

THE AMERICAN WOMEN'S CLUB IN STOCKHOLM CONSTITUTION

Article I - Name

The name of this organization shall be The American Women's Club in Stockholm, hereafter referred to as the "AWC".

Article II - Objective

The objective of the organization shall be to bring together American women, residing in Sweden, to foster companionship and friendship among their countrywomen as well as assist them in their assimilation into Swedish life.

Article III - Membership

Participation in the AWC may be Full, Life, Honorary, or AWC Friend. All applications will be put before the Executive Committee. All applicants must meet eligibility requirements and be approved for membership via majority vote of the AWC Executive Committee.

A. Full members:

An applicant for full membership must be a female American citizen either by birth or naturalization. The applicant's citizenship must be valid at the time of application.

Full members may participate in any AWC activity, hold office, vote on any matter related to the AWC as well as attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM) or any special meeting.

Full members may invite guests to any of the monthly programs except the AGM.

Non-resident Full members enjoy all the privileges of the AWC and pay dues.

B. Life members:

A Life member is anyone who has been a Full member of the AWC for 35 years. A Life member is not required to pay dues.

C. Honorary members:

An Honorary member may be nominated and elected as such by the AWC Executive Committee. Such members, through their position or work, may be or have been a benefit to the AWC. Honorary members enjoy all the privileges of the AWC but do not vote or pay dues.

D. AWC Friend:

Female non-U.S. citizens can apply to participate in the activities of the AWC by submitting an AWC Friend application to the Executive Committee for approval. Once approved, they will pay dues, receive the AWC newsletter and participate in AWC activities without requiring an invitation of a member. They cannot, however, become Full members of the AWC and thus cannot hold office, vote on any matter related to the AWC or attend the AGM. These participants shall be called AWC Friends. The number of AWC Friends who can participate in the AWC will be limited to 15% of the AWC's total membership.

Article IV - Dues

Annual dues will be payable in September. Members who fail to pay their dues by September 30 may be dropped as members. Members joining in September through May will be required to pay full dues at the time of admittance. The amount of annual dues and any additional administrative fees shall be determined by the AWC at the suggestion of the Executive Committee.

Article V – Officers and Duties of the Executive Committee

Section 1.

The officers of the AWC shall be president, first vice-president, second vice-president, secretary, treasurer, business manager, evening events coordinator, membership coordinator, database coordinator, and Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas (FAWCO) representative.

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Section 2.

The Executive Committee shall consist of the above-mentioned officers.

Section 3.

The duties of the members of the Executive Committee shall be, in part, to attend meetings, to be responsible for the accounts and funds of the AWC, to submit a report of the AWC's activities to the AGM for approval, to promote the welfare of the AWC, and to appoint a standing Nominating Committee whose members can serve no more than four consecutive years.

The Executive Committee shall have the right to make decisions regarding the AWC's activities and procedures.

However, the Executive Committee may not pass amendments to the AWC constitution. The process for constitutional amendments is addressed in Article IX.

Section 4.

The positions of AWC newsletter editor, webwoman and U.S. Embassy liaison will be non-voting, appointed and overseen by the Executive Committee.

Section 5.

The Nominating Committee shall appoint two auditors who are to audit the accounts of the treasurer and make their report at the AGM.

Section 6.

The president and the treasurer are ex-officio board members of the AWC Travel Scholarship Foundation. The Executive Committee shall appoint one additional AWC member, one alternate AWC member, and one non-AWC member to serve a two-year term on the board of the American Women's Club Travel Scholarship Foundation.

Article VI – Executive Committee Meetings & Special Meetings

Section 1.

The Executive Committee shall hold regular monthly meetings from September through May.

Section 2.

Five officers who are eligible to vote shall constitute a quorum of the Executive Committee.

Section 3.

A majority vote of the members of the Executive Committee shall suffice to carry a motion in Executive Committee meetings. This does not apply to questions concerning the constitution. The process for constitutional amendments is addressed in Article IX.

Section 4.

Special meetings may be held at the request of a minimum of ten full members of the AWC or at the request of the president.

Section 5.

A minimum of two weeks written notice must be sent to all eligible AWC members via mail or electronic means prior to the date of any designated special meeting affecting the AWC as a whole. This notice requirement shall not apply to any activity group or committee meeting.

Article VII - Elections

Section 1.

The Nominating Committee shall consist of five members, one of whom will be the chairwoman. At least one month prior to the election, this committee shall present a list of nominees for all vacant offices to be elected at the AGM in May. The elections occur by closed ballot. Members not present may vote via proxy, mail, or electronic means. Members may also write in a candidate on the ballot.

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Section 2.

The Nominating Committee shall conduct the election annually for vacant offices. They shall tally the votes and report the results at the AGM.

Section 3.

In case of a tie, the president shall have the deciding vote.

Section 4.

Officers shall be elected for a term of two years. They shall not serve longer than two consecutive terms unless they are elected by the majority of votes cast.

Section 5.

When vacancies occur on the Executive Committee, the Nominating Committee shall appoint a replacement from the existing pool of potential AWC leaders. This appointee, if she would like to continue in her office, will stand for election at the following AGM. Elections will occur at each year's AGM. The election would place the newly elected officer into the beginning of a two-year term.

Article VIII – The Annual General Meeting

Section 1.

The AGM shall be held before the end of May, and the following business presented for approval:

- a. Reports of the Executive Committee
- b. Report of the auditors
- c. Election report of the Nominating Committee

Section 2.

Motions made at the AGM must be carried by a majority of votes cast to constitute a valid decision by the AWC.

Article IX - Amendments

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of votes cast at the AGM or at a special meeting in the form of a closed ballot, via proxy, mail, or electronic means. Notice of the proposed amendment must be given to the eligible membership a minimum of two months before the question is to be voted upon by the AWC.

Article X - Dissolution

Section 1.

Should this organization desire to dissolve, a written proposition to that effect must be made to the president and signed by at least one-third of the members, stating their reasons. The president shall put this proposition before the Executive Committee. Notice shall be given to eligible AWC membership a minimum of two months before the question is to be voted upon by the AWC at a special meeting or at the AGM. The decision to dissolve the AWC shall be made by at least a two-thirds majority of the voting members.

Section 2.

In case of dissolution, the funds of the AWC shall be given to one or more Swedish-American organization(s). This decision shall be made by at least a two-thirds majority of the voting members of the AWC.

Amended May 2008