

**CONSTITUTION
OF
THE SHIP MODEL SOCIETY
OF
NEW JERSEY**

Adopted
January 26, 1982

Amended

April 23, 1991
July 23, 1996
January 21, 1997
May 26, 1998
November 23, 1999
November 22, 2005
August 28, 2007

PREAMBLE

To encourage and promote the highest quality of ship modeling and maritime crafts, the free exchange of ideas for the improvement of techniques and the preservation of our nautical heritage, we associate ourselves to form **THE SHIP MODEL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY (Society)**.



ARTICLE I – MEMBERSHIP

- A. To be eligible for membership, an applicant must be of good character and have an active interest in the building of ship models or in some aspect of maritime crafts.
- B. There shall be three classes of membership:
 - 1. Regular Members shall be persons in good standing who have been voted into membership at a regular meeting. To be voted into membership, a modeler will have attended at least 3 monthly meetings as a guest and have presented and displayed for the membership an example (finished or “in progress”) of their craft. To maintain membership in this class, the Regular Member is expected to attend meetings regularly, participate in each exhibition sponsored by the Society, present or arrange for a formal program segment of not less than fifteen minutes duration within three months of being so requested by the program chairman and be willing to assist other members, on an individual basis, with information and advice toward the improvement of their work.
 - 2. Honorary Members shall be those persons whom the Society has chosen to honor by election to this class.
 - 3. Non-Resident Members shall be those who reside at such a distance as to make active participation and attendance impractical, but who wish to be affiliated with the Society and to receive its publications.

ARTICLE II – ELECTION OF MEMBERS

- A. The president shall annually appoint three regular members who shall serve as the Membership Committee.
- B. The Membership Committee shall determine and publish standards for membership and the necessary procedures for handling all membership matters. These standards and procedures shall include the following:
 - 1. No person may apply for or be considered for membership until that person has attended at least three regular meetings, which shall normally be consecutive, as a guest.
 - 2. A qualified person shall, upon receipt of written application and payment of initial dues, be admitted as a Regular Member at the following meeting.
 - 3. A favorable vote by a majority of the voting members present and voting at a regular meeting shall be required to change a member's class, except that of a Non-Resident Member.
- C. No membership matter shall come before the Society except upon the recommendation of the Membership Committee. However, any member may require that the Committee explain any failure to report any matter which has been before it for two months or more.

ARTICLE III – DUES

- A. Dues for Regular and Non-Resident Members shall be as set forth in section 1. for a fiscal year, payable in July. New Members shall be liable for an initial one-time fee as set forth in section 1. which shall include the dues for the current fiscal year. For any new member joining five or less months before the end of the current fiscal year, the initial fee will be considered payment in full from that date through the end of the succeeding fiscal year.
 - 1. The cost of dues for membership in the SMSNJ, for both existing members and new members, shall be set by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may change the amount no more than once in a fiscal year. Any changes will be treated as if they were an amendment and be brought before the membership according to the rules set forth in Article XIII. Any change in the dollar amount of the dues must be voted upon no later than two months before the end of the fiscal year so that the

new dues amount can be published to the members before the beginning of the new fiscal year.

- B. Any member whose dues remain unpaid as of December 1 shall be notified by the Treasurer. If after 30 days the dues are still unpaid, the member will be dropped from the rolls of the Society.
- C. Honorary Members shall not be required to pay dues.
- D. Dues shall be waived for the officers of the Society, as defined in Article V, during the time that they hold office.
- E. Dues shall be waived for the Editor of the Society newsletter and the Webmaster during the time they hold that position.

ARTICLE IV – FISCAL YEAR

- A. The fiscal year of the Society shall begin on July 1 and shall end on the following June 30.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS

- A. The officers of the Society shall be Regular Members and shall consist of a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

ARTICLE VI – ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

- A. All officers shall be elected for a term of two years or until their successors shall have been elected and installed. No person shall be elected to more than two consecutive terms in the same office.
- B. The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee at the regular meeting in April. That Committee shall report its nominations at the regular meeting in May, at which time additional nominations may be made from the floor. Election of officers shall take place at the June meeting and a majority of the voting members present and voting shall be required for election to any office.
- C. Installation of officers shall take place at the conclusion of the regular June meeting at which they were elected.

- D. In the event that an officer cannot complete their term of office, the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement to serve until a new election is held at the regular June meeting.

ARTICLE VII – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- A. All officers shall serve as members of the Executive Committee.
- B. The President shall have general supervision over the affairs of the Society, shall preside at meetings and shall appoint regular or special committees as needed.
- C. The Vice President shall, in the absence of the President, perform the duties of that office and shall regularly serve as the Program Chairman.
- D. The Secretary shall, in addition to the duties enumerated elsewhere, keep the minutes of all meetings, attend to all correspondence and report to the President, Executive Committee or membership as appropriate. The Secretary shall keep records of all membership changes and status and shall, periodically or when appropriate, advise the Membership Committee of matters on which action may be advisable, including Regular Members who are no longer in compliance with the qualifications for membership in that class.
- E. The Treasurer shall collect and distribute all moneys of the Society and shall render a report on the finances of the Society at each regular meeting.
- F. The retiring President shall act as the Past President for one year or until his successor shall become qualified for this office. He shall be a member of the Executive Committee and shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President and Vice President.
- G. The President shall appoint a member to act as Archivist. The Archivist shall have custody of the books or other property of the Society and shall maintain records of that material and a cross-referenced record of plans and other resources owned by members who wish to have them listed for access by others.

ARTICLE VIII – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers of the Society, the Past President and such members as may be appointed to serve temporarily during the discussion of particular matters.

B. The Executive Committee shall:

1. Exercise general supervision over the interests and affairs of the Society as directed by the President.
2. Be empowered to act on the behalf of the Society in the interim between meetings and shall, when appropriate, submit a report covering such actions.

ARTICLE IX – MEETINGS

- A. The regular meetings of the Society shall be held on the fourth Tuesday of each month, at a place to be designated by the President, subject to change in the case of holidays.
- B. Special meetings may be called at any time and place designated by the President or Executive Committee.

ARTICLE X – RULES GOVERNING MEETINGS

- A. Proceedings at meetings shall be covered by Robert’s Rules of Order, Revised.

ARTICLE XI – QUORUM

- A. A quorum at any regular meeting shall consist of 12 regular members including the officers.

ARTICLE XII – VOTING

- A. Any Regular or Honorary Member of the Society is entitled to vote on all matters coming before the membership. The term “voting members” includes only these two classes of members.
- B. All voting shall be done by voice except that written ballots shall be taken for any contested election of officers and on any motion when requested by a voting member.

ARTICLE XIII – AMENDMENTS

- A. Proposed amendments to this Constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary and shall be considered by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall report and recommend action on such proposals at the next regular meeting. A copy of the Committee's report, to include any revisions made at this meeting, shall be mailed to all voting members by the Secretary and/or published in the Society newsletter and the amendment shall then be voted upon at the following regular meeting. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the voting members present shall be required for adoption of the amendment.

ARTICLE XIV – PURPOSE

- A. The purpose of the Society is to encourage and promote the highest quality of ship modeling and maritime crafts, the free exchange of ideas for the improvement of techniques and the preservation of our nautical heritage.
- B. The purposes for which the Ship Model Society of New Jersey is organized are exclusively religious, charitable, literary or educational within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue Law.
- C. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the Society shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried out by an organization exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue Law.
- D. In the event of dissolution, the residual assets of the Society will be turned over to one or more organizations which themselves are exempt as organizations described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue Law , or to the Federal, State or Local government for exclusive public purpose.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Deletions in green, Additions in red

April 23, 1991 – Article III

Original Text

- A. Dues for Regular, Associate, and Non-Resident Members shall be \$10.00 a year, payable in July. New Members entering the Associate class shall be liable for an initiation fee of \$15.00, which shall include the dues for the current fiscal year.

Amended Text

- A. Dues for Regular, Associate, and Non-Resident Members shall be \$15.00 a year, payable in July. New Members shall be liable for an initiation fee of \$20.00, which shall include the dues for the current fiscal year.

July 23, 1996 – Article III

Added Text

- D. Dues shall be waived for the officers of the Society, as defined in Article V, during the time that they hold office.

January 21, 1997 – Article I

Original Text

- B. There shall be four classes of membership:
1. Regular Members shall be those persons who have had their work evaluated and found acceptable following submission to the membership committee. To maintain membership
 2. Associate Members shall be all other persons except Honorary and Non-Resident Members who participate in the activities of the Society but have not qualified for election as Regular Members.

Amended Text

- B. There shall be three classes of membership.
1. Regular Members shall be those persons in good standing who have been voted into membership at a regular meeting. To be voted into membership, a modeler will have attended at least 3 monthly meetings as a guest and have presented and displayed for the members an example (finished or “in progress”) of their craft. To maintain membership

January 21, 1997 – Article II B

Original Text

2. A qualified person shall, upon receipt of written application and payment of initial dues, be admitted as an **Associate** Member at the following meeting.
3. **An Associate Member may apply for regular membership at any time, and shall be required to submit a piece of work for evaluation by the Membership Committee. The membership Committee shall recommend advancement or, if not, shall offer specific reasons and recommendations for alternate action.**

Amended Text

2. A qualified person shall, upon receipt of written application and payment of initial dues, be admitted as a **Regular** Member at the following meeting.

January 21, 1997 – Article III

Original Text

- A. Dues for Regular, **Associate**, and Non-Resident Members shall be \$15.00 a year, payable in July.

Amended Text

- A. Dues for Regular, and Non-Resident Members shall be \$15.00 a year, payable in July.

Added Text

- E. **Dues shall be waived for the Editor of the Society newsletter during the time they hold that position**

January 21, 1997 – Article VII

Original Text

- G. The President shall **each year** appoint

Amended Text

- G. The President shall appoint

January 21, 1997 – Article XI

Original Text

- A. A quorum at any regular meeting shall consist of **a majority of voting members.**

Amended Text

- A. A quorum at any regular meeting shall consist of **12 regular members including the officers.**

January 21, 1997 – Article XII

Deleted Text

- B. An Associate member may vote only at meetings of any committee to which he may be appointed.

January 21, 1997 – Article XIII

Original Text

- A. A copy of the Committee's report, to include any revisions made at this meeting, shall be mailed to all voting members by the Secretary and the amendment shall then be voted upon at the following regular meeting.

Amended Text

- A. A copy of the Committee's report, to include any revisions made at this meeting, shall be mailed to all voting members by the Secretary, **and/or published in the Society's newsletter**, and the amendment shall then be voted upon at the following regular meeting.

May 26, 1998

Added Text

ARTICLE XIV – PURPOSE

- A. The purpose of the Society is to encourage and promote the highest quality of ship modeling and maritime crafts, the free exchange of ideas for the improvement of techniques and the preservation of our nautical heritage.
- B. The purposes for which the Ship Model Society of New Jersey is organized are exclusively religious, charitable, literary or educational within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue Law.
- C. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the Society shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried out by an organization exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue Law.
- D. In the event of dissolution, the residual assets of the Society will be turned over to one or more organizations which themselves are exempt as organizations described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue Law , or to the Federal, State or Local government for exclusive public purpose.

November 23, 1999 – Article III

Original Text

- E. Dues shall be waived for the Editor of the Society newsletter during the time they hold that position

Amended Text

- E. Dues shall be waived for the Editor of the Society newsletter and the Webmaster during the time they hold that position

November 23, 1999 – Article VI

Original Text

- A. All officers shall be elected for a term of one year

Amended Text

- A. All officers shall be elected for a term of two years

Added Text

- D. In the event that an officer cannot complete their term of office, the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement to serve until a new election is held at the regular June meeting.

November 22, 2005 – Article III

Original Text

- A. Dues for Regular, and Non-Resident Members shall be \$15.00 a year, payable in July. New Members shall be liable for an initiation fee of \$20.00, which shall include the dues for the current fiscal year

Amended Text

- A. Dues for Regular and Non-Resident Members shall be as set forth in section 1. for a fiscal year, payable in July. New Members shall be liable for an initial one-time fee as set forth in section 1, which shall include the dues for the current fiscal year. For any new member joining five or less months before the end of the current fiscal year, the initial fee will be considered payment in full from that date through the end of the succeeding fiscal year.

- 1 The cost of dues for membership in the SMSNJ, for both existing members and new members, shall be set by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may change the amount no more than once in a fiscal year. Any changes will be treated as if they were an amendment and be brought before the membership according to the rules set forth in Article XIII. Any change in the dollar amount of the dues must be voted upon no later than two months before the end of the fiscal year so that the new dues amount can be published to the members before the beginning of the new fiscal year.

November 22, 2005 – PREAMBLE

Be it resolved that as of August 28, 2007, the name of THE SHIP MODEL SOCIETY OF NORTHERN NEW JERSEY be changed to THE SHIP MODEL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY. Be it further resolved that the Cover, Preamble and any other references to the original title within this constitution reflect this change.

Original Text

..... we associate ourselves to form **THE SHIP MODEL SOCIETY OF NORTHERN NEW JERSEY.**

Amended Text

..... we associate ourselves to form **THE SHIP MODEL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY (Society).**