

# **G.S.M.C. Chapter of IPMS/USA**

## **Constitution and By-Laws**

We, a group of individuals, united by a common bond of mutual interest, do hereby establish an association of plastic modelers and modelers with the purpose and objectives set forth herein.

## **Constitution**

### **Article 1**

This group will hereafter be called the **Granite State Modelers Club** chapter of the **International Plastic Modelers Society, United States of America Branch**, affiliated by common interest with member groups in this country and in other nations in accordance with the principles of the founding organization of the **Society**, located in the United Kingdom.

### **Article 2**

The purposes of this organization are:

- A. To cultivate interest in the hobby of modeling in plastics, particularly through the use of commercially manufactured kits, and to provide information, data, and other aid to such members so as to continually raise the standards and techniques of plastic modeling.

## Article 3

The objectives of this organization are:

- A. To publish at monthly intervals , a newsletter of interest to the membership on plastic modeling and related subjects, including current information pertaining to the hobby and associated industries.
- B. To establish and provide an information service for the benefit of the membership.
- C. To encourage interest in plastic modeling and to assist interested organizations and groups.
- D. To establish and maintain liaison with other **I.P.M.S.** groups.

## By-Laws

### Article 1 –Membership

- A. Any individual, regardless of race, color, creed, sex, or national origin, expressing a desire to become a member, may do so.
- B. Any applicant agrees to abide by the terms and condition of these by-laws.
- C. There will be two (2) classes of membership:
  - 1. General members – all members 18 years of age and over
  - 2. Junior members – all members 17 years of age and under
- D. Any member whose dues are paid to date will be considered a member in good standing.
- E. Members in good standing shall be allowed to vote, hold offices, serve on committees, attend any meetings, receive all publications, and enjoy all other privileges of membership.
- F. Dues shall be required of all members.
  - 1. The amount of dues shall be set by vote of the membership. (Currently \$12/year)
  - 2. Additional family members pay \$1 each per year. Only one newsletter is sent to each address.
  - 3. Dues shall be payable yearly in March. If not paid by June, the member shall be dropped from the membership.
  - 4. Dues will be prorated on a monthly basis.

- G. A prospective member will be allowed to attend three (3) meetings as a guest, at which time he/she will be required to become a member in good standing.

## **Article 2 – Officers**

- A. The officers of this chapter shall be the following:
  - 1. President
  - 2. Vice-President
  - 3. Secretary / Chapter Contact
  - 4. Treasurer
- B. If a chapter officer must, for any reason, relinquish his/her position during his term, the Executive Board may select a replacement to that office for the balance of the term.

## **Article 3 – Duties of Officers**

- A. The President shall preside at all meetings of the chapter and the Executive Board.
- B. The Vice-President shall preside in the absence of the President. He shall be in continuous liaison with the President and assume the Presidency should the President resign.
- C. The secretary/chapter contact shall keep the minutes of all meetings, act as corresponding secretary when necessary, and publish the monthly newsletter.
- D. The treasurer shall collect all monies and make all disbursements, keeping detailed accounts of all monies received and expended by the chapter. The treasurer will provide a financial report every six months or when called by the Executive Board or membership. The treasurer shall actively maintain an inventory of the club's assets.

## **Article 4 – Terms of Officers**

- A. The term of officers shall be one year.
  - 1. Nominations for the next year's officers will be made at the September and October meetings, with elections taking place at the November meeting.
- B. The Executive Board may meet independently of the regular meeting.

## **Article 5 – Executive Board Decisions**

- A. A majority vote will rule on Executive Board decisions.

## **Article 6 – Other Titled Positions**

- A. By directive of the President, and with approval of the Executive Board, any positions found necessary to the functioning of this chapter may be instituted.

## **Article 7 – Committees**

- A. Committees will be selected and terminated by the Executive Board as necessary.

## **Article 8 – Meetings**

- A. Meetings will be held regularly on a basis to be decided by the members in good standing. All meetings will be conducted under “Roberts Rules of Order – Revised.”
- B. Visitors and non-current members cannot hold the floor during discussions of club business or announcements.
- C. Meetings may be closed to the public by majority vote of the membership.

## **Article 9 – Amendments**

- A. The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote of the members in good standing.

## **Article 10 – Voting**

- A. All motions shall be carried by a simple majority of those members in good standing who are present and voting.
- B. Candidates for officers must be members in good standing who have been members for six months prior to their nomination.

## **Article 11 – Elections**

- A. Nominations will be held at the first regular meeting in the month of September. Additional nominations can be made at the regular meeting in October.
- B. Elections will be held at the first regular meeting in the month of November.
- C. Election will be by written secret ballot.
- D. An impartial member will be selected to count all ballots and report the results.
- E. Term of office will be from January to December following election to office.

## **Article 12 – Interpretation of By-Laws**

- A. All interpretation of these By-laws shall be the jurisdiction of the Executive Board.

## **Article 13 – Financial Matters**

- A. The President may spend up to \$100 on club related matters without the prior consent of the membership. However, should the expenditure be questioned by the membership, the President may be required to repay the club.
- B. No club funds can be spent on “incidental costs” associated with the Executive Board unless verified by a cash/check receipt counter approved/signed by another Executive Board member.

## **Article 14 – 4 Minute Rule**

- A. During “show and tell” each member with a presentation shall be allotted a maximum of four minutes to present and review their kits.
- B. No additional time shall be awarded for a builder’s additional kits. (each person gets four minutes)
- C. Show and tell items must be models built by the presenter. Collectables may be brought in to show other members before the meeting starts or during breaks, but no “show and tell” time will be allotted for their presentation.

## **Article 15 – Conflict of Interest**

- A. Any Executive Board member or member may be charged with conflict of interest if he or she places the club’s interest in direct contradiction through activities of a financial, procedural, or reputational basis. On a charge of conflict of interest, the club will convene a special committee composed of one Executive Board member and two regular members to review the case. Penalties may range from temporary suspension to banishment from the club, and/or costs to the club for the conflict.

## **Article 16 – Items Up For Discussion**

- A. All items for discussion and vote are to be placed on the monthly agenda one month prior within the newsletter and only amended by the President.

## **Article 17 – Club Dissolution**

- A. If there ever comes a time when the club no longer serves its purpose as stated in the Constitution, it may be dissolved by a majority vote of the members in good standing.
- B. The assets of the club are to be used for a charitable purpose, for a purpose identical to that which the club was organized for, or be given to a government entity exclusively for a public purpose.
- C. The assets of the club shall be liquidated and the proceeds donated to a recipient whose name and contact information shall be determined by the officers, with the advice of the members, and maintained by the secretary.