

# **THAMES VALLEY WOODTURNERS GUILD BY-LAWS**

## **A. FEES AND DUES**

1. (a) The Executive shall set annual dues and initiation fees.
- (b) Annual dues are only refundable with the approval of the Executive.
- (c) Annual membership fees are due in the first month of the membership Year (January), and should be paid by the second month for the member to remain in good standing.
- (d) Each and all Family members dues shall be \$25.
- (f) Special attendance fees may be established by the Executive to support special events, such as guest speakers, seminars, work shops and extra ordinary events. As much as possible, these events should be financially self-supporting.
- (g) New members may have annual dues of \$25 from May 1st for a part year and such dues are payable with the application for membership.

## **B. THE EXECUTIVE**

1. The Executive shall consist of the following members, elected at the
  - a) President
  - b) Vice-President / Treasurer
  - c) Past-President
  - d) Secretary
  - e) Editor
  - f) Executive Member(s) At Large
2. Each member of the Executive Committee shall have one vote. The President or President's designate of the meeting may choose to exercise that vote to break a tie vote, or to create a tie.
- 3 a) With the exception of the President and Treasurer positions, in the event that an office becomes vacant during the Guild year the Executive shall appoint a Regular member to fill the vacancy.
- 3 b) The President and Treasurer hold signing authority for the guild. In light of the responsibility of their positions, if the president or treasurer positions become vacant within the year, that position shall either be filled in whole by a current executive member, or their responsibilities can be dispersed among the executive members. The resulting vacancies will be filled as outlined in 3a.
4. Executive members shall be elected at the Annual Meeting for a one year term according to the following plan

## **C. EXECUTIVE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Note: Depending on the particular talents and time available by Executive members, some minor transfer of the following duties may occur between Executive members.

### **1. President**

- a) Presides over all meetings.
- b) Acts as head of the Guild.
- c) Signs any and all contractual documents on behalf of the Guild.
- d) Presents an annual report for approval at the Annual meeting.

### **2. Vice-President / Treasurer**

- a) Receives all monies from the membership, donations, advertising fees, etc. and issues receipts.
- b) Maintains the Guild's bank account and may maintain a petty cash fund not to exceed **\$100.00** (one hundred dollars).
- c) Pays out such monies as are required by instruction of the Executive. Membership shall be notified of major expenditures.
- d) Maintains an auditable set of financial records at all times, and keeps the financial books available for examination by the Executive at any Executive meeting.
- e) Assists the President to prepare an annual budget.
- f) Prepares an annual financial report for presentation to the membership and such other reports as may be requested by the Executive from time to time.
- g) Shall be a signing officer for Guild cheques.

### **3. Past President**

- a) this is an honorary position with voting privileges.

### **4. Executive Committee Chair / Scribe**

- a) Records the minutes of all meetings and distributes minutes to the Executive in a timely manner.
- b) Has custodial care of all documents relating to the Guild.

### **5. Secretary / Editor**

- a) Distributes and receives applications for membership.  
Records and maintains information
- b) Collects fees from members for renewing and new members, and submits such funds to the Treasurer.
- c) Maintains records notifies the Executive of those members who are in arrears in payment of fees.
- d) Communicates information on a regular basis to the Newsletter Editor
- e) Conducts correspondence for the Guild and reports same to the Executive.

### **6. Newsletter Editor**

- a) Publish newsletter.

### **7. Executive Member(s) At Large**

- a) Assist all/or any Executive members.
- b) At the request of the President, serves as the Executive representative of various established committees, their chairpersons or co-ordinators.

### **8. Signing Officers**

- a) Signing officers for the financial affairs of the Guild shall be (i) the Treasurer/Vice President (ii) The President
- b) No officer or group of officers is empowered to incur debt in the Guilds name.

### **D. TERM OF OFFICE**

- a) Elections shall be held at an Annual meeting each year as outlined under By-Law B (4)
- b) The Executives shall be elected for a period of 1 (one) year, and will assume office immediately and will remain in office, until replacement successors are elected.
- c) Between elections, vacancies shall be filled by Executive appointment for the unexpired portion of the term.

### **E. REMOVAL OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

- a) Removal of any elected officer(s) at anytime during their term of office must be dealt with at a Special meeting called in accordance with the By-Laws and called for that specific purpose.
- b) Any motion made to remove elected officer(s) will require a 2/3 (two thirds) majority vote by the Regular attending members

### **F. METHOD OF ELECTION**

- a) A Nominating Committee will be established by the Executive to prepare a slate of candidates to fill the positions described in By-Law B.1.
- b) The immediate Past President or a member appointed by the Executive, will chair the Committee.
- c) The Nominating Committee will consist of the immediate Past President or a member appointed by the Executive to chair the Committee, the President (ex-officio) and 2 (two) Regular members appointed by the Executive.
- d) Voting will be by secret ballot.

### **G. MEETINGS**

#### **1. Regular Meetings**

- a) The Executive shall schedule regular meetings each month for the first Thursday from 7:30 pm to 10:00 pm, Meetings start in September and run until June.
- b) A night may be established by the Executive as a hands-on night and instruction for beginners on a monthly basis or as needed.
- c) A tentative schedule of regular meetings and hands-on nights
- d) Regular meetings shall be held in such premises and at times as arranged by the Executive.

## **2. Executive Meetings**

- a) Will be held on the third Thursday of each month at a pre-arranged Executive members home. Meetings shall start at 7:30 pm until 10:00 pm, or as needed.

## **3. Annual Meetings**

- a) The Annual Meeting shall be held during the December general meeting.
- b) All members are to be notified as to location, date and time.
- c) All financial statements shall be reviewed at this time.
- d) All executive members will be voted into office at this time for a one year duration.

## **4. Special Meetings**

- a) Shall be called by the Executive at its discretion or in response to a proper petition by the Regular members.
- b) All members are to be notified as to location, date and time.

## **5. Summer Planning Meeting**

- a) ) This Meeting shall be held on the third Thursday of August.
- b) ) All Executive members are to be notified as to location, date and time.

## **H. CANCELLATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in the Guild may be cancelled by a majority vote of the Executive if:

- a) A member's actions are perceived to be detrimental to the interests of or to the reputation of the Guild.
- b) A member undertakes unauthorized actions or representations on behalf of the Guild. This would include use of the name **THAMES VALLEY WOODTURNERS GUILD**, the symbol "**TVWG**", or the Guild Logo, or the mailing list without prior written approval of the Executive.
- c) A member exhibits disruptive or inappropriate conduct during meetings.
- d) A member fails to pay his/her membership dues within a reasonable time of the date of renewal. Note: fees are due the first month of the membership year.

## **I. SAFETY AND LIABILITY**

1. All members are responsible for knowing and conducting themselves in accordance with safety rules as established by the Executive.
2. Non-compliance with rental agreement regarding premises and equipment Safety Rules, and/or behaviour dangerous to themselves or others may result in ejection from the facilities.
3. Any member, guest or visitor at any Guild meeting or event who is obviously under the influence of alcohol or drugs shall be requested to leave immediately. A repeat offence within a one year period may result in expulsion from the Guild.
- 4 For liability reasons pertaining to AAW guilds, all guild demonstrators must be AAW members in good standing at the time of their demonstration. Each demonstrator at regular guild meetings and guild-sponsored events must be AAW members. For liability reasons, the guild executive committee reserves the right to limit demonstrators based on number of demonstrators and safety of operation at guild-sponsored events.

All demonstrators shall be AAW members in good standing If the demonstrator is not an AAW member then the TVWG will buy their AAW membership.

5. Anyone doing a demonstration that is not a current AAW member shall have their AAW membership brought up to date and paid for by the TVWG prior to doing said demonstration.

#### **J. BUSINESS YEAR**

The business year commences with the first meeting of the membership year.

#### **K. DISSOLUTION OF THE GUILD**

A dissolution may be proposed by a proper petition or by the Executive and voted on by the Regular members. A 2/3 (two-thirds) majority vote shall be required for approval of any plan or proposal, i.e. a 2/3 vote of the Regular members. At such time the guild is dissolved the Executive shall dispose of the guilds assets by an agreed upon method of sale. The proceeds of this sale shall be redistributed 50% to the AAW education fund, and 50% to various woodturning guilds in Ontario.

No members of the guild shall profit from the dissolution of the guild.

Approved this 16th day of August 2007

Secretary	President
Eric Deckert,	Scott Beverley