

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS OF THE WISCONSIN STATE BUTTON SOCIETY

The Wisconsin State Button Society was organized April 16, 1944

Constitution adopted June 10, 1944

(See end of document for amendment dates)

CONSTITUTION

Article I. Name of Society

Section 1: The name of this Society shall be “Wisconsin State Button Society”.

Article II. Purpose

Section 1: The purpose of the Wisconsin State Button Society shall be to study and improve the hobby of collecting, classifying and mounting buttons for pleasure and educational purposes; to hold meetings for the instruction and entertainment of its members; to bring before the public the art, beauty, and history in buttons and to cooperate with the National Button Society and other Societies for furthering the development of, interest in and knowledge of buttons.

Article III. Qualification of Members

Section 1: The Wisconsin State Button Society will include in its membership any person, society or club interested in buttons who agree to abide by the constitution and by-laws of the Wisconsin State Button Society.

Section 2: Active members shall consider themselves honor bound, in so far as possible to study the subject matter under consideration by the Society and to perform literary or committee work assigned them.

Section 3: Each member of the Wisconsin State Button Society shall have the privilege of voting. Any member unable to attend the Annual Meeting may vote by mail, or personal proxy but mail ballots must be in the hands of the Secretary at least twenty-four hours before said meeting.

Section 4: There shall be TWO classes of membership, Regular and Junior.

Article IV. Officers and Their Election

Section 1: The officers of the Wisconsin State Button Society shall be:

- President
- First Vice-President
- Second Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

The President shall appoint (with approval of other Board members) an Editor/Editors and Historian.

Section 2: The elected officers, together with the immediate Past President and the Editor/Editors shall constitute the Executive Committee.

Article V. Meetings

Section 1: The time and place of meetings shall be arranged by the Executive Committee.

Article VI. Method of Amending the Constitution

Section 1: The constitution may be amended at a regular meeting of the Society by a two-thirds majority of the members voting, providing that notice of the proposed amendment or amendments has been read at a previous meeting or sent to each member by mail prior to the meeting.

BY-LAWS

Article I. Members

Section 1: The amount of annual dues shall be voted by the membership.

Section 2: The dues shall be payable to the Treasurer on or before January 1. Failure to pay by January 1 will result in the forfeiting of all rights of membership unless reinstated by payment of dues.

Article II. Officers

Section 1: The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee whose duty it shall be to prepare and present a slate of candidates to be voted upon. No person's name shall appear without that person's consent. Names of candidates shall appear in the BULLETIN prior to the time of election.

Section 2: Newly elected officers will take office on the first day of the month following the annual meeting. They shall serve a two-year term.

Section 3: If a vacancy occurs on the Executive Board, the Board shall have the right to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term.

Section 4: No President shall serve more than one consecutive two-year term.

Section 5: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and the Executive Board.

- Section 6: The First Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in case of his/her absence.
- Section 7: The Second Vice-President shall be obliged to learn all officers' duties.
- Section 8: The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Society and of the Executive Board, read at each meeting the minutes of the previous Society and Executive Board meetings and conduct such correspondence as may be necessary for the welfare of the Society.
- Section 9: The Treasurer shall have charge of the funds of the Society and shall receive dues. The Treasurer shall pay bills approved by the Executive Board of the Society, keep an accurate account of all receipts and disbursements and present an annual report. The treasurer shall bank all funds in the name of the Wisconsin State Button Society.

Article III. Meetings

- Section 1: The last meeting of the calendar year shall be the Annual Meeting. The officers shall be elected at that meeting every other year.
- Section 2: Fifteen members shall constitute a quorum for regular meetings, and any four members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum for Executive Board meetings.
- Section 3: Anyone selling buttons, cards or related items at a State Meeting must be a member of the Wisconsin State Button Society. He/she shall pay in advance a non-refundable fee per table, set by the Executive Committee. He/She shall also be expected to patronize functions held in connection with the State Meeting.

Article IV. Executive Board

- Section 1: The Executive Board shall have full powers in the management of the Society, and it shall decide on all matters not provided for in the By-Laws of that meeting. This Board shall meet at the request of the President.

Article V. Committees

- Section 1: The following committees (and any other committee(s) deemed necessary) shall be appointed by the President (with approval from other Board members):
- Nominating Committee
 - Auditing Committee of 2
 - Web/Social Media Committee of at least 2

Article VI. Parliamentary Authority

Section 1: Robert's Rules of Order shall be the final authority on all questions or procedure and parliamentary law not covered by the Constitution and By-Laws.

Article VII. Method of Amending the By-Laws

Section 1: The By-Laws may be amended at a regular meeting of the Society by a two-thirds majority of the members voting, providing that notice of the proposed amendment or amendments has been read at a previous meeting or sent to each member by mail prior to the meeting.

Amended June 27, 1948
Amended Jay 19, 1951
Amended September 6, 1952
Amended October 6, 1987
Amended June 18, 1999
Amended July 12, 2014