, INC. This organization shall be incorporated under the not for profit section of the corporate laws of California.

Section 2. This organization shall be known as the WESTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY or WAS for operational purposes.

Section 3. The WESTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY shall include the following states, provinces and territories (“Regions”): Alaska, Alberta, Arizona, British Columbia, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Saskatchewan, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, the Yukon and any other Regions approved by the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE II - PURPOSE**

Section 1. The purpose of the Society shall be to promote the art and science of beekeeping, to educate beekeepers and the general public relating to the field of Apiculture, to provide for and promote scientific research in the field of Apiculture, to disseminate such research to the public, and to provide a greater appreciation for beekeeping as a hobby and as an important industry.

Section 2. The Society shall hold an annual conference to educate its members in the latest technical and scientific methods in the field of Apiculture.

Section 3. The Society may also hold workshops and short courses for beekeepers and for the general public relating to the raising and management of honey bees and related subjects and publish materials on any subjects related to any of the aforementioned items and other specific purposes as stated in the Articles of Incorporation.

Section 4. The corporation is formed to operate exclusively for educational and scientific purposes.

Section 5. No substantial part of the activities of the Society shall consist of carrying on of propaganda, or attempt to influence legislation, nor shall this corporation participate in, or intervene (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for political office.

**ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Payment of dues, according to the following classes of membership, is necessary for membership and voting privileges. Dues structure is determined annually by the Board of Directors and published in the Newsletter and on the WAS web-site.

Section 2. The membership of this Society shall be divided into the following classes:

- A. Individual – Any person who wishes to join the Society. Voting privileges are included.

- 52 B. Junior – Any person under the age of eighteen (18) years. Voting privileges are  
53 excluded.
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- 55 C. Senior – Any person the age of sixty-five (65) years or older. Voting privileges are  
56 included.
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- 58 D. Family – Voting privileges are included for two adults. The Board may offer a  
59 “Senior” family discount, if one member or more is 65 years of age or older.
- 60
- 61 E. Business – A business entity associated with beekeeping for profit that contributes a  
62 specified amount or more to further the educational programs of the Society. Such  
63 membership shall have voting privileges, limited to one person who represents the  
64 business.
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- 66 F. Benefactor & Patron – An individual who contributes a specified amount or more  
67 to the Society. Includes a ten-year membership with all its privileges, including  
68 voting. The distinction between “Benefactor” and “Patron” shall be determined by  
69 the Board, from time to time, as a part of the annual dues structure.
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- 71 G. Association – An association that contributes \$200 or more to the Society. Includes  
72 a ten-year membership with all privileges, including voting (limited to the  
73 Association’s Delegate).

74

75 Includes clubs and/or organizations of beekeepers in the United  
76 States and Canada, primarily in the western area. Representation in the Society is by  
77 Delegate, as provided in ARTICLE VII, who has voting privileges at  
78 Delegates/Directors meetings.

79 (1). Association Annual Membership  
80 (2). Ten-Year Membership.

81

82 Section 3. Membership in the Society shall not be a requirement for attendance at the annual  
83 conferences. Beekeepers, their families and friends, as well as members of non-member  
84 beekeeping clubs, and the general public, shall be welcome at any annual conference. Everyone  
85 who attends shall pay registration and other conference fees, in support of expenses in organizing  
86 and conducting the annual conference. Attendees, who are not paid members of the Society, shall  
87 not have voting privileges.

88

89 Section 4. Membership shall terminate upon death, dissolution or voluntary withdrawal or as  
90 otherwise provided in these bylaws. The rights, title and interest of the member shall cease upon  
91 termination of membership. In the case of family memberships, the surviving spouse or partner  
92 may continue to receive the membership benefits for the duration of the current membership.

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94 Section 5. Any membership may be terminated for non-payment of dues, as provided for in  
95 Article IV, Section 2.

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97 Section 6. Any membership may be terminated for violation of these bylaws. Such termination  
98 shall be by two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the Directors, provided that a statement of the charges shall have  
99 been mailed by registered letter to the last recorded address of the member at least thirty (30) days  
100 before the final action is to be taken thereon. The statement of charges shall contain notification of  
101 the time and place of the meeting of the Board of Directors at which the charges shall be  
102 considered. The member shall have the right to appear and present any defense to such charges  
103 before action is taken thereon. Neither the member nor any Board member is required to appear

104 physically at a specified location. Attendance may be via electronic communications as described  
105 in ARTICLE V, Section 3. Any member who has been suspended or expelled may be reinstated to  
106 membership by two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the Directors at an annual Board meeting held in  
107 conjunction with the Annual Business Meeting.

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#### 109 **ARTICLE IV - DUES**

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111 Section 1. All dues and membership fees shall be reviewed and set annually by the Board of  
112 Directors for the classes of membership as heretofore stated in ARTICLE III. Current membership  
113 fees will be designated on the membership application form and published on the Society web-site.

114

115 Section 2. Annual dues shall be payable in advance of the annual conference, and must be  
116 received by the Secretary and/or Treasurer no later than May 31<sup>st</sup> to maintain the membership.  
117 New members, paying dues with conference registration will be considered paid in full through the  
118 end of the subsequent fiscal year.

119

120 Section 3. Reinstatement of memberships terminated for failure to pay dues is automatic upon  
121 receipt of dues. Payments after May 31<sup>st</sup> apply only to the end of the current fiscal year. Board  
122 Members who fail to pay dues on time will lose their official appointments. Officers' dues are  
123 waived as per Article VI, Section 2.

124

125 Section 4. The fiscal year and membership year shall be the calendar year from January 1 to  
126 December 31 of each year.

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#### 128 **ARTICLE V - CONDUCT OF BUSINESS**

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130 Section 1. The business affairs of the Society shall be conducted by the Board of  
131 Directors. Members of the Board shall be named in accordance with provisions of ARTICLE VII  
132 and shall represent members of the Society insofar as possible.

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134 Section 2. The business affairs of the Society between meetings of the Board of Directors shall be  
135 conducted by the Executive Committee consisting of the President, First (1<sup>st</sup>) and Second (2<sup>nd</sup>)  
136 Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Past President and a Member-at-Large elected by the Board  
137 of Directors at the preceding Annual Meeting.

138

139 Section 3. The Executive Committee will adhere to Roberts Rules of Order when conducting  
140 Society business. Meetings may be requested by any member of the committee and may be  
141 conducted by conference call, video-conferencing, email, or any other commonly used form of  
142 electronic communications. The full Board will be informed of business conducted and decisions  
143 reached. Minutes of the business conducted and decisions reached will be kept and distributed to  
144 the Board within seven days of the meeting.

145

146 Section 3. It is the responsibility of the Executive Board to adhere to the Budgets approved by the  
147 Board of Directors. In addition to Meeting with the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting, the  
148 Executive Board shall meet with the Board of Directors, at least quarterly, via conference call or  
149 video-conferencing.

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#### 151 **ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS**

152

153 Section 1. The Officers of the Society shall be the Executive Committee, consisting of the  
154 President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, Past President, Secretary, Treasurer and an  
155 Executive Member-at-Large elected by the Board of Directors. "Officers" and "Executive

156 Committee" are to be understood as synonymous. Members on the Executive Committee shall  
157 retain their designated position as Regional Directors.

158  
159 Section 2. The Member-at-Large represents the interests of the general membership and answers  
160 to the Board of Directors.

161  
162 Section 3. Members of Executive Committee of the Society are entitled to a complimentary full  
163 membership for the duration of their term.

164  
165 Section 4. The President shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Society and shall  
166 preside at all business meetings of the Society, Board of Directors and Delegates meetings, and  
167 meetings of the Executive Committee at which he or she will vote only in cases of a tie vote. The  
168 President shall appoint all committees, excluding the Executive Committee, and shall be an ex-  
169 officio member of those committees.

170  
171 Section 5. The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President is nominated by the President and approved by a majority of the  
172 Board of Directors.

173  
174 Section-65. The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, in the absence or disability of the President, shall perform the  
175 functions of the office of President. He or she will be the lead person on the Conference Program  
176 Committee. Should the First Vice-president be unable to fulfill the duties of the office, due to  
177 absence or disability, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President will take over the duties.

178  
179 Section 7. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President represents the Region expected to host the annual meeting and  
180 conference in the succeeding year. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President usually ascends to the Office of  
181 President, subject to election by the members of the Society at the next Annual Meeting.

182  
183 Section 8. The Secretary shall attend and maintain a complete and correct record, including  
184 membership and the text of motions, any amendments, the names of the movers and seconds and  
185 the result of a requested vote or ballot that is taken of all meetings of the Society, including the  
186 Executive Committee, Board of Directors and Delegates meetings, and annual business meeting.  
187 Within 15 days after each meeting this officer shall send copies of the minutes of meetings to the  
188 Officers, members of the Board of Directors, and to each official Delegate representing member  
189 Associations in good standing. The Secretary shall have the authority to certify any records, or  
190 copies of records, as the official records of the association.

191  
192 Section 9. The Treasurer shall be the Clerk of the Corporation and shall be a licensed CPA, as per  
193 the Board of Directors decision at the 2014 meeting of WAS in Missoula, Montana. Accession to  
194 the office of Treasurer requires the elected person to be vetted by the Board. The Treasurer shall  
195 approve and pay all bills for the Society, maintain accurate records of the Society's finances, be  
196 responsible for conducting the financial affairs of the organization as directed by the Board of  
197 Directors, and make reports of the Society finances as required, but no less often than at each  
198 meeting of the Board of Directors and at the Annual Meeting of the Society membership. The  
199 Treasurer shall be notified of and participate in meetings of the Executive Board, Board of  
200 Directors and Delegates meetings, and Annual Conference, especially any meeting involving  
201 financial discussions and decisions.

202  
203 Section 10. In case of the extended absence or incapacity of the Treasurer, the Board of Directors  
204 shall appoint a temporary Treasurer.

205

206 Section 11. The term of office shall be 1 year for the President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-  
207 President. Ideally, the President would serve a three-year rotation as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice- President,  
208 President, and Past-president.

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210 **ARTICLE VII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

211  
212 Section 1. There shall be a Board of Directors consisting of the Officers, the immediate past  
213 President, and Regional Directors representing Regions in Article I, Section 3.

214  
215 Section 2. The primary duty of the Board of Directors is to ensure adequate financial resources for  
216 the organization to fulfill its purpose and to protect assets and provide proper financial oversight  
217 by assisting in developing the annual budget and ensuring that proper financial controls are in  
218 place. The Board provides planning and direction to develop, implement, and monitor the  
219 Society's objectives. Ultimately, the Board is responsible for adherence to legal standards and  
220 ethical norms.

221  
222 Section 3. Each Region in the Society shall have the privilege of electing one Regional Director  
223 from the membership-at-large of the respective Region for a term of three years. One third of the  
224 Directors shall be elected each year. A Director may serve two consecutive terms or until another  
225 Director from that Region is elected.

226  
227 Section 4. In the case of Director vacancies, the President may appoint a successor from the same  
228 Region to fill the unexpired term. Vacancies owing to lack of nominations shall be declared  
229 "vacant by right" and shall be filled either at the next annual conference or following a vote of  
230 confirmation by the Executive Committee, during a regular Executive Committee meeting.

231  
232 Section 5. The Board of Directors shall hold at least one meeting each year at the location of the  
233 annual meeting. The Board of Directors meeting may immediately precede or follow the annual  
234 conference. The Board shall convene at least quarterly with the Executive Committee, using  
235 electronic communications.

236  
237 Section 6. The Board of Directors may appropriate a sum toward the-lodging, and meal expenses  
238 of the President, Secretary and Treasurer when travel is necessary for Society Business, such as  
239 the Annual Meeting, and any registration fees for the annual meeting will be waived.

240  
241 Section 7. The Board of Directors shall appoint an Editor-Historian or Editor and Historian, to  
242 collect and preserve clippings, records, photographs, etc., pertaining to the social, educational and  
243 business activities of the Society. The Editor-Historian or Editor shall issue publications  
244 informing the membership of the activities of the Society. Prior to publication, all Society  
245 publications intended for distribution to members may be reviewed by the President and any other  
246 reviewers the Board of Directors may designate.

247  
248 Section 8. The Board may provide remuneration for the Treasurer and shall provide remuneration  
249 for the Editor. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be provided a stipend of \$300/year to cover  
250 miscellaneous office supplies and postage. No other Officer or Director shall receive  
251 compensation, either directly or indirectly.

252  
253 Section 9. The Board of Directors shall require that the Treasurer be bonded or carries  
254 professional liability insurance. The Board shall also ensure that the Society is insured against loss  
255 and that all required bonding and insurances, including liability insurance for the Annual  
256 Conference are in place, paid, and current.

257

258 Section 10. The Board of Directors is responsible for keeping the Articles of Incorporation up-to-  
259 date and in compliance with the general non-profit corporation law of the state of CA. Officially  
260 named the Western Apicultural Society of North America, Inc., WAS does not contemplate  
261 pecuniary gain or profit to members thereof and is organized for non-profit purposes only. The  
262 corporation is irrevocably dedicated to education and scientific purposes.  
263

264 Section 11. The Board of Directors shall approve potential sites for each annual conference prior  
265 to any vote of the membership as hereinafter provided. The Board shall also appoint one or more  
266 Board members to vet the choice paying attention to affordable (cost-recoverable – ARTICLE 12,  
267 Section 3) cost, availability, adequate space for program sessions and exhibitors, ADA\*  
268 compliance, parking, etc. Should the original location prove impractical, another venue in close  
269 proximity will be chosen.  
270

271 \*(ADA – American Disabilities Act. The site should be accessible to people with various disabilities – buildings  
272 should have elevators, rest rooms should accommodate people in wheelchairs, etc.)  
273

## 274 **ARTICLE VIII - DELEGATES**

275  
276 Section 1. Each member association, as provided under Article III, Sections 1 and 2, shall be  
277 entitled to send one official Delegate to each annual conference. Each Delegate, as the  
278 representative of their association, shall have voting privileges at the Annual Business Meeting.  
279

280 Section 2. The Delegates will attend the Board of Directors meeting (called the "Directors and  
281 Delegates" Meeting) which immediately precedes or follows the annual conference. At this time,  
282 they will receive information concerning the activities of the Board of Directors and the Society.  
283 They shall advise the Board of any business they wish to be considered at the subsequent annual  
284 meeting or Board meeting. They shall exchange other information that benefits their respective  
285 associations.  
286

287 Sections 3. Only Delegates shall have the right to vote for their association on issues in the  
288 Delegates/Directors meeting. A proxy vote, if the Board accepts the voter, may be registered by  
289 an Association's chosen representative.  
290

## 291 **ARTICLE IX - QUORUM**

292  
293 Section 1. A quorum of the Board of Directors shall be a majority of the Directors, as defined in  
294 Article VII, Section 2, and two (2) Officers, as defined in Article VI, Section 1. A quorum of  
295 Board members includes those attending a meeting in person or by electronic communications.  
296

297 Section 2. A quorum of the Annual Business meeting of the Society shall be 20% of the voting  
298 members attending the annual conference.  
299

300 Section 3. A Director may appoint a proxy from the members in their Region to represent the  
301 Regional Director and shall inform the Board of Directors of the designated proxy in writing.  
302

303 Section 4. The Executive Committee may act on general business as described in Article V,  
304 Section 2 between Annual Meetings. The Board of Directors shall meet at least quarterly with the  
305 Executive Committee. For business requiring input or approval of the Board of Directors, the  
306 Executive Committee shall provide to each of the Board of Directors a short, written description of  
307 each issue, with pros and cons. This information shall be provided to the Board of Directors via  
308 mail, preferably email, at least ten days before the scheduled meeting with the Board. For urgent  
309 business, the briefing materials shall arrive at least 24 hours before the Board Meeting. Decisions  
310 of the Board of Directors, following Robert's Rules for Order, shall be by vote.

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**ARTICLE X - COMMITTEES**

Section 1. Executive Committee: The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, immediate Past-president, Secretary, Treasurer, and a Member-at-Large as elected by the Board of Directors. The duties of the Executive Committee are to oversee the conduct of the routine business of the society, to develop a budget for approval by the Board of Directors, and to ensure that the Society’s Annual Business Meeting, as required by the California Articles of Incorporation, is held at the date and location chosen for the coming year.

Section 2. Auditing Committee: There shall be a Financial Review Committee of three individuals, appointed by the President, whose duty shall be to review the financial records of the Society and report to the Board of Directors at the Annual Board meeting at the annual conference. Auditing standards shall be based on known and readily available Standards, such as those of the Auditing Standards Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). Applicable standards shall be determined by the Board of Directors in consultation with the Auditing Committee.

Section 3. Sites Committee: There shall be a rotating Sites Committee of two individuals, appointed by the Board of Directors, whose duty shall be to obtain a satisfactory annual conference location for one year in advance. This committee shall give a report at the regular Directors and Delegates meeting at the annual conference and at the Business meeting of the Annual Conference. Committee members will consider the criteria listed in Article VII, Section 7.

Section 4. Nominating Committee: There shall be a Nominating Committee of three individuals, appointed by the President, whose duty shall be to obtain nominations for Officers/Executive Committee and Directors of the Society. Nominees for the offices of President and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President normally shall be members of the Region in which the next conference of the Society shall be held. Nominees for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President normally shall be members of the Region in which the conference will be held two years subsequently, and be willing to participate in the three-year rotation of official duties listed in Article VI, Section 8. The Nominating Committee shall complete the slate of officers by nominating, from the membership-at-large, a Secretary and a Treasurer, who may serve consecutive terms in office. Election of a Treasurer, nominated from the floor, is not acceptable (See Article VI, Section 6).

Section 5. Resolutions & Bylaws Committee: There shall be a Resolutions Committee consisting of three individuals, appointed by the President, responsible for collating any resolutions received from the membership and preparing them for presentation to the Society annual business meeting. Similarly, the Committee shall have oversight of the bylaws to expedite amendments, which may be proposed by members or the Committee.

Section 6. Awards Committee: There shall be an Awards Committee consisting of the Executive Committee and chaired by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President or President-designated Program Committee Chairperson, who shall select recipients of the various awards that the Society may wish to bestow upon deserving persons. Nominations for awards must be submitted to the Awards Committee no later than three months before the scheduled annual meeting. The Awards Committee shall notify the award recipients at least two months before the Annual Conference. The award recipients are expected to attend the annual banquet, at which the Awards Committee shall present the award.

Section 7. Nominations for Directors, one to represent each Region listed in Article I, Section 3, shall be submitted to the Nominating Committee by the members of the respective Regions. Only one Director may represent any one Region and may serve consecutive terms.

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Section 8. The President shall appoint such other ad hoc committees as are necessary for the efficient conduct of the Society's activities.

Section 9. An incoming President shall discuss committee appointments at the first meeting of the new Board of Directors, normally held during or immediately after the annual conference. All Committee Chairs are to be filled within two months following the annual conference.

**ARTICLE XI - SEAL**

Section 1. The Society's seal shall appear on the Society's publications.

**ARTICLE XII - FINANCES**

Section 1. Budget Development, Review, and Approval - In collaboration with the WAS Treasurer, the Board of Directors shall prepare a General and Administrative budget for each coming year. In addition, the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President (Conference Program Chair) and the President-Elect, working with the Treasurer, shall prepare and submit a proposed Conference budget for the Board's initial review. This preliminary budget should be presented at the last Board meeting of the fiscal year. It is the responsibility of the Program Committee to plan an economical Annual Meeting and Conference, to submit a written budget proposal to the Board of Directors for Approval, and to adhere to the Board of Directors approved budget.

Section 2. In preparing the budget, for the forthcoming year, the Board of Director's reviews the financial needs of the organization, taking into consideration the priorities of the Association's purpose, general plans and Society business, as well as the initial Annual Meeting and Conference budget proposal submitted by the organization's Conference Program chair, Executive Officers, and the WAS Vice-President/President-Elect for the coming fiscal year. In order to avoid disruption of Society business and activities, the Board of Directors shall convene within 60 days of the close of the annual conference to set the budget for the coming year.

Section 3. All activities and events sponsored by the Association must be planned as cost-recoverable. Activities that do not comply with this guideline must be approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Budget revisions must be reviewed by the Executive Committee and then forwarded with their recommendations to the Treasurer for an opinion and then to the Board of Directors, who are responsible for approving or denying the changes.

Section 5. General Reimbursement & Billing Policies - The Association will reimburse only expenses that have been previously approved by the Board of Directors through its annual budget process. Officers and Members cannot incur any unapproved program expense, other than petty-cash (limited to \$30) without the prior approval of the appropriate person, usually the Treasurer.

Section 6. The President and/or the Annual Conference Program Officers may not enter into a contractual agreement or incur vendor expense without the approval of the WAS Board of Directors. Purchases over \$500 must go to the Full Board of Directors for approval and shall then follow appropriate procurement procedures.

Section 6. Reimbursable Expenses: Expenses incurred on approved Association business, including participation as an Executive Board member or committee member, may be reimbursed



414 upon receipt of the approved voucher. Prior approval of expenses by the Treasurer may provide a  
415 quicker turn around.

416  
417 Section 7. All vouchers, invoices, bills must be submitted at the earliest opportunity, but not later  
418 than 30 days out from the due date.

419  
420 Section 8. Officers and members of WAS must ensure that purchases and expenditures are  
421 consistent with the Budget Approved by the Board of Directors and follow appropriate guidelines  
422 as set by the Board and by the Treasurer. Failure to follow Budget and Expense guidelines,  
423 repeated issues, or grave compliance issues may result in termination of position and payment to  
424 WAS for inappropriate or unauthorized expenditures.

425  
426 Section 9. No indebtedness shall be incurred by any Officer, member of the Board of Directors,  
427 committee member or any other WAS member on behalf of the Society, except as authorized in  
428 ARTICLE VII, Section 7 and ARTICLE XII, Sections 1-4.

429  
430 Section 10. The Society's dues and monies in excess of immediate operating expenses shall be  
431 placed into an account to accumulate interest.

432  
433 Section 11. If WAS ceases to exist at some future time, these funds shall be distributed according  
434 to the provisions of ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION, with the objective and intent of  
435 benefiting the art and science of beekeeping.

436  
437 Section 12. WAS will, from time to time, carry a financial surplus that shall be designated as  
438 "Emergency Funds." The expenditure of these funds, in whole or in part, shall only authorized  
439 following a formal vote by the Executive Committee and a majority of two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) or more in  
440 favor.

441  
442 **ARTICLE XIII - ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

443  
444 Section 1. The designated Program Chairperson for the Annual Conference shall be a resident  
445 honey bee specialist, usually associated with a host university and/or a federal, state, or county  
446 organization. He or she should have professional training in the science of beekeeping, good  
447 rapport with beekeepers, and adequate resources to facilitate communication and organization of  
448 the conference. The Conference Program should reflect the Society's purpose to promote the art  
449 and science of beekeeping stated in ARTICLE II, Section 1. The art of beekeeping refers to  
450 creativity and skilled craft; whereas science reflects the state of knowledge. In all cases, the  
451 Program shall promote known Best Practices and eschew unsubstantiated claims, fads, and self-  
452 proclaimed experts.

453  
454 Section 2. Inasmuch as possible, the majority of speakers at the annual conference program shall  
455 be scientists and professionally trained persons, usually associated with county, state, federal  
456 organizations concerned with research, teaching, regulatory, and extension functions in the general  
457 area of beekeeping.

458  
459 Section 3. The designated Conference Program Chairperson shall avoid, as much as possible,  
460 scheduling activities in which major groups of members meet concurrently, thus diminishing  
461 attendance of the primary program. Concurrent workshops that do not occur at the same time as  
462 speakers for the main Conference Program are encouraged.

463  
464 Section 4. The Program Chairperson shall assume the responsibility of working closely with the  
465 Editor in disseminating publicity on the Annual Conference in bee journals and other publications

466 such that the final program and registration information is received by beekeepers no later than three  
467 months before the beginning of the conference.

468  
469 Sections 5. All meetings held in conjunction with the Annual Conference, including several days  
470 before and after the formal conference, shall be arranged with the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President or designated  
471 Program Chairperson. Committees and Boards tasked with planning, scheduling, promoting, and  
472 overseeing the budget and other aspects of the Annual Conference shall begin their work as soon  
473 as possible following the previous Annual Meeting. Their primary tasks and activities should be  
474 completed at least 5 months before the conference.

475  
476 Section 6. The Program Chairperson shall be responsible for coordinating all matters associated  
477 with the conduct of the Annual Conference, including competitive events, tours, (before, during,  
478 and after the conference), displays and shows, and local publicity relating to any of these events.  
479 The Program Chairperson shall appoint one or more Society members to help coordination of the  
480 conference, such as contacting and arranging for exhibitors and vendors, organizing tours, and  
481 other activities.

482  
483 Section 7. The Program Chairperson shall be responsible jointly for arranging the logistics and  
484 registration processes for lodging, providing meals or access to meals, and conducting participant  
485 sessions to meet the normal needs of lodging and subsistence for anyone who attends the annual  
486 conference. Attendees are expected to make their own lodging reservations.

487  
488 Section 8. The annual conference normally is held between September 10 and October 10, but has  
489 been held at other times of the year such as July – the date depending on the location, climate, and  
490 theme of the meeting.

491

492 **ARTICLE XIV - ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AT CONFERENCE**

493

494 Section 1. The Society shall hold an annual business meeting during the day preceding the Annual  
495 Banquet.

496

497 Section 2. The election of Officers and Directors shall be held during the Annual Business  
498 Meeting.

499

500 Section 3. The incoming Officers shall assume office at the first Board Meeting following the  
501 Annual Conference. If the Board Meeting precedes the Annual Business Meeting, the newly-  
502 elected Officers will assume office at the end of the Annual Banquet.

503

504 Section 4. The site for the Annual Conference, at least two years in advance, and the date for the  
505 next Annual Conference shall be decided at the Annual Business Meeting, based on  
506 recommendations of the Sites Committee.

507

508 Section 5. Decisions made by the Board of Directors may be overruled by a vote of two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ )  
509 of the members present and voting at the Annual Business Meeting. Voting in the Society shall be  
510 by show of hands, and counts tallied if requested by a member or if the vote appears to be close, or  
511 by secret ballot if requested by the chair or a member.

512

513 Section 6. The order of business for the Annual Business Meeting, unless changed by a majority  
514 vote of the members present and voting, shall be as follows:

- 515       A.       Call to order.  
516       B.       Reading of the Minutes of the last business meeting and any intervening meetings  
517               of the Board of Directors.

- 518 C. Reports of Officers (including a financial report by the Treasurer, followed
- 519 immediately by the Financial Review Committee Report).
- 520 D. Report of the Editor-Historian or Editor and Historian.
- 521 E. Reports of Committees, including sites, resolutions, nominating, and any other
- 522 committees appointed by the President of the Society.
- 523 F. Unfinished business.
- 524 G. New business (including Sections 2 and 4 of this Article).
- 525 H. Communications.
- 526 I. Resolutions.
- 527 J. Adjournment.
- 528

## 529 **ARTICLE XV - AWARDS**

530  
531 Section 1. An annual award, known as the "OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO BEEKEEPING  
532 AWARD," shall be presented at the annual banquet to a person, normally from the West, who has  
533 made outstanding contributions to beekeeping. These contributions may be in such areas as  
534 research, teaching, public relations, publishing, service to WAS or other beekeeper organizations,  
535 or any other creative activity that contributes to the art and science of beekeeping and the  
536 enjoyment of beekeeping as a hobby. Nominations for this award are made according to the  
537 provisions set forth in Article X, Section 6.  
538

539 Section 2. A second award, known as the "THURBER AWARD FOR INVENTIVENESS," may  
540 be presented at the annual banquet to a person, normally from the local area of the annual  
541 conference, who has demonstrated exceptional creativity in inventing beekeeping devices or  
542 practices. Nominations for this award are made according to the provisions set forth in Article X,  
543 Section 6.  
544

545 Section 3. The President may award one or more presidential recognitions, ideally in consultation  
546 and agreement with the Awards Committee.  
547

## 548 **ARTICLE XVI - AMENDMENTS**

549  
550 Section 1. Changes in these Bylaws may be made by a two-thirds majority of members present  
551 and voting at the Business Meeting of the Annual Conference or by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) majority of  
552 all votes cast via electronic communications or mail ballot. Written notice of the proposed  
553 amendment shall have been sent to every member at least one month before the last date for return  
554 of ballots in the case of a mail ballot. Proposed amendments of these Bylaws shall be submitted in  
555 writing to the Board of Directors for distribution to the membership.  
556

557 Section 2. The Board of Directors is empowered to adopt proposed amendments to the Bylaws,  
558 making them legally effective, during the time between Annual Conferences. Such amendments  
559 must be submitted through a Bylaws Amendment Committee and must pass the Board of Directors  
560 by two-thirds vote. Such amendments remain in force only until the next business meeting, when  
561 a two-thirds vote of the members present is required to add any permanent amendments to the  
562 Bylaws.