



## **Constitution and By-Laws**

### **Metro St. Louis Storm Chaser's Association**

#### **Article I: NAME/ADDRESS**

This association shall be called the Metro St. Louis Storm Chaser's Association, herein referred to as the "Association." The current Address is 57 Fawn Oaks Dr. O'Fallon, MO 63366, this address is subject to change depending on officer elections.

#### **Article II: MISSION**

The mission of the Metro St. Louis Storm Chaser's is to support our members to become better educated storm chasers and to maintain safety as a priority. Our group will continue to promote weather safety through our role as a Weather Ready Nation Ambassador. We will support the U.S. National Weather Service through reports and volunteer activity as opportunities present themselves. We will work to build relationships between all who work with and study meteorology throughout the greater St. Louis Metropolitan area and surrounding states.

#### **Article III: MEMBERSHIP**

Membership is open to anyone interested in operational meteorology or storm spotting and who agrees to abide by the requirements of these By-Laws. There shall be two (2) types of Membership: Active and NWS/Media. Membership definitions are as follows:

1. Active Members – Members who are active Storm Spotters or Storm Chasers, Meteorologists, Meteorology Students. Active Members shall have all voting rights, may hold officer positions, and have all other rights as set forth in the By-laws and Constitution.

2. NWS/Media Membership is granted on request and approval by the Officers for employees of the NWS and members of the media that would like access to our Facebook page communication. These members will not have voting privileges and are not required to dues, these members are not eligible to hold an Executive Position in the organization.

Membership in the Metro St. Louis Storm Chaser's Association is allowed based on the following requirements:

1. Member Requirements:
  1. Prospective Members must make application to join the Association and must have a sponsor from a Member in Good Standing of the Association. All Members must pay annual membership dues as determined at the annual meeting not to exceed \$35/year
  2. All Members must be current on Association dues.
  3. All Members must be Storm Spotter certified through their respective National Weather Service Office.
  4. Members should present themselves in a positive manner while representing our association.
  5. Membership can be revoked for documented blatant dangerous activity while chasing or for making false weather reports to the NWS, Spotter Network or any other similar platform including Social Media.

#### **Article IV: MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Annual dues shall be paid to the Metro St. Louis Storm Chaser's Association due at the first meeting of the calendar year.

All memberships will expire at the end of the first meeting of a calendar year.

Dues for new members shall be prorated, those joining between January 1 and June 30 shall pay the full amount, those joining between July 1 and December 31 shall pay ½ of the regular amount.

All members will be extended all membership privileges over a grace period of 30 days after the first meeting of each calendar year.

Membership privileges will begin immediately after dues are paid in full for the calendar year.

Membership privileges shall be revoked after 30 days after the first meeting of each calendar year if dues are not paid.

A trial membership shall be granted for 30 days for prospective members, if after 30 days the prospective member has not committed to joining they shall be removed from the group.

#### **Article V: ELECTIVE & APPOINTIVE OFFICERS**

Three Elected Officers will make up the Executive Committee, these are equal positions, and duties shall be divided between the officers as necessary. Duties can/will change to make sure business is being taken care of depending on an Officer's availability and knowledge.

All officers are elected for a term of two (2) years, and may be re-elected.

#### **Article VI: ELECTIONS**

Elections of officers will be conducted during the annual business meeting to be held during the first quarter of each year.

Nominations will be presented to the membership on our Facebook Page.

The nominee receiving the most votes shall be elected.

Any vacated office will be subject to the same voting procedures outlined above.

Any officer may be removed from office by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at a meeting whenever, in their judgment, the best interest of the association will thereby be served.

#### **Article VII: VOTING PROCEDURES**

All members in good standing of the Association are eligible to vote.

Voting may take place by one of two methods

- 1.) Using a poll on the Association's Facebook Page
- 2.) Anonymously using an online portal

#### **Article VIII: OTHER COMMITTEES**

The Association may form various committees for the purposes of controlling the varied activities of the Association. Each committee leader shall keep regular records of its proceedings and report the same to the Association.

#### **Article IX: MEETINGS**

The Association will have one business meeting each year, at a place and time to be designated by the officers and announced 30 days prior to the meeting date and time on the associations Facebook Page.

#### **Article X: TRAINING**

The association will do its best to offer 2 Hours of training each year in any related field to meteorology, storm spotting, forecasting and public education.

#### **Article XI: FINANCES**

Expenditures of the Association less than fifty (50) dollars may be authorized by a majority of the Executive Committee or members in attendance at a general meeting.

Expenditures of the Association in the amount of fifty (50) dollars or more shall require the majority approval by members in attendance at a general meeting.

The Association is organized and operated exclusively for non-profit purposes, and no part of its earnings shall inure to the benefit of any member.

#### **Article XII: DISSOLUTION**

Upon dissolution or disbandment of this Association, all funds and properties in excess of liabilities and expenses of dissolution will be distributed to Storm Assist or another nonprofit organization related to helping those affected by severe weather if Storm Assist is no longer available.

#### **Article XIII: AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS**

Amendments to these Bylaws may be proposed by any Association member. Amendments must be presented to the Executive Committee in writing, and will be considered for adoption during any regular or special meeting at which a quorum is present. This is provided all members have been notified of the proposed amendment at least 10 days in advance of the meeting date.

The adoption of a proposed amendment shall require the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of all members who cast ballots.

#### **Article XIV: OFFICER AMENDMENT**

The executive committee of the Metro St. Louis Storm Chaser's Association shall consist of the following officers: 3 Officer Positions. These officers shall be members in good standing and be elected by a majority of chapter members, also which must be in good standing.

In the event that active participation in the chapter is lacking, one or more of the officer positions may be combined as deemed necessary and appropriate by the present members of the executive committee. Combinations of officer positions are valid for one year and should be re-assessed at the next business meeting.

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_

AMENDED: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_ Officer

\_\_\_\_\_ Officer

\_\_\_\_\_ Officer