



## *Wiesbaden Community Spouses' Club*

### *Constitution*

*2017 – 2019*

#### **ARTICLE I - NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Wiesbaden Community Spouses' Club (WCSC), located in the Wiesbaden Military Community of Wiesbaden, Germany, CMR 467 Box 7000, APO AE 09096.

#### **ARTICLE II – MANDATORY STATEMENTS**

**Section 1:** This organization is established in compliance with Department of Defense (DOD) Instructions DODI 1000.15, the USAREUR Private Organizations and Fundraising Policy, Army Regulation (AR) 210-22, and Army Europe (AE) Reg. 210-22.

**Section 2:** This organization can operate on a military post only with the consent and approval of the Garrison Commander. The Garrison Approving Authority (GAA) can revoke privileges at any time. (AR 210-22, 2-1a(1))

**Section 3:** This organization is not an agency of the US, will be self-sustaining, and may not receive financial assistance from the Department of the Army (DA) or any Non-Appropriated Fund (NAF) activity. This organization will not compete with a NAF or an Appropriated Fund (APF) operation.

**Section 4:** The WCSC supports equal opportunity and does not discriminate in its membership or hiring practices based on age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender, ethnic group, mental, or physical challenges. (AR 210-22, 3-7a) Additionally, in its hiring practices, the WCSC does not discriminate based on marital status, lawful political affiliation, or labor organization membership.

**Section 5:** Neither the installation nor the government has any liability for WCSC actions or debts. (AR 210-22, 2-1a(1))

**Section 6:** In accordance with Host Nation Laws, WCSC members may be personally liable to creditors if the assets of the organization are insufficient to discharge all liabilities. (AR 210-22, 2-1a(2)(d))

**Section 7:** WCSC will neither propagate extremist activities nor advocate violence against others or the violent overthrow of the government. (AR 210-22, 2-1a(2))

**Section 8:** WCSC will not seek to deprive individuals of their civil rights. (AR 210-22, 2-1a(2))



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- Section 9: WCSC will reimburse the Army for utility expenses, unless incidental. (AR 210-22, 2-1a(2)(e))
- Section 10: All members are required to read the Constitution and By-Laws upon joining the WCSC. The Constitution and By-Laws will be posted on the WCSC website for this purpose. (www.wiesbadenspousesclub.com)
- Section 11: *Robert's Rules of Order, Revised*, shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure as well as those matters not particularly addressed in the Constitution and By-Laws.
- Section 12: The purpose of this organization is to develop, organize, and sponsor educational, charitable, and social activities. The club will collect and disseminate information of interest and value to its members; will foster, protect, and preserve the ideals of charity, benevolence, and good fellowship in keeping with the ideals of the United States Military Forces and Allies.

**ARTICLE III - PURPOSE**

- Section 1: The WCSC raises funds in support of community projects benefiting the local military community, as well as regional, national, and international organizations. (AR 210-22, 2-1a(2)(b))
- Section 2: Major fundraisers approved by the GAA are also authorized, such as but not limited to Wiesbaden Bazaar, Bingos, Craft Fairs, Galas, and Membership Drives. (Bingos must adhere to AR 215-1, paragraphs 8 – 12)
- Section 3: Functions and activities sponsored by WCSC may include but are not limited to the Thrift Shop, monthly General Membership meetings, and events warranted by member interest and support. (AR 210-22, 2-1a(2)(b))
- Section 4: The charitable donations funded by WCSC may include, but are not limited to organizations approved by the WCSC Scholarship and Welfare Committees. (AR 210-22, 2-1a(2)(b))

**ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP**

- Section 1: The WCSC shall have active, associate, and honorary members.



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Section 2: Active members:

Shall hold valid DoD ID cards and shall have all the rights and privileges of membership to include the right to vote and hold any elective or appointed position. (AR 210-22, 2-1a(2)(c)) Active membership shall be open to the following:

- a. Individuals in the US Forces, military or civilian employees (active or retired).
- b. All spouses and adult family members of: US military personnel (active or retired), civilians employed by the Departments of Defense (DoD), deceased military personnel, and US civilian contract employees.
- c. Individuals must be granted status under the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Status of Forces Agreement (NATO SOFA).
- d. NATO ID cardholder.

Section 3: The President may invite others as deemed appropriate. The President, with the approval of the Board of Governors (BOG), shall invite the German-American and International Women's Club (GAIWC) Presidents (German & International) to be Honorary Members for one WCSC club year. Two Honorary WCSC Club Memberships will be offered to the Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC) each year. An Honorary Member shall not hold an elected office and is a non-voting member.

Section 4: Eligible Associate Members:

- a. The Membership Chair shall submit a motion to approve all Non-I.D. cardholders (includes anyone who does not have SOFA status) to the BOG. Associate members cannot hold a BOG Executive position.
- b. Associate membership, which is monitored by the Membership Chair and Parliamentarian, cannot exceed 25% of total membership. Associate members shall have the right to vote.
- c. Associate members who do not have a DoD ID card must attain sponsorship from a DoD ID cardholder or one of the GAIWC Presidents.



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Section 5: The President, with the approval of the Executive Board of Governors (EBOG), shall invite the Senior Spouse of the Wiesbaden Installation to be the Honorary President.

- a. The Honorary President may invite any others in the Wiesbaden community to be an Advisor(s). (According to Article IV, Section 2, a, or b.)
- b. Advisors shall have the right to vote on matters put before the General Membership.
- c. In the event that the Honorary President position is vacant, the WCSC President may invite any others in the Wiesbaden community to be Advisors. (According to Article IV, Section 2, a. or b.)

Section 6: Membership runs from 1 June through 31 May, but may be terminated by written request of a member. Membership may also be terminated when the conduct of a member is of such a nature that it brings discredit upon the WCSC, the military, the host nation, and the United States Government, and/or its agencies. Two-thirds (2/3) of the WCSC BOG must approve the termination.

Section 7: Non-members may attend one WCSC sponsored function as a guest of a member in good standing. The member will be responsible for their guest's fees.

Section 8: Prospective members may attend only one function as a non-member before joining the WCSC. Any member of the WCSC may bring a guest or guests to one General Membership Meeting or WCSC sponsored event. Guests may not attend those meetings specifically stipulated as members-only events, and announced in advance as such, by the WCSC BOG.

**ARTICLE V – GOVERNMENT**

Section 1: Executive Board of Governors (EBOG):

- a. The EBOG shall consist of the elected officers, the Parliamentarian, Honorary President and the Advisor(s).
- b. Elected officers shall be the President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Administrative Treasurer, and Welfare Treasurer.



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Section 2: Board of Governors (BOG):

The business of the WCSC shall be conducted according to this Constitution and By-Laws by the BOG. The BOG shall be composed of the EBOG and standing committee chairs appointed by the President.

- a. Standing Committee Chairs may be, but not limited to, Activities, Gala, Community Outreach, GAIWC, Historian, Hospitality, Information Technology/Social Media, Membership, Property, Publicity, Reservations, Scholarship, Special Events, Thrift Shop, Ways & Means, Property, and Welfare.
- b. The President may appoint Ad Hoc or Special committees which must be approved by majority vote of the BOG. The President will establish the provisions for the tenure, dissolution, and scope of responsibility in writing of Ad Hoc or special committees.
- c. Anytime a member of the BOG causes hardship, conflict, or fails to attend 3 board meetings, the EBOG can require the resignation of said member.

Section 3 – Voting Procedures:

- a. At the BOG meetings, a quorum is established when at least two-thirds (2/3) of voting members are present, or a vote is held in an alternate manner as specified in the By-Laws.
- b. At the General Membership meetings, a quorum is equal to the number of members present at the meeting. A simple majority constitutes a vote unless otherwise specified.
- c. The President and the Parliamentarian shall decide the methods of voting at all BOG and General Membership meetings, except where otherwise directed by this Constitution or the By-Laws. The usual method shall be by a show of hands.
- d. *Electronic Vote:* If an urgent BOG and/or General Membership vote is required, electronic voting will be used.
- e. *Telephonic Vote:* The Parliamentarian will conduct the telephonic voting for the BOG passing on the results to the President and Secretary. If an emergency vote is needed from the General Membership, the Executive Board will help with the telephonic vote, passing on the results to the President and Secretary.



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**ARTICLE VI – ELECTIONS AND SUCCESSIONS**

- Section 1: Elections for elected officers are held annually at the April General Membership meeting. Each officer shall be elected by a simple majority vote of all members present.
- Section 2: In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the First Vice President may succeed to the Presidency. In the event that the 1st Vice President does not succeed the President, then the 2nd Vice President may. If neither are able to do so, then one shall be appointed by the Honorary President. Any other EBOG vacancies shall be filled from membership by appointments of the President, with the approval of the EBOG, with the exception of Parliamentarian.
- Section 3: Resignations from the BOG must be submitted in writing to the President at least two weeks prior to the effective date thereof, unless precluded by necessity.

**ARTICLE VII - DISSOLUTION**

- Section 1: Dissolution of the WCSC, without any provisions to meet again in the future, shall be mandated by a majority vote of the members present at a General Membership meeting, or by order of the GAA.
- Section 2: In case of dissolution of organization, funds in the Treasury at the time will be used to satisfy any outstanding debts, liabilities, or obligations. The remaining funds and assets will be distributed among WCSC historically supported organizations as approved by the BOG. (AR 210-22, 2-1a(2)(c))
- Section 3: The movement of the WCSC to another geographical location does not require or constitute dissolution of the WCSC; however, it may involve coordination with a new approval authority.
- Section 4: On approval of this Constitution, previously published Constitutions and By-Laws are rescinded.

**ARTICLE VIII - ADOPTING CLAUSE**

- Section 1: This Constitution shall be adopted by a majority vote of the members present at a General Membership meeting. At that time, copies of the proposed revisions of the Constitution will be available for review. Once adopted, a copy of this Constitution will be sent to the GAA for final review biannually.



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**ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS**

- Section 1: Proposed amendments to the Constitution may be made at any time.
- Section 2: The proposed amendments will be submitted in writing to the President and Parliamentarian, approved by a majority vote of the BOG, and then presented for approval to the General Membership by a majority vote.
- Section 3: Approval by the General Membership shall constitute adoption of the amendment(s). The WCSC Secretary will then forward the amendment(s) to the GAA for review.

**ARTICLE X – APPROVAL**

Approved by majority vote of the Board of Governors on: 1 March 2017

Approved by majority vote of the General Membership on: 15 March 2017

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Alicia Bailey, President WCSC

15 March 2017  
Date

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Jeri Treb, Parliamentarian WCSC

15 March 2017  
Date