

# THE WIT CLUB NATIONAL BYLAWS

## ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this international RV owners organization is Winnebago International Travelers. For purpose of brevity, it shall be referred to in this document as the WIT Club.

## ARTICLE II – OFFICE

The offices of the WIT Club shall be at Winnebago Industries, Inc. The mailing address of the organization is P.O. Box 268, Forest City, IA 50436. The shipping address is 1045 S. 4th, Forest City, IA 50436.

## ARTICLE III – EMBLEM

The emblem will be an oval shape that represents the circle of fellowship and bonds of friendship that members enjoy. The blue and green colors represent the boundless horizon of fun and adventure ahead and the comfort of a nature setting. The white arcs symbolize the freedom of the open road and form a classic “W” shape in homage to the iconic roots of our club.



# **WIT CLUB**

## ARTICLE IV - PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

1. Basic Purpose: To promote fellowship, friendship and fun among all members of the WIT Club; to foster and develop recreational, social and travel opportunities for the enjoyment of Winnebago Industries RVs; and encourage gatherings and outings on state, provincial, local and international levels.
2. Objectives: To assist in protecting members’ rights as a private RV owner. To serve as a feedback mechanism to Winnebago Industries. To assist in the formation and maintenance of state and provincial clubs, international clubs, local chapters, and special interest clubs.

## ARTICLE V - WIT CLUB MEMBERSHIP

1. Definition: The term “member” as used herein, is defined as a person or persons who singly or jointly own a Winnebago Industries’ RV who have been accepted for membership and whose dues are paid.
2. Classes of membership:
  - A. Charter Members are regular members who were assigned the membership numbers between W00100 and W08514 or I00011 and I01420.
  - B. Regular Members are any person or persons owning a self-contained Winnebago Industries RV who has been granted membership and whose dues are current.

Addendum 08/20/98: With the exception of Charter Members, it is now permissible to pass your WIT Club number on to your children providing the proper form has been completed and approved by Consumer Engagement Manager. Once this transaction has been completed, this action will not be reversed. If the original owner of said number wants to rejoin, he/she will have to apply for a new number. To obtain this form, please contact the WIT Club Office.

C. Dealer Members are Winnebago Industries' RV dealers who automatically become WIT Club members to support the purposes and objectives of the WIT Club. Dealer membership is automatically canceled when the dealership is no longer authorized to sell Winnebago Industries RVs. Dealer personnel may not hold office of President or Vice President for any State or Local Chapter.

D. Honorary Members:

1. National Honorary Members are owners/non-owners of a Winnebago Industries' RV who promote or assist WIT Club activities, either directly or indirectly. National Honorary Members of the WIT club are recommended and named by a WIT Club staff committee. National Honorary members may attend State and Provincial club meetings, Local Chapter outings and Grand National Rally. National Honorary members will be required to pay event fees. National Honorary members may not be owners of any other brand RV.
2. State and Provincial Clubs, Local Chapters and Special Interest Clubs may also name honorary members. Honorary members, who promote or assist WIT Club activities, may include past members who, because of health or age, sold their motor home and can no longer participate as active members; (definition of participation: significant assistance to a club or local chapter and have been active during the past 12 months) are eligible to be nominated for this status. Honorary members may not vote, may not hold office, or be owners of another brand RV. Names must be reported to the WIT Club office for approval by the Consumer Engagement Manager to receive honorary certificate and card. The certificate will be dated as to when honorary membership will start. With this membership, member will receive WIT Club News magazine at no charge for 24 months. After the 24 months, member may continue receiving WIT Club News at a rate of \$20.00 per year. Honorary members can still be active with club/chapter if they do not wish to continue receiving the WIT Club News. Honorary members may attend State and Provincial club meetings, Local Chapter outings and Grand National Rally. Honorary members will be required to pay event fees.

## ARTICLE VI - APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

1. Applicants for regular membership, by virtue of applying for membership, agree that they accept and shall abide by the provisions of the Bylaws of the WIT Club. Applicants for regular membership also attest that they are owners of a self-contained Winnebago Industries RV. If the applicant is eligible and the correct amount of funds is remitted, membership in the WIT Club shall be granted and a membership card and ID plate will be sent to each member. A copy of the Bylaws shall be provided upon request.
2. Dealers who are authorized to sell Winnebago Industries RVs are automatically members of the WIT Club. The dealer membership may be used by any employee of the dealer. The employee may attend campouts, meetings or rallies of a club, or chapter as a dealer member even though they may not personally own a Winnebago Industries RV. When attending WIT Club functions, dealer member representatives must be in a Winnebago Industries RV, should show their WIT Club dealer membership card and display their WIT Club member ID plate. Dealer members are responsible for the conduct of their employees. Dealer personnel may not hold office of President or Vice President for any State or Local Chapter.

3. Any member of the WIT Club who has resigned or whose membership has lapsed shall be eligible for membership again, providing they own a qualified unit, upon payment of annual dues. The reinstated member may request his/her original (W or I) number to be reassigned to them as long as that number has not been transferred to a family member.
4. Admission to the WIT Club shall not be denied because of sex, race, religion, marital status, color or nationality.
5. Any member whose dues remain unpaid at the end of the month when due, forfeits membership in the WIT Club and is not eligible to remain a member of a club, or chapter, or to enjoy any rights afforded members.
6. Any member who becomes ineligible through sale of their Winnebago Industries RV immediately forfeits membership in the WIT Club and is not eligible to remain a member of a club, or chapter, or to enjoy any rights afforded members. If a member has ordered another Winnebago Industries RV, membership may be retained during the period the member is without a unit for a period not to exceed 90 days or until the new unit is delivered.
7. Any member canceling their membership may receive a refund of any full year of unused dues upon request as long as that member returns his ID plate and membership card to the WIT Club office. If the ID plate is not available, \$10.00 will be subtracted from the refund amount. A partial year's dues will not be refunded. Multi-year memberships will receive a prorated refund for any full year left EXCEPT complimentary memberships. A complimentary membership will not be refunded.
8. Solicitation of the WIT Club News directory for general mailing is prohibited and is against the WIT Club Bylaws for anyone to do so.

#### ARTICLE VII - STATE AND PROVINCIAL CLUBS, LOCAL CHAPTERS, INTERNATIONAL CLUBS & SPECIAL INTEREST CLUBS

1. Pursuant to the stated purpose and objectives of the WIT Club, the members are encouraged to join together into clubs and chapters.
2. All the above named clubs and chapters shall abide by the following basic rules:
  - A. To be a member of any club or chapter, the person or persons must be members of the national WIT Club. Any WIT Club member may join any club or chapter providing they meet the requirements of the club or chapter.
  - B. Non-WIT Club member owners of a Winnebago Industries RV may be guests of a club or chapter for a maximum of two times without becoming a member.
  - C. Owners of non-qualifying units (anything other than a Winnebago Industries RV) may NOT attend club or chapter functions as a guest (except at a Friendship Outing).
  - D. Each club or chapter must elect at least the following officers: president, vice president, secretary and treasurer from the membership of the club or chapter. Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting. It is recommended to elect officers in one-year terms. Only the offices of secretary and treasurer may be combined into one person.

- 1) The offices of **President** of a **state, provincial club** or **local chapter** shall not hold office more than five consecutive one year terms. A partial term shall not count as a term served. Upon fulfilling term as President, the member will receive a complimentary one-year extension of his/her national membership if the club or chapter has received the Club or Chapter of Excellence status for that current year. If the Club or Chapter did not receive Excellence status, the member will receive a six month membership extension as a thank you from WIT Club for the time of service. Complimentary memberships will not be refunded.
  - 2) The office of **Vice President** may be exempted from the above term limit requirement. Upon fulfilling a one year term, if the club or chapter receives Excellence status, the member will receive a complimentary six-month extension of his/her national membership if the club or chapter has received the Club or Chapter of Excellence status for that current year. If Excellence status is not received by the club or chapter, there is no extension.
  - 3) The offices of **secretary** and **treasurer** may be exempted from the above term limit requirements. Upon fulfilling a one year term, if the club or chapter receives Excellence status, the member will receive a complimentary six-month extension of his/her national membership if the club or chapter has received the Club or Chapter of Excellence status for that current year. If Excellence status is not received by the club or chapter, there is no extension.
- E. If a vacancy occurs in the office of president, the vice president shall be the president for the remainder of the elected president's term. If the VP fulfills the remainder of the one-year term and the club or chapter receives Excellence status, the member will receive the same benefit as if he/she filled the entire term. If a vacancy occurs in any other office, the club or chapter may elect a successor who shall hold office for the unexpired term. No complimentary membership will be extended to partially served terms for offices other than president.
- F. Application for charter
- 1) After holding an organizational meeting to form a state club, a written application for charter signed by the Area Representative should be submitted to the Consumer Engagement Manager for approval and issuance of a charter.
  - 2) In the case of a local chapter, the state president may sign the application for the Area Representative if the Area Representative is unavailable. The Consumer Engagement Manager and the Area Representative will then sign the charter and issue it.
  - 3) Club and chapter bylaws should be completed as soon as possible and submitted to the Area Representative for review and eventually the Consumer Engagement Manager for approval.
  - 4) Any club or chapter may choose its name, colors and symbol with the Area Representative and Consumer Engagement Manager giving final approval.
- G. In any voting at the club or chapter meetings, all adult persons constituting a member in good standing have a right to vote.
- H. Clubs and chapters must define a quorum for transaction of business at any duly called meeting. The quorum must be either a designated number or percentage. (In all ordinary societies the bylaws should provide for a quorum as large as can be depended upon for being present at all meetings when the weather is not exceptionally bad.)

- I. All regular, dealer and charter members of the WIT Club may attend meetings of clubs or chapters.
  - J. Club or chapter members are responsible for the welfare and conduct of their guests who may be traveling in their unit and attending club or chapter functions.
  - K. State and Provincial clubs, and local chapters may hold a Friendship Outing no more than once every 12 months to invite non-Winnebago Industries RV's to further the spirit of fellowship and to owners of a Winnebago Industries' RV to join the WIT Club. The outing must be authorized by the Consumer Engagement Manager and preannounced in the WIT Club News. Requests for approval must arrive at least four months prior to event.
  - L. All amendments and changes in the club or chapter bylaws should be submitted to the Consumer Engagement Manager for approval.
3. Definition of each club or chapter is:
- A. State or Provincial clubs consist of all who are members in good standing of the club. A club should hold four meetings a year and no fewer than three meetings. The club is to assist the local chapters in their state or province and to plan and carry out the required activities of a rally. Rallies are not to be designed or planned to contribute profits to the club's treasury. Rallies must be supported by the local chapter members within the state or province.
  - B. Local chapters consist of all who are members in good standing. Regular meetings of the local chapter shall be held monthly, if practical.
    - 1) Local chapters have a responsibility to support the state or provincial club in all its activities.
    - 2) The WIT Club encourages members to visit and, if so desired, to join more than one local chapter. However, when it is time for local chapters to accept responsibilities for the rally, you should select one chapter as your home chapter and assist in the duties of that home chapter.
  - C. International Clubs consist of all members who have met the particular requirements of the International club. International clubs shall meet in conjunction with the Grand National Rally and at least one other time during the year, if practical.
  - D. Special Interest Clubs consists of all members who have met the particular requirements of the club.
    - 1) These clubs were chartered for the sole purpose of members with the same interest getting together for camaraderie.
    - 2) Special Interest Clubs may hold rallies for their special interest club membership.
    - 3) Having a special interest club rally for all WIT Club members is contrary to the purpose of their organization. If members of these clubs want to attend rallies with the entire WIT Club members, there are state or provincial rallies.

4. Club/Provincial/Chapter Finances:

- A. The fiscal year of each chartered club, or chapter shall coincide with taking of the office by new officers.
- B. A club or chapter may assess its member's reasonable annual dues by vote of its membership to cover its own operating expenses.
- C. Prior to the election of new officers, the outgoing president shall appoint an audit committee consisting of no more than three members to audit the finances for the previous year. The audit committee is expected to complete its work during the meeting, campout or rally before the new officers are installed. The audit committee's report will be made part of the record of the club, or chapter.
- D. The officers, including the past president, should determine the budget for the fiscal year early in their term of office. Checking account balances should be at the minimum considered necessary to operate the club or chapter during the year. Rally profits should also be minimal. Any amount in excess of expenses should be applied toward the next year's rally. Rally participants should not finance club and chapter yearly programs. The budget should be filed with the state or chapter documents.

5. Club & Chapter Administration:

- A. The sole authority of each club or chapter for its internal government rests in its membership.
- B. The club or chapter authority derives from bylaws and operating policies duly adopted by vote of the club or chapter membership. Such voting may take place in duly called meeting or by mail/e-mail ballot. Proxy voting may not be used. (The definition of proxy voting according to Webster's New World Dictionary is: a document empowering a person to act for another as in voting or a person empowered to act for another.)
- C. Each club or chapter must adopt its own bylaws for its own self-government. The adopted bylaws must be submitted to and approved by the Consumer Engagement Manager to be placed in a manual file.
- D. It is highly recommended that Robert's Rules of Order govern all proceedings in which they are applicable. The WIT Club National Bylaws as set forth, are a guideline to refer to when there is a discrepancy within the club or chapter.
- E. Clubs and chapters shall have an Executive Board.
  - 1) The Executive Board for a state or provincial club should be composed of the current officers, immediate past president and the local chapter presidents (if practical).
  - 2) The Executive Board for local chapters should consist of the current officers and the immediate past president.
- F. The nominating committee shall be appointed by the president to serve for the following year and shall be dismissed upon election of new officers. The committee shall place in nomination candidates for all offices. At the meeting when this report is made, other nominations may be made from the floor.

G. If a club or chapter knowingly allows non-WIT Club members to be members or to attend campouts, meetings or rallies or their organization (except as a guest permitted in Article VII, Section 2, Paragraph C., the club or chapter charter will be declared null and void and all privileges of the club or chapter will be withdrawn. Thereafter, the Consumer Engagement Manager may reissue the charter upon correction of the situation or reorganize the club or chapter.

6. Club & Chapter Sponsors:

A. The purpose of a club or chapter sponsorship is to develop and maintain a good relationship between the owners of Winnebago Industries' RVs and Winnebago Industries' dealer network.

B. Winnebago Industries and the WIT Club do not recognize a sponsorship except by authorized dealers of Winnebago Industries. A sponsorship by another company constitutes a conflict of interest. Clubs and chapters accepting a sponsorship from a company other than Winnebago Industries compromise their relationship with the WIT Club and may cause their charter to be declared null and void.

7. Club & Chapter Officers:

A. President:

- 1) To lead the membership and coordinate affairs and events.
- 2) Preside over meetings. Offers recommendations and suggestions for consideration. In case of a tie, casts a vote.
- 3) Appoints committees as needed and serve as chairman of all except the nominating committee. Committee members serve at the pleasure of the president and may be excused without cause.
- 4) Insures all provisions of the WIT Club Bylaws are followed.
- 5) Notifies the WIT Club Office immediately of any accident or injury which occurs during any outing, meeting or rally.
- 6) Recruits new members for the club or chapter.
- 7) Talks to dealers and coordinates Show & Tell programs.
- 8) Attends outings of other club or chapters as often as possible.
- 9) Encourages members to participate in club or chapter functions.
- 10) Works with the Area Representative in his/her area.
- 11) Requests certificate of insurance from the WIT Club Office, if required by campgrounds or fairgrounds.
- 12) Follows up with each officer to be sure all duties are being performed.

B. Vice President:

- 1) Presides over meetings, if the president is absent.

- 2) Carries out duties assigned by the club or chapter bylaws.
- 3) Assists the president in coordinating affairs and events.

C. Secretary:

- 1) Keeps accurate up-to-date records of the club or chapter membership. Following the election, sends a complete roster and listing of new officers to the WIT Club Office and the Area Reps. A roster is required annually.
- 2) Records the proceedings of all meetings of the membership and its Executive Board.
- 3) Submits information on club or chapter outings and Who's Inviting Travelers to the WIT Office at [witclubnews@winnebagoind.com](mailto:witclubnews@winnebagoind.com) . See WIT Club News Print Schedule for more information on printed publication deadlines. The WIT Club website is updated regularly
- 4) Handles correspondence for the club or chapter.

D. Treasurer:

- 1) Receives, safeguards and keeps accurate records of all club or chapter funds in the name of the club or chapter
- 2) Submits written reports on funds at each meeting of the club or chapter. Gives oral report to the membership.
- 3) Disburses funds only for authorized purposes and only in accordance with club or chapter bylaws.
- 4) Distributes patches, logos and other related materials.
- 5) Verifies that all members and applicants for membership are members of the WIT Club.

E. Immediate Past President:

- 1) Serves as an advisor to the president.
- 2) Is a member of the Executive Board.

F. Other officers may be elected by the club or chapter pursuant to the members' desires and interests. Possible officers include: wagonmaster, director, chaplain, youth coordinator and additional vice presidents.

## ARTICLE VIII - MANAGEMENT OF WINNEBAGO INTERNATIONAL TRAVELERS

Winnebago International Travelers is a department within Winnebago Industries, Inc., Forest City, Iowa.



1. Staff:

A. Consumer Engagement Manager:

1. The Consumer Engagement Manager is responsible for the management of the WIT Club.

B. Area Representatives:

1. The main duties of the Area Representatives are:

- 1) Assist the state and provincial clubs and local chapters.
- 2) Establish new clubs and chapters in area where the need exists.
- 3) Work with the dealer network of Winnebago Industries, Inc.
- 4) Represent Winnebago Industries and WIT Club staff to all WIT Club members and potential rvers.

2. Vacancies in the Area Representative staff shall be filled by the Consumer Engagement Manager.

C. Office Staff:

1. WIT Club shall be supported by additional office personnel as determined by Winnebago Ind.

## ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS

Chapter and Club Bylaws may be amended by the Bylaws committee by majority vote. No changes shall be made at the meeting when such changes are first proposed and at least thirty days must pass between introduction and acceptance of amendments.

## ARTICLE X - ENFORCEMENT OF BYLAWS

The Consumer Engagement Manager with the recommendation of the Area Representative may suspend or revoke the charter of any club or chapter found to be violating the provision of the Bylaws. The above persons may also place the club or chapter under trusteeship and reorganize the club or chapter. The Executive Board of the club or chapter may petition for reactivation subsequent to the time the offenses have been remedied.

1. Expulsion/Reinstatement of club or local chapter members

- A. A member may submit a petition with the support of two-thirds majority of the club or chapter membership through the president to the Executive Board for confirmation or denial of their petition. The Executive Board's decision should concur with the two-thirds majority of the members.

[or]

- B. A member may submit a request for expulsion through the president to the Executive Board. The Executive Board should review the request and make a recommendation to the membership. To approve the recommendation, a two-thirds majority of the membership must vote in its support.
- C. The person named in the petition or request has the right to reply to the charges in writing prior to action being taken.
- D. In either case, the expulsion and/or reinstatement of a member is based on the two-thirds majority support of a club or chapter membership. The Executive Board does not have the sole power to expel or reinstate a member.
- E. In either process, the Executive Board should not vote against the wishes of the majority of the membership.
- F. After the process is complete, documentation should be sent to the office of the National WIT Club organization in Forest City, Iowa.

#### ARTICLE XI - EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of these revised bylaws shall be July, 2016. All clubs and local chapters must review their bylaws to insure compliance with the WIT Club Bylaws. All amended Bylaws must be submitted to the respective area representative for approval by the Consumer Engagement Manager.