



# WIDOWS SONS SOUTH AFRICA

## CENTRAL CHAPTER GP

*Knights of The Craft*

By-Laws of the

## Central Chapter (GP) of the Widows Sons of South Africa (Knights of the Craft)

3 June 2016

### 1. INTRODUCTION:

- 1.1. The Central Gauteng Chapter of the WSSA (**Knights of the Craft**) shall meet as a social and association forum, until further notice, at the Widows Sons Central Gauteng Chapter Clubhouse.

### 2. MEETINGS:

- 2.1. The meeting times have been agreed to as the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month; as communicated by the Chapter secretary under the direction of the President. The President may call on the committee to meet at other times should the need arise.
- 2.2. The Chapter committee shall meet during the following months;
  - January, March, May (AGM), July, September & November.
- 2.3. The President may appoint a fundraising committee to plan and co-ordinate any fundraising activities.
- 2.4. The President will be the chairperson of all committees within the chapter.

### 3. SUBSCRIPTIONS & FEES:

- 3.1. The annual subscriptions for both Full Members, Associates and Lady Riders, will be Five Hundred Rand (R500.00) and may be reviewed annually; this annual subscription may be increased by an agreed percentage to cover the annual increase in inflation.
- 3.2. The annual subscriptions for a lady associate (Non Rider) will be Three Hundred Rand (R300.00).
- 3.3. The joining fee will be One Thousand One Hundred Rand (R1100.00).



- 3.4. Annual subscriptions and joining fees may be increased without alteration of these By-laws.

#### **4. OFFICE BEARERS & ELECTIONS:**

- 4.1. The Office Bearers of the WSSA Central Gauteng Chapter (Knights of the Craft) will be nominated annually in February with the elections and AGM being held in April / May of every year (whichever month is suitable).
- 4.2. Only full Operative members may stand for office and the elections will cover the following positions;

**President,  
Vice-President,  
Secretary,  
Treasurer,  
Guardian-of-Membership &  
Sergeant-at-Arms.**

The elected President will appoint the **Road Captain** and **Assistant Road Captain**.

- 4.3. An Associate/Lady Member may be nominated for the position of Treasurer, however such member will have no voting rights.
- 4.4. Other Officers may be appointed from the Members by the President as deemed necessary for the efficient running and improvement of the Central Gauteng Chapter of the WS.
- 4.5. The format of the nominations and election will follow the format as contained in the Constitution of the WSSA Grand Chapter

#### **5. ACCOUNTS:**

- 5.1. There shall be four (4) signatories appointed to sign cheques or make payment for 'regular and approved' expenditures on behalf of the Central Gauteng Chapter of the WS. They shall be the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary and the Treasurer; any two (2) of these four (4) being authorised to sign.
- 5.2. Accounts over R2000.00 may only be payable after being voted for by a majority of the Chapter committee.
- 5.3. The Treasurer must give account of all income and expenses at every committee meeting or at the request of the President at any given time between meetings.
- 5.4. No member may make a pledge on behalf of the Chapter without a majority approval of the Committee.



## 6. RIDES:

- 6.1. Any rides or rallies will convene and start from the Chapter Clubhouse unless otherwise decided and communicated by the President.
- 6.2. There shall be five (5) compulsory breakfast runs every year on the first Sunday of each month (February, April, June, August and November). The President may, should circumstances dictate, reschedule the Breakfast Run to an alternate Sunday within a given month. In the event that a Breakfast Run is rescheduled, it will not be included in the compulsory rides for that year.
- 6.3. The Chapter shall attend at least **three Rally's and/or "day jols"** every year. All members are required to attend and in the event of non-attendance must provide a written (email) apology to the secretary. The committee will give all members a minimum of three (3) months notice of the intention to attend a rally.
- 6.4. One of the three rallies will be for male members and associates of the Chapter only and will be decided upon by the sitting President. This rally will be termed the "Presidents Choice".
- 6.5. Members are required to attend a minimum of 3 (more than 60%) compulsory rides as mentioned in 6.2 in any given year (March – February) in order to maintain their Operative membership within the Chapter.
- 6.6. A member who fails to achieve the minimum mentioned in 6.5 will be formally requested to appear before the committee in order for the member to motivate why he should not be expelled from the chapter.
- 6.7. A member who attends more than 60% of the compulsory Chapter Runs or Rally events in any given year (March – February) will receive "Operative Rider" status and will receive a patch signifying such. The President at the AGM in March/April of every year will present the patch. For the year 2015/16, members who achieved 50%+ attendance will receive the "Operative" patch, thereafter the criteria of 75% will apply.
- 6.8. In the event that a member does not continue to achieve the 75% attendance rate, he will be stripped of the "Operative" patch after an assessment by the President, Vice-President and Road Captain.
- 6.9. The Road Captain must keep a record of attendance of each compulsory ride and this record is to be submitted at each committee meeting.



## 7. JOINING PROCEDURE:

- 7.1. A petitioner to join the Chapter will have to via his proposer indicate such interest. No formal application will be made at that time.
- 7.2. The petitioner must participate in three consecutive Chapter breakfast rides in order for the Road Captain to establish riding capabilities, During this period members will interact with the petitioner and gain knowledge as to their personality, biking knowledge to ensure a fit with the chapter.
- 7.3. In the event that a petitioner is not able to complete the three consecutive rides, he would have to start anew.
- 7.4. Once the petitioner has completed the three consecutive rides, he will commence his three (3) month probation.
- 7.5. The petitioner will be required to avail himself to be interviewed by the chapter committee consisting of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Road Captain and Guardian of Membership. All members must advise these officers of any concerns prior to the meeting. Once the applicant has passed the interview phase, he will present the committee with his completed application and joining fees.
- 7.6. The petitioner will then be allowed to wear the prospect vest for three months, after which he will be presented with his full colours. The prospect vest will only contain the top and bottom rockers; there will be no centre patch.
- 7.7. During the time he is a prospect, he is to attend all compulsory Chapter events. Failure to do so will result in additional time being added on to the probationary period should the President so wish.

## 8. AFFILIATION:

- 8.1. The Central Gauteng Chapter (**Knights of the Craft**) of the WSSA is a daughter chapter of the Grand Chapter of the WSSA and abides by the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of the WSSA.
- 8.2. The Widows Sons Masonic Riders Association and Freemasonry are separate entities. We are a masonic motorcycle riders association, not a lodge or affiliated to or show particular support for any specific Masonic constitution. Inter-constitutional or Lodge matters discussed at WS gatherings that may cause disharmony will not be allowed or tolerated.



## 9. REVIEW:

These By-Laws are open for review at any time and may be revised by the majority vote of the WSSA Western Cape Chapter Committee after adequate notification.

- Appendix 1 Duties of the President
- Appendix 2 Vice President
- Appendix 3 Secretary
- Appendix 4 Treasurer
- Appendix 5 Sgt at Arms
- Appendix 6 Guardian of Membership
- Appendix 7 Road Captain

## 10. SIGNATORIES (2016/17):

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
VICE-PRESIDENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY

\_\_\_\_\_  
TREASURER

\_\_\_\_\_  
GUARDIAN OF MEMBERSHIP

\_\_\_\_\_  
SGT @ ARMS