

**BY-LAWS  
OF THE  
SOUTHERN ARIZONA SOCIETY OF MODEL ENGINEERS**

AMENDED ON February 1, 2017

The following By-Laws of the Society shall be the governing rules as set by the Officers, Board and the committee members of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee and by the members of the Southern Arizona Society of Model Engineers, Inc., as provided for in ARTICLE IX of the Constitution.

Section 1. Fees and Dues:

- A. Fees and dues shall be payable, on the date of the regular business meeting of each month, as per the following schedule:
  - 1. Regular Members \$15.00 per month
  - 2. Junior Members \$15.00 per month
  - 3. Honorary Members None
  - 4. Applicants for Membership \$15.00 Initiation fee plus \$15.00 per month.
- B. Rules regarding delinquent dues:
  - 1. Any member who is two (2) months behind in dues will be immediately suspended with a notice of suspension being forwarded to him by the Treasurer at that time.
  - 2. Any member who is four (4) months behind in dues will be dropped from the Society membership with a notice of termination being forwarded to him by the Treasurer at that time.
  - 3. A copy of all delinquency correspondence shall be forwarded to the Secretary for maintenance of membership records.
  - 4. Delinquency shall be established by non-payment of dues by the date of the regular monthly business meeting.
- C. Any past member who has dropped out of the Society, for whatever reason except a leave of absence, shall pay all back dues owed at the time of his Society termination, before he can submit an application for regular membership in the Society, as described in Section 2, below.
- D. In case of undue hardship, or financial hardship, the Board of Directors will be able to hold in abeyance, or cancel, without any prejudice, the dues of any member.

Section 2. Membership.

- A. Any person who desires to become a regular member of the Society shall submit a Membership Application, together with the \$15.00 initiation fee and the \$15.00 first month's dues, to the Vice-President for consideration by the Board. The Board shall, not earlier than the first monthly business meeting nor later than the third monthly business meeting of the Society following receipt of the Application, forward its recommendation to the Society for approval or rejection of the applicant.
- B. During this introductory period, the applicant and members of the Society will have the opportunity to become better acquainted. The applicant will be afforded all of the benefits of membership, excepting the privilege of voting or the custody of a door key. The applicant shall also be responsible for paying monthly dues for each of the months of this introductory period.
- C. At the regular business meeting of the Society, at which the Board submits its recommendation regarding the applicant, the membership shall vote on the application by secret ballot. If more than 25% of the members voting are against an applicant, this shall constitute a rejection. Dues, which have been paid by a rejected candidate, shall be refunded; however, the initiation fee will not be refunded.

- D. Any person who has been rejected has the option of reapplying, if **he/she** so desires. **He/she** will be required to meet the requirements of Paragraphs A. and B. of this Section 2 of the By-Laws in such an event. Only one (1) such reapplication will be permitted within one (1) year from date of any rejection.
- E. The main body of the Society shall reserve the right to recall any member, or to reduce any member, officer or committeeman from his office, committee or membership in the Society, upon a proper complaint by a regular member or members, filed in writing with the presiding officer. Such complaint shall be read in public at the next regular monthly business meeting of the Society. The procedure to exonerate or convict the party shall be: First, by discussion of the complaint, then defense of the accused, and finally a secret ballot by the members present, excluding the accused member and the presiding officer. The presiding officer shall reserve the right of voting, only if a tie vote exists. A majority of the members voting will be required for exoneration or conviction. The results of the ballot shall be publicly announced to the accused and membership.

### Section 3. Membership responsibilities and types.

- A. All members shall have such responsibilities as follows:
  - 1. Each member is responsible, and liable, for damage **he/she** may cause to club facilities and property, and for damage **he/she** may cause to other member's property.
  - 2. Keep current on **his/her** dues (unless specifically exempted by written direction of the Board).
  - 3. To act in a responsible manner befitting a member in this Society.
- B. Regular Membership:
  - 1. Limited to persons 19 years of age, or older, who are interested in the purposes of the Society.
  - 2. Limited to 45 active members at any one time.
  - 3. All regular members shall have such privileges as listed below:
  - 4. A vote in any and all business of the Society.
  - 5. Issuance of a key to the Society's meeting room.
  - 6. Unrestricted use of the Society's emblem.
- C. Junior Membership:
  - 1. Limited to those who are ages 13 to 18, inclusive.
  - 2. Must be sponsored by a regular member who is willing to be responsible and liable for **his/her** conduct and actions while a junior member.
  - 3. Junior members shall enjoy similar privileges and responsibilities as regular members, except they shall not be issued keys without specific approval of the Board of Directors, as ratified by a vote of the membership present at a regular business meeting of the Society.
  - 4. A Junior Member automatically becomes a Regular Member upon reaching the age of 19.
- D. Honorary Membership:
  - 1. Open to previous regular members, as defined in Section 3.B of these By-Laws.
  - 2. Shall be approved by a majority vote of current regular members at a duly called meeting per ARTICLE V of the Constitution.
  - 3. Honorary members shall receive all Society newsletters and bulletins.
  - 4. Honorary members shall not have any vote in Society business.
  - 5. An honorary member shall be readmitted to the Society with his previous seniority with regard to ARTICLE III, Section 1 of the Constitution, with no waiting period.
  - 6. Honorary Members will not be allowed to have a key to the Society's meeting/layout facility.

- E. Leave of Absence:
1. Any member may take a leave of absence upon written application in writing to the Board.
  2. Any member on leave of absence may regain his/her original status upon:
  3. Submission of application to the Board of Directors.
  4. Providing there is a vacancy in the Society membership at the time of his/her desired return, per Section 3.B.2 of these By-Laws.

F. Snowbirds

1. A member who moves to Arizona for the winter. The following will apply under the Bylaws:
  - a. Will be responsible for paying dues under Sec. 1 Fees and Dues A.1. for a minimum of 5 or 6 months.
  - b. Sec. 3.B.4 will apply only for the months in which dues are paid.
  - c. This section will not apply to Sec. 3.C.
  - d. A member under this section may not hold the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer or Boards of Directors

Section 4. No member shall be allowed to attend Society functions while under the influence of alcoholic beverages or narcotic drugs.

Section 5. Tools, equipment and rolling stock:

- A. No tools or equipment, belonging to a member may be used by any other member without the consent of the owner.
- B. All rolling stock placed on the layout, unless specifically designated by the owner, shall be presumed to be in "pool service" for use by all members.

Section 6. Historian and Librarian:

The President shall appoint a member or members to act as Society Historian and/or Librarian, to assemble, collect, and preserve any and all pieces of club history; and to collect and categorize all books and magazines for membership use in the Society library.

Section 7. Publication of Documents:

Publication of any or all documents, or portions thereof, concerning the business of the Society shall be at the discretion of the Officers and Board of Directors. Publications shall be made available upon request of any member of the Society.

- A. The Society newsletter shall be called THE RAILJOINER.
- B. An Editor for Society publications shall be appointed by the President of the Society.
- C. The Society newsletter shall be published quarterly, at the beginning of March, June, September and December. The March issue shall contain the slate of Officers and Directors to be voted upon at the annual business meeting, and shall be sent out so it is received at least five (5) days before the March Business meeting.

Section 8. Parliamentarian.

The President shall appoint a member(s) to act as Parliamentarian to help clarify matters of misunderstanding pertaining to the Constitution and By-Laws, and to issue revised By-Laws within one month of the meeting wherein the By-Laws were duly changed.