

Weather Modification Association Bylaws

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Weather Modification Association (WMA) is to advance the scientific research, understanding, and responsible application of weather modification and atmospheric water management. The Association fosters collaboration among scientists, practitioners, resource managers, and policymakers; promotes ethical standards and professional development; and supports public education and transparent communication to strengthen societal resilience to hydrometeorological variability.

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ARTICLE I – OFFICE AND ADMINISTRATION

Section 1.1 – Registered Office

The registered office of the Weather Modification Association (WMA) shall be located at such place as designated by the Board of Directors in accordance with applicable state laws. Any change to the registered office must be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 1.2 – Additional Offices

The Board may approve the establishment or maintenance of additional offices to support organizational activities. Such decisions shall require a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 1.3 – Registered Agent

The WMA shall maintain a registered agent in compliance with the laws of the state in which it is incorporated. Changes to the registered agent must either follow applicable state procedures or be approved by a majority vote of the Board, whichever is more restrictive.

Section 1.4 – Administrative Staff

The WMA may hire administrative or operational staff based on organizational capacity and need. The creation or elimination of any staff position shall require a majority of the Board of Directors. A description of each staff position, including title, duties, and compensation, shall be maintained in Appendix B: Administrative Positions and Compensation.

Section 1.5 – Professional Services

The Board may approve contracts with external service providers on a selective basis to support the organization’s legal, financial, policy, or technical needs. Examples include but are not limited to accountants, attorneys, auditors, lobbyists, IT/web consultants, and event managers. The

initiation or renewal of such services shall require a majority vote of the Board of Directors. All active service contracts shall be documented in

Section 1.6 – Records Retention and Management

The Board of Directors shall maintain a records retention and document management policy to ensure proper archival of financial, legal, and organizational records in accordance with best practices and applicable law.

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIPS

Section 2.1 – Purpose and Responsibilities of Membership

Membership in the Weather Modification Association (WMA) reflects a shared commitment to advancing the scientific understanding, responsible application, and ethical governance of weather modification and related atmospheric sciences.

The purpose of membership is to foster transparency, integrity, and collaboration across sectors — including researchers, decision makers, resource managers, operators, technology developers, and organizations that support or regulate the field.

Members are expected to uphold the mission and values of the WMA, contribute to a professional and respectful community, and support the open exchange of accurate information and constructive dialogue.

All members must comply with the WMA Code of Conduct (Section 2.5), which outlines expectations for ethical behavior, professional integrity, non-discrimination, and public representation of the Association. Membership is a privilege and may be granted, suspended, or revoked in accordance with these bylaws.

Section 2.2 – Categories of Membership

The WMA offers several membership categories reflecting the diverse individuals and institutions engaged in the field.

2.2 (a) Full Members

An individual actively involved in weather modification or atmospheric water management activities, including program operators, meteorologists, pilots, technicians, researchers, engineers, analysts, consultants, or policy and resource managers.

Full Members have full voting rights and are eligible to serve in elected positions.

2.2 (b) Retired Members

An individual who has been a Full Member of the WMA for at least twenty (20) years and has retired from full-time professional work in weather modification, atmospheric sciences, or a directly related field. Retired Members retain voting rights and are eligible for reduced dues.

Individuals engaged in occasional consulting, advisory, or volunteer work may still qualify for this category provided they are no longer employed in a full-time capacity.

2.2 (c) Student Members

An individual currently enrolled as a student in a degree-granting program in atmospheric science, meteorology, engineering, environmental science, policy, or a related discipline.

Student Members are non-voting and not eligible to hold general elected or appointed Board positions. However, Student Members are eligible to serve on WMA committees and may be eligible to serve in designated student leadership roles as outlined in Article III.

Student Members may receive discounted rates for WMA conferences, workshops, webinars, and other professional development activities, and are eligible to apply for WMA scholarships, awards, and mentorship programs designed to support career growth and engagement in the field.

2.2 (d) Affiliate Members

An individual who supports the WMA's mission but is not professionally engaged in the field. Affiliate Members are non-voting.

2.2 (e) Honorary Members

An individual appointed by a majority vote of the Board in recognition of significant contributions to the field. Honorary Members are non-voting and exempt from dues.

2.2 (f) Organizational Members

An Organizational Member is a corporation, public agency, academic institution, nonprofit, or other entity that supports the WMA's mission and has an active role in weather modification.

Organizational Membership includes:

- Organizational Member Profile: Recognition through a dedicated Organizational Member profile on the WMA website, which may include the organization's name, logo, website link, and brief organizational description.
- Employee Membership Discount: Eligibility for qualifying employees to enroll as individual Full Members at the discounted rate established by the Board of Directors.
- Annual Conference Exhibitor Discount: A fifteen percent (15%) discount on standard exhibitor registration fees for the WMA Annual Conference.
- Annual Conference Recognition: Recognition as an Organizational Member at the WMA Annual Conference and in select conference materials, separate from any recognition associated with conference sponsorship.
- Organizational Member Badge: Authorization to display the current WMA "Organizational Member" badge on the organization's website and other appropriate materials while its

Organizational Membership remains active and in good standing, subject to WMA branding and use guidelines.

Organizational Members do not receive additional voting rights beyond those assigned to individual Full Members enrolled through the organization.

Organizational Membership, including the display of an organization's name or logo by the WMA, does not constitute endorsement, certification, accreditation, or approval by the WMA of the organization or its products, services, technologies, practices, or representations.

Section 2.3 – Voting Rights and Eligibility for Office

Voting rights are reserved for Full Members and Retired Members in good standing.

Organizational Membership does not confer voting rights. All voting rights are held by individual Full or Retired Members in good standing, regardless of their enrolled affiliation.

All Full and Retired Members in good standing are eligible to serve in elected or appointed WMA leadership positions.

Voting rights are not transferable and may not be exercised by proxy. Student, Affiliate, and Honorary Members are non-voting and not eligible for elected positions.

Section 2.4 – Membership Dues

Membership dues are assessed annually on a calendar-year basis. Dues are payable by January 1 of each year. A grace period of forty-five (45) calendar days shall be allowed before a member is considered delinquent.

The Board of Directors shall review all dues during its fall meeting. Any changes must be approved by a majority vote of the Board and shall be noticed to all members at least sixty (60) days prior to the end of the calendar year.

Notice of any dues changes will be communicated by email and posted to the member portal on the WMA website.

Members who are more than forty-five (45) calendar days delinquent in dues may be suspended or removed by action of the Board. Members who are delinquent in dues are not eligible to vote or serve in elected or appointed positions until they are returned to good standing.

Section 2.5 – Conduct and Participation

All members must comply with the WMA Code of Conduct, which outlines expectations for ethical behavior, professional integrity, respectful engagement, and non-discriminatory participation in all WMA activities.

The Code of Conduct shall be developed and maintained by an Ethics & Conduct Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. The Code shall be made available to all members and

reviewed at least once every two years to ensure continued relevance and alignment with the mission and values of the Association.

Members are expected to support high professional standards in their conduct, contributions, and practice.

Violations of the Code of Conduct, or actions that conflict with the mission and values of the WMA, may result in disciplinary action, including suspension or revocation of membership, as determined by the Board. Suspension or revocation of membership shall result in loss of eligibility for any elected or appointed leadership position or professional certification, as outlined in Articles III and VIII.

Section 2.6 – Membership Rights

All members in good standing shall receive access to the WMA’s official publication, the *Journal of Weather Modification*, regardless of membership category.

Additional rights and privileges of membership, including participation eligibility and governance roles, are defined by membership category within these bylaws. The Board of Directors may publish and revise descriptions of member benefits as needed.

Upon termination or suspension of membership, a member forfeits all associated rights and privileges, including voting and leadership eligibility. Membership rights are non-transferable, and no member shall be entitled to share in the distribution of WMA assets in the event of dissolution.

Section 2.7 – Admission and Status

Membership shall be granted to individuals or organizations who meet the eligibility criteria for their selected category and submit a completed application with applicable dues. Membership becomes effective upon confirmation by the WMA and shall remain in effect for the current membership year unless suspended or revoked in accordance with these bylaws.

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to resolve any questions or disputes regarding member eligibility, classification, or status. The Secretary shall maintain and administer the official roster of current members.

Section 2.8 – Right of Inspection

Members in good standing shall have the right, upon reasonable request, to inspect the bylaws, governance policies, financial filings, meeting minutes, and other non-confidential records of the Association. Certain documents may be withheld if determined by the Board of Directors to be confidential, sensitive, or legally protected.

Article III – Board of Directors

Section 3.1 – General Powers

The business and affairs of the Association shall be managed by its Board of Directors, subject to the Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws.

Section 3.2 – Composition of the Board

The Board shall consist of seven (7) voting members, including:

- Four (4) Officers:
 - President
 - President-Elect
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
- Three (3) Trustees, one each representing:
 - Public/Government Sector
 - Research/Academic Sector
 - Private/Commercial Sector

In addition, the Board shall include the following non-voting advisory participants:

- Industry Liaison Director
- Student & Early Career Representative

Advisory members may participate in meetings and serve on committees but do not vote and are not counted toward quorum.

Section 3.3 – Eligibility and Qualifications

All voting Board members must be Full or Retired Members in good standing. The President-Elect must be eligible to serve a full presidential term following their elected term.

The Student & Early Career Representative must be a current Student Member or a Full Member within five (5) years of completing a degree. The Industry Liaison must be a Full Member with substantial professional experience related to weather modification.

Section 3.4 – Nomination and Election

The Nominations Committee shall solicit, vet, and recommend eligible candidates for open Board positions, considering balance across sectors and geography.

- Officers (except President) and Trustees are elected by a vote of the Full and Retired Membership.

- President-Elect is elected every two years. At the conclusion of his/her term, the President-Elect automatically becomes President for a two-year term. The membership does not vote directly for the President.
- Secretary and President-Elect are elected in even-numbered years
- Treasurer is elected in odd-numbered years
- Trustees serve two-year staggered terms, with one trustee elected each year.
- Trustees may not serve consecutive terms but may be re-elected after a one-year gap.
- Officers may not serve consecutive terms but may be re-elected after a one-year gap.
- The Industry Liaison Director is recommended by the Nominations Committee and appointed by majority vote of the Board. The Liaison serves a two-year term and may not serve consecutive terms but may be reappointed after a one-year gap.
- The Student & Early Career Representative is recommended by the Nominations Committee and approved by majority vote of the Board. They serve a one-year term, renewable once.

Section 3.5 – Quorum and Voting

A quorum shall consist of four (4) of the seven (7) voting Board members. Board actions require a majority vote of those present. In the event of a tie, the President shall cast the deciding vote. Advisory members do not vote and are not counted toward quorum.

Section 3.6 – Vacancies

Vacancies among voting Board positions shall be filled by majority vote of the remaining Board members. Appointees must meet all eligibility requirements for the position and shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

Section 3.7 – Resignation and Removal

Board members may resign at any time by submitting written notice to the President or Secretary. A Board member may be removed for cause or repeated nonparticipation by a majority vote of the Board or a majority vote of the full voting membership.

Section 3.8 – Meetings

The Board shall meet at least quarterly, with at least one in-person meeting per year held in conjunction with the WMA Annual Conference. Additional meetings may be called by the President or by majority of voting Board members. Meetings may be conducted in

person or by audio or video conference, provided all participants can hear and speak to one another.

Section 3.9 – Reimbursement and Expense Policy

Board members and advisory participants may be reimbursed for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in the course of their service to the Association, including travel to Board meetings and the WMA Annual Conference. Reimbursement shall be governed by a Board-approved policy maintained separately from these Bylaws.

Section 3.10 – Trustee Eligibility and Qualifications

Each Trustee must:

- (a) Be a Full or Retired Member in good standing;
- (b) Demonstrate professional experience relevant to the sector they represent (Public/Government, Research/Academic, or Private/Commercial);
- (c) Be committed to advancing the mission of the WMA and to promoting cross-sector collaboration.

The Nominations Committee shall consider sectoral balance, geographic diversity, and relevant expertise when recommending candidates for Trustee roles.

Section 3.11 – Trustee Responsibilities

Trustees serve as sectoral representatives on the Board of Directors and are expected to:

- (a) Actively participate in Board meetings and strategic planning;
- (b) Provide insight and feedback from their respective sectors to inform Board decisions;
- (c) Serve as liaisons between the Board and key stakeholders within their sectors;
- (d) Support member engagement and outreach within their communities;
- (e) Participate in WMA committees or working groups as assigned.

Trustees are held to the same standards of conduct, conflict-of-interest disclosures, and fiduciary responsibility as other members of the Board.

Article IV – Officers

Section 4.1 – Officer Roles and Structure

The Officers of the Weather Modification Association (WMA) shall consist of the following elected positions:

- President
- President-Elect
- Secretary
- Treasurer

These Officers shall be voting members of the Board of Directors. Officers may not serve consecutive terms in the same role but may be re-elected after a one-year gap.

Section 4.2 – Duties of Officers

(a) President

The President shall serve as the chief executive officer of the Association and chair of the Board of Directors. The President shall:

- Preside over meetings of the Board and the Membership
- Provide strategic leadership and coordination of WMA activities
- Appoint committee chairs unless otherwise specified
- Serve as the official representative of the Association
- Cast the deciding vote in the event of a tie on the Board

The President shall serve a two-year term and may not immediately succeed themselves.

The President shall serve as an ex officio, non-voting member of all standing and ad hoc committees of the Association, unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws. In this capacity, the President shall be entitled to receive committee notices and communications and may attend and participate in committee meetings and discussions but shall not be counted for purposes of committee quorum or voting.

(b) President-Elect

The President-Elect shall support the President and prepare to assume presidential responsibilities. The President-Elect shall:

- Automatically succeed the President at the conclusion of their term
- Perform duties of the President when the President is unavailable
- Lead strategic planning initiatives or special projects as assigned
- Serve as liaison to standing or ad hoc committees as designated

The President-Elect shall be elected every two years and serve one two-year term.

(c) Secretary

The Secretary shall maintain the official records of the Association. The Secretary shall:

- Record and archive minutes of Board and Membership meetings
- Maintain governing documents and oversee member communication notices
- Support election administration and verification
- Assist the President and Board with documentation and compliance

The Secretary shall serve a two-year term, elected in even-numbered years.

(d) Treasurer

The Treasurer shall oversee the financial affairs of the Association. The Treasurer shall:

- Manage accounts, disbursements, and financial reporting
- Lead development of the annual budget and present it to the Board
- Ensure compliance with financial policies and applicable laws
- Coordinate with contracted accountants or auditors as needed

The Treasurer shall serve a two-year term, elected in odd-numbered years.

Section 4.3 – Election and Terms

Officer elections shall follow the process in Article III:

- All Officers are elected by Full and Retired Members in good standing.
- President-Elect is elected every two years and automatically succeeds the President.
- Secretary is elected in even-numbered years; Treasurer in odd-numbered years.
- Officers may not serve consecutive terms in the same role but are eligible after a one-year gap.

Section 4.4 – Vacancies and Succession

If the President becomes unable to complete his/her term, the President-Elect shall assume the presidency.

Other vacancies shall be filled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors for the remainder of the term. Appointees must meet all eligibility criteria for their role.

Section 4.5 – Resignation and Removal

An Officer may resign by submitting written notice to the President or Secretary.

An Officer may be removed by:

- A majority vote of the Board of Directors for cause or repeated nonparticipation,
or
- A majority vote of the Full and Retired Membership.

Section 4.6 – Multiple Roles

No Officer may serve in more than one Officer role concurrently. Officers may serve on committees or task forces as part of their duties.

Article V – Meetings

Section 5.1 – Annual Meeting of the Membership

An Annual Meeting of the Membership shall be held in conjunction with the WMA Annual Conference each calendar year. The date and location shall be determined by the Board of Directors. The purpose of the Annual Meeting shall be to provide updates on Association activities, present financial and programmatic reports, introduce newly elected leaders, and address any matters requiring a vote of the membership.

The presiding officer and ten percent (10%) of the members entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the Annual Meeting of the Membership. Members participating through an authorized electronic meeting platform shall be considered present for purposes of determining quorum. The presence of a quorum shall be determined at the beginning of the meeting and recorded in the meeting minutes.

All Members in good standing may attend the Annual Meeting. Only Full and Retired Members in good standing who are entitled to vote may participate in formal membership business, including making or seconding motions and voting on matters before the membership. Reasonable accommodation shall be made for virtual access to the meeting.

Section 5.2 – Regular Meetings of the Board

The Board of Directors shall meet at least quarterly, with one meeting to be held in conjunction with the WMA Annual Conference. At the meeting associated with the WMA Annual Conference, the Board shall set the dates for all regular meetings for the following year.

The Board may revise the date of any regular meeting by a majority vote, provided at least seven (7) calendar days' notice is given. All regular Board meeting dates shall be posted in the WMA member portal.

Meetings may be conducted in person or virtually via audio or video conferencing, provided all participants can hear and speak to each other. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person.

Section 5.3 – Special Meetings of the Board

Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President or by a majority of voting Board members. Notice shall be provided at least seven (7) calendar days in advance,

including the meeting purpose, date, time, and format. All special meeting notices shall also be posted in the WMA member portal.

Section 5.4 – Voting

Each voting Board member shall have one (1) vote. Unless otherwise specified in these Bylaws, Board decisions shall be made by a majority vote of those present. In the event of a tie, the President shall cast the deciding vote.

Section 5.5 – Notice

Notice of all regular and special Board meetings shall be provided to all Board members by email or electronic communication, at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting date.

Section 5.6 – Member Elections and Voting

Elections for Officers and Trustees shall be conducted by electronic ballot. All Full and Retired Members in good standing shall be entitled to one (1) vote per open position. Voting shall be open for a designated period prior to the Annual Meeting, and results shall be communicated to the membership no later than the conclusion of the WMA Annual Conference.

Votes on other matters requiring membership approval may also be conducted electronically, as determined by the Board.

Section 5.7 – Meeting Minutes

Minutes shall be recorded for:

- All Board of Directors meetings (regular and special)
- The Annual Meeting of the Membership

Board meeting minutes shall be reviewed and approved at the subsequent Board meeting and retained in the official records of the Association. Minutes of the Annual Meeting shall be made available to the membership following approval by the Board.

Section 5.8 – Electronic Participation & Voting

The Association may conduct official business, meetings, elections, and voting using electronic means, including but not limited to video conferencing platforms, electronic mail, secure online voting systems, and digital signature platforms, in accordance with applicable laws and policies adopted by the Board of Directors.

Article VI – Committees

Section 6.1 – Standing Committees

The Weather Modification Association (WMA) shall maintain standing committees to support its mission, governance, programs, and public engagement. Standing committees operate in an advisory and programmatic capacity under the oversight of the Board of Directors.

New standing committees may be established by a majority vote of the Board of Directors to fulfill emerging needs or support the mission of the Association. Each new standing committee must have a defined scope and responsibilities, and its creation shall be documented in Board records and incorporated into these Bylaws at the next scheduled review.

The following standing committees are established:

a) Governance and Operations Committee

Responsible for supporting the Board of Directors in the ongoing governance, administration, and business operations of the Association. The President shall serve as Chair of the Governance and Operations Committee by virtue of office.

The committee shall assist with organizational and regulatory filings, financial administration and coordination, records and administrative requirements, meeting scheduling and preparation, implementation of Board-approved actions, and other operational matters necessary for the effective functioning of the Association.

The committee may coordinate with Officers, administrative staff, contractors, and other WMA committees as appropriate. The committee shall not exercise authority reserved to the Board of Directors or Officers under these Bylaws and shall operate within Board-approved policies, budgets, and authorities.

The responsibilities of the committee may be modified by the Board as administrative staffing or organizational needs change.

b) Public Information and Outreach Committee

Responsible for public-facing communications, educational materials, media engagement, website content, social media, and outreach activities. The committee may support membership engagement and collaborate with the Board on Student & Early Career Affairs on outreach initiatives.

c) Nominations and Awards Committee

Responsible for soliciting, vetting, and recommending candidates for elected and appointed leadership positions, including Officers, Trustees, and advisory roles. The

committee also administers the WMA awards program, including calls for nominations and selection of recipients.

d) Conferences and Events Committee

Responsible for planning, coordinating, and evaluating the WMA Annual Conference and other WMA-sponsored events, including workshops, webinars, and professional development offerings. Given the scale and financial significance of the Annual Conference, this committee shall meet at least quarterly and provide regular planning updates to the Board of Directors.

e) Policy and Government Affairs Committee

Responsible for monitoring legislative, regulatory, and policy developments relevant to weather modification and atmospheric water management. The committee may draft policy briefs, comment letters, or recommendations for Board consideration and support engagement with governmental and regulatory bodies in alignment with the WMA's mission and nonprofit status.

f) Ethics and Conduct Committee

Responsible for supporting the ethical conduct, professional integrity, and standards of practice within the weather modification community and the activities of the Association.

The committee shall:

- Develop, maintain, and review the WMA Code of Conduct and recommend updates to the Board of Directors.
- Review and evaluate concerns or complaints related to member conduct or potential violations of WMA ethical standards and provide recommendations to the Board when appropriate.
- Advise the Board on matters related to professional ethics, conflict of interest, and responsible communication of weather modification science and operations.
- Support the development of recommended scientific, technical, or operational standards consistent with Article VII of these Bylaws.
- Promote awareness of ethical practices and professional standards within the WMA community.

The committee shall operate in an advisory capacity, and any disciplinary actions or formal standards adopted by the Association shall require approval by the Board of Directors.

Section 6.2 – Committee Membership, Terms, and Leadership

Each standing committee shall consist of no fewer than three (3) members, appointed by the Board of Directors.

- Committee members shall serve two-year terms, which may be renewed without limit unless otherwise determined by the Board.
- Full, Retired, Student, Affiliate, and Honorary Members in good standing may serve as committee members.
- Only Full or Retired Members may serve as Committee Chairs.
- Except where otherwise specified in these Bylaws, Committee Chairs shall be designated by the Nominations Committee and confirmed by the Board of Directors. Committee Chairs are responsible for convening meetings, coordinating committee activities, and serving as the primary liaison to the Board.

The Board of Directors retains the authority to remove any committee member or chair for cause, including but not limited to repeated non-participation, failure to fulfill committee responsibilities, conflicts of interest, or violations of the WMA Code of Conduct.

Section 6.3 – Meetings and Reporting Requirements

All standing committees shall:

- Meet at least two (2) times per calendar year
- Submit a written report summarizing activities, recommendations, and any proposed actions to the Board of Directors following each committee meeting, with reports due no later than the Board's next scheduled meeting.
- Prepare and submit a summary report for presentation at the WMA Annual Meeting of the Membership.

The *Conferences and Events Committee* shall meet at least quarterly and provide ongoing updates to the Board due to the operational and financial importance of the Annual Conference.

The *Governance and Operations Committee* shall meet at least once monthly and provide ongoing updates to the Board.

Section 6.4 – Authority and Financial Limitations

Committees serve in an advisory and implementation support role and shall operate under the authority and oversight of the Board of Directors. Except as otherwise provided in this Section, no committee may incur expenses, enter into contracts, make financial commitments, or represent official WMA positions without prior approval of the Board of Directors.

The *Governance and Operations Committee* may authorize and incur routine and necessary expenses associated with the ongoing administration and operation of the Association, provided such expenses are within the Board-approved annual budget and comply with Board-approved financial and spending policies. Such expenses may include, but are not limited to, tax preparation and filing fees, required organizational and regulatory filings, website hosting and domain fees, software and administrative services, banking and payment processing fees, insurance, and other recurring expenses necessary to maintain the Association's operations.

Any expenditure outside the approved annual budget, or any new contractual or financial commitment exceeding the authority established by Board policy, shall require prior approval of the Board of Directors.

All committee-related expenditures and financial commitments shall comply with Board-approved financial and spending policies.

Section 6.5 – Ad Hoc Committees

The Board of Directors may establish ad hoc committees as needed to address specific issues, initiatives, or time-limited projects.

- Ad hoc committees shall have a clearly defined purpose, scope, and duration.
- Members of ad hoc committees shall be appointed by the Board and may include any category of WMA member in good standing.
- Ad hoc committees shall dissolve automatically upon completion of their assigned task or at the discretion of the Board.
- Ad hoc committees are subject to the same reporting, conduct, and financial limitations as standing committees.

ARTICLE VII – Ethics, Policy Statements, and Standards

Section 7.1 – Code of Conduct

All members, volunteers, staff, and representatives of the Weather Modification Association (WMA) are expected to uphold the WMA Code of Conduct. This document outlines expectations for ethical behavior, professional integrity, non-discrimination, and respectful engagement in all WMA activities.

The Code of Conduct shall be:

- Developed and maintained by the Ethics & Conduct Committee.
- Reviewed at least once every two (2) years for continued relevance and alignment with the WMA's mission.

- Approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
Violations of the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, including suspension or revocation of membership, certification, or leadership roles, as determined by the Board.

Section 7.2 – Ethics & Conduct Committee

The Ethics & Conduct Committee shall oversee matters related to ethical practices, member conduct, and alignment with WMA values. Responsibilities include:

- Reviewing complaints or concerns related to member behavior or conduct violations.
- Recommending disciplinary action to the Board of Directors when necessary.
- Advising the Board on revisions to the Code of Conduct or ethics-related policies.

Committee composition and terms shall follow the general provisions outlined in Article VI.

Section 7.3 – Public Policy Statements

WMA may adopt public policy statements that reflect the organization’s consensus position on scientific, technical, regulatory, or societal issues related to weather modification and atmospheric water management.

Policy statements shall:

- Be drafted by the Policy and Government Affairs Committee or an ad hoc working group.
- Be reviewed by the Board of Directors and legal counsel (if applicable).
- Require a majority vote of the Board of Directors for adoption.

Statements shall be clearly dated and made publicly available. They may be updated, reaffirmed, or retired by a majority vote of the Board.

Section 7.4 – Scientific and Operational Standards

The WMA may publish recommended practices, guidelines, or position papers on topics related to scientific, technical, or operational standards in the field of weather modification.

Such documents shall be:

- Developed through a transparent process involving subject matter experts and relevant committees.
- Reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors.

- Clearly identified as either consensus recommendations, best practices, or formal standards.

Standards documents are not binding unless explicitly adopted by the Board as a requirement for WMA programs or certifications.

Article VIII – Professional Certification Programs

Section 8.1 – Authority and Purpose

The Weather Modification Association (WMA) maintains professional certification programs to recognize individuals who meet defined standards of education, experience, and professional competence in weather modification and related fields. These programs support professionalism, public trust, and technical proficiency within the industry.

Section 8.2 – Certification Designations

The following professional certification designations are recognized by the WMA:

- Certified Weather Modification Manager (CWMM): Qualified to design, supervise, evaluate, and assume overall responsibility for field experiments or operational weather modification programs.
- Certified Weather Modification Operator (CWMO): Qualified to conduct day-to-day, on-site activities associated with field operations or research in weather modification.
- Certified Weather Modification Pilot (CWMP): Qualified to serve as Pilot in Command (PIC) of aircraft modified for operational or research-based cloud seeding activities.
- Certified Weather Modification Technician (CWMT): Qualified to configure, fabricate, deploy, and/or maintain weather modification-related equipment or systems.

Additional certification designations may be established by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 8.3 – Eligibility and Membership Requirement

Certification may only be granted to individuals who are current Full Members of the WMA in good standing. Individuals who allow their membership to lapse, or are removed from membership, shall have their certification automatically suspended or revoked.

A Full Member who transitions to Retired Member status may maintain an existing WMA professional certification provided the individual held an active WMA certification while a Full Member for at least six (6) years prior to retirement and remains a Retired Member in good standing. Retired Members who do not meet this requirement shall not be eligible to maintain an active WMA professional certification.

Continued certification following retirement shall remain subject to any applicable renewal, continuing eligibility, ethical, or other requirements established by the Certification Board and approved by the Board of Directors.

Certification does not confer any additional voting rights or leadership eligibility beyond those granted by the member's category under Article II. Loss of membership in good standing due to suspension, revocation, or delinquency will automatically result in the suspension or termination of any active certification, including the individual's listing on WMA public rosters or promotional materials.

Section 8.4 – Certification Board

The administration and oversight of the WMA's certification programs shall be delegated to a Certification Board, appointed by the Board of Directors.

The Certification Board shall be responsible for:

- Developing and maintaining criteria for certification, renewal, and continuing eligibility
- Administering application, examination, and review procedures
- Evaluating and approving certification applications
- Recommending updates to the certification program framework
- Managing discipline and reinstatement procedures as defined in certification policy

Members of the Certification Board shall be appointed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. The structure, composition, and terms of the Certification Board shall be defined in WMA policy.

Section 8.5 – Certification Policies and Review

The Certification Board shall maintain written policies and procedures that govern certification eligibility, application, examination, issuance, renewal, suspension, and reinstatement. These policies shall be reviewed at least once every two (2) years and submitted to the Board of Directors for approval or amendment.

Article IX – Publications and Journal Editor

Section 9.1 – Authority

The Association may maintain official publications as determined by the Board of Directors, including peer-reviewed journals, conference proceedings, and educational or public information materials. The Board of Directors shall provide high-level oversight of publication strategy and alignment with the mission of the Association.

Section 9.2 – Journal of Weather Modification

The *Journal of Weather Modification* is the official peer-reviewed scientific journal of the Association and serves as a primary outlet for scholarly, technical, and professional work related to atmospheric water management and weather modification.

Section 9.3 – Editorial Board

The Board of Directors shall establish an Editorial Board responsible for developing, maintaining, and recommending:

- Editorial policies and professional standards
- Peer-review procedures and reviewer guidance
- Ethical publishing practices, including conflict-of-interest and disclosure requirements
- Editorial codes of conduct and publication integrity standards

Members of the Editorial Board shall be appointed by the Board of Directors upon recommendation of the Nominations Committee and the Journal Editor, in accordance with Board policy.

The Editorial Board shall review journal policies at least once every two (2) years to ensure alignment with evolving scientific publishing standards.

Section 9.4 – Journal Editor

The Journal Editor shall be selected by the Editorial Board and recommended to the Board of Directors for approval. The Journal Editor shall:

- Be a Full or Retired Member in good standing
- Serve a term defined by Board policy and at the pleasure of the Board of Directors
- Oversee the daily editorial operations of the *Journal of Weather Modification*, including peer review and publication decisions
- Ensure adherence to editorial policies and standards established by the Editorial Board

The Journal Editor is not a voting member of the Board of Directors but may be invited to participate in Board meetings in a non-voting advisory capacity.

Section 9.5 – Editorial Independence

Except as required to comply with applicable law or organizational policy, editorial decisions—including manuscript acceptance, rejection, revision, correction, or retraction—shall be made by the Journal Editor in accordance with established peer-review principles and ethical publishing standards. Editorial content shall not be subject to approval by the Board of Directors, and the Board shall not intervene in individual editorial decisions.

Article X – Financial Authority

Section 10.1 – Budget and Fiscal Oversight

The Board of Directors shall adopt an annual budget and maintain oversight of the Association’s financial activities, including all revenue and expenditures.

Section 10.2 – Spending Authority

Spending limits, authorization thresholds, and reimbursement procedures for Officers, administrative staff, committees, and contracted services shall be established by Board policy and may be revised by majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Article XI – Amendments

Section 11.1 – Authority to Amend

These Bylaws may be amended by:

- Approval by at least five (5) of the seven (7) voting members of the Board of Directors, followed by approval by a majority of eligible voting members participating in an electronic ballot; or
- Approval by two-thirds (2/3) of eligible voting members participating in the vote, if the amendment is proposed by a petition signed by at least ten percent (10%) of eligible voting members.

Section 11.2 – Notice and Voting Process

All proposed amendments must be provided in writing to the membership at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the start of any vote. Voting may be conducted electronically and must remain open for no fewer than ten (10) calendar days.

Section 11.3 – Adoption and Effective Date

Amendments shall become effective upon certification of the vote and notice to the membership, unless a later date is specified in the amendment language.

Article XII – Indemnification and Legal Policies

Section 12.1 – Indemnification of Officers and Directors

To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, the WMA shall indemnify any person who serves or has served as an Officer, Director, committee chair, or authorized representative of the Association against expenses, judgments, fines, and settlements reasonably incurred in connection with any action, suit, or proceeding arising from their service to the Association.

Indemnification shall not apply in cases of gross negligence, fraud, or willful misconduct as determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 12.2 – Insurance

The Association may purchase and maintain liability insurance to protect directors, officers, employees, and agents of the Association against liability asserted in connection with their service.

Section 12.3 – Conflict of Interest Policy

The Board of Directors shall adopt and maintain a Conflict-of-Interest Policy applicable to all officers, directors, and committee members. All individuals subject to this policy must disclose any actual or potential conflicts and recuse themselves as required.

Section 12.4 – Whistleblower Protection

The WMA shall adopt and maintain a Whistleblower Policy to encourage the good-faith reporting of unlawful or unethical conduct. No individual shall suffer retaliation for reporting concerns related to misconduct, financial impropriety, or violations of law or WMA policies.

Section 12.5 – Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the most recent edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the proceedings of the Association in all cases not otherwise addressed by these Bylaws or Board policies.

ARTICLE XIII – Dissolution

Upon the dissolution of the Weather Modification Association (WMA), or the winding up of its affairs, the assets of the Association shall be distributed exclusively for the common business interests of its members or to one or more organizations exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code, in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation and applicable state and federal law.

Any determination by the Board of Directors regarding the distribution of remaining assets shall require the affirmative vote of at least five (5) of the seven (7) members of the Board of Directors.