

BYLAWS OF THE LEAGUE OF SILENT FLIGHT



Modified February, 2014

ARTICLE I - NAME

Section 1 - The full and formal name of the organization is THE LEAGUE OF SILENT FLIGHT

Section 2 - The official abbreviation of the name is "LSF."

Section 3 - The LSF is duly registered as a Corporation in the State of Delaware, USA as of April 2, 1980.

ARTICLE II - EMBLEM AND SEAL

Section 1 - The official emblem of the LSF is a stylized, in-flight bird, superimposed over the uppercase connecting letters "LSF.". When the emblem is presented in full color, the bird is white outlined in black, and the letters and period are sky blue or gold outlined in red against a solid white or other light, neutral, or transparent background..

Section 2 - The official seal of the LSF incorporates the official emblem within a circle which also contains the year of founding, 1969, centered above the emblem and the word "SEAL" centered below the emblem.

ARTICLE III - ADDRESS

Section 1 - The permanent address of the LSF is that of the Registered Agent of the Corporation.

Section 2 - A secondary and transitory mailing address may be established by the current President of LSF for the expediting of correspondence.

ARTICLE IV - PURPOSE

Section 1 - The primary purpose of the LSF is to provide collective identification for active radio control soaring enthusiasts throughout the world and to recognize individual proficiency and accomplishment through a defined program of standard performance criteria for radio controlled (R/C) model sailplanes.

Section 2 - The secondary purpose of the LSF is to foster and support all phases of sporting and competitive activity for R/C model sailplanes; to encourage personal and collective advancement in knowledge of aerodynamics and related arts and sciences; and to promote the general interest in soaring flight.

ARTICLE V - POLICY

Section 1 - The LSF shall be a voluntary association of individuals with common interests and, as a physical conglomerate, shall levy no membership dues, hold no general meetings, assign no responsibilities and impose no obligation for membership other than: (a) support of the philosophies and concepts set forth in these bylaws, and (b) active pursuit of R/C soaring proficiency.

Section 2 - The LSF shall perform all official functions and provide all official services by means of written communication and e-mail messages.

Section 3 - The LSF shall be a non-profit organization supported by voluntary contributions and by fees and charges for specific services and goods. The LSF shall offer no industrial or commercial membership.

ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 - The organizational body of the LSF consists of:

a. Members who have earned such status by documented performance of specific soaring accomplishments, and

b. Aspirants to membership who have made written declaration of their intent to associate with the LSF and to actively pursue the Soaring Accomplishment Program (**SAP**) or the Electric Soaring Accomplishment Program (**ESAP**).

c. Membership in the LSF, once Level 1 is attained in either the **SAP** or **ESAP**, is for life. Deceased members' numbers are retained.

d. LSF members wishing to vote on changes to an accomplishment program may only do so if they are actively involved in and meet the achievement levels specific to that program. (Some members may choose to actively pursue both the **SAP** and **ESAP**).

Section 2 - The specific and only criteria for membership are:

a. Declaration of intent to associate with the LSF, and

b. Current membership in appropriate, national FAI representative organization for model aircraft, and

c. Current appropriate national radio operator's license for legal operation of R/C model aircraft, and

d. Attainment of Level 1 in the LSF Soaring Accomplishment Program.

Section 3 - Declaration of intent to associate with the LSF may be made by submitting the following in writing to the Executive Board

a. Name

Postal address

Email and/or other communication address which becomes available.

FAI organization affiliate and FAI membership number

A statement similar to the following;

"I, (the undersigned), support the philosophies, concepts, and criteria set forth in the Bylaws of THE LEAGUE OF SILENT FLIGHT and give notice, herewith, of intention to attain Level I of the LSF Soaring Accomplishments Program, and by doing so, earn full recognition and privilege of membership"

Section 4. - Upon receipt of a written declaration of intent, the Executive Board will record the individual's name on the LSF Aspirant roll, and will forward to the Aspirant the information and forms necessary to document the

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attainment of Level 1 in the LSF Soaring Accomplishment Program or the LSF Electric Soaring Accomplishment Program. An individual will be carried on the Aspirant roll for a maximum of two years from the date of enrollment... If the individual has not achieved Level 1 status by that time, his/her name will be dropped from the Aspirant roll without notification. Resubmission of a declaration of intent will be accepted by the Executive Board.

Section 5 - Membership can be attained only by Aspirants who submit, to the Executive Board, proper documentation of their fulfillment of all the performance requirements necessary for Level 1 of the LSF Soaring Accomplishments Program or the LSF Electric Soaring Accomplishment Program on the voucher provided... Upon acceptance of the submitted voucher, the Executive Board will transfer the individual's name from the Aspirant roll to the next consecutive membership number on the membership roll, and will issue to the member a new membership card and a voucher for Level 2 tasks.

Section 6 - Members are privileged to identify such status by display of the LSF name, official emblem or insignia, symbols or other paraphernalia, as well as earned badges and awards from the Soaring Accomplishment Program or the LSF Electric Soaring Accomplishment Program. Members are entitled to participate in all organizational activities, subject to such regulations as may be imposed by these Bylaws, are privileged to vote in the election of officers and on matters of business as set forth herein, may seek and hold office and may serve on committees. Only Active Members will receive LSF mailings, calls for nominations and election ballots. **An active member is defined as one of the following;**

A member who has achieved Level II, III, IV, or V in either the SAP or ESAP.

A member who has achieved Level I in either the SAP or ESAP within the last twenty-four months, or has contacted LSF in writing (including LSF's administration of contest) within the last twenty-four months.

Section 7 - Aspirants may not display any LSF insignia, but may participate in all organizational activities, subject to such rules and regulations as may be imposed by these Bylaws, except that they may not vote or hold office. Members may identify their LSF status by with their LSF membership number followed by a Roman numeral indicating their highest LSF level achieved. Members participating in the ESAP may add a capital "E" if they so desire.

ARTICLE VII - NATIONAL CHAPTERS

Section 1 - A single National Chapter of THE LEAGUE OF SILENT FLIGHT may be established by any nation, and with an existing LEAGUE OF SILENT FLIGHT OF USA member population of fifteen (15) or more,

Section 2 - A National Chapter will represent the total national member population in all matters. A National Chairman will be elected by each National Chapter.

Section 3 - National Chapters will establish and effect national policy, maintain liaison with clubs and other organizations, initiate and support national awards and competitive activities, promote the general activity of

R/C soaring, specifically the LSF Soaring Accomplishments Program, and otherwise conduct all national business as necessary to foster and protect the interests and welfare of the LSF Members and Aspirants in R/C soaring.

Section 4 - National Chapters will be the focal point for internal LSF activities including receipt of Declarations of Intent and administration of the Soaring Accomplishments Program.

Section 5 - Membership in the National Chapter will be only by membership in the parent LSF organization in the USA and can be attained only by Aspirants who submit proper documentation of their fulfillment of all performance requirements necessary for Level 1 of the LSF Soaring Accomplishments Program. Membership in the parent organization, LSF-USA is a mandatory requirement for membership in the National Chapter. Upon acceptance of the submitted claim, the National Chapter will forward the claim to the LSF Executive Board where the individual's name will be transferred from the Aspirant Roll to the next consecutive number of the Membership Roll. The Executive Board will so notify the National Chapter

Section 6 - The National Chairman, or a Country Coordinator designated by the Secretary of LSF-USA, will be the official liaison with the LSF Secretary regarding Soaring Accomplishments Program activities. Periodic reports, as deemed necessary by the National Chairman or Country coordinator, or as requested by the LSF Secretary, will be made to the LSF Executive Board.

Section 7 - The LSF Member population of any nation may petition the LSF Executive Board for recognition as a National Chapter. The petition must include the name, address, LSF Member number and signature of at least fifteen (15) Members, a copy of the By-laws proposed for the Chapter, and identification of the Chairman, pro-tem, or Country Coordinator.

Section 8 - The Executive Board will review the petition, based on the requirements and guidelines set forth in these By-laws, and advise the Chairman pro tem or Country Coordinator of the petitioning body within sixty (60) days after receipt of the document.

Section 9 - Executive Board approval of a petition for recognition as a National Chapter will authorize the petitioning body to conduct the business necessary to initiate, form and create a

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democratic national organization acceptable to a majority of the total member population, and which is consistent and compatible with the purposes and policies of THE LEAGUE OF SILENT FLIGHT USA, known hereinafter as the "parent body".

Section 10 - The By-laws of each National Chapter will include wording to OF provide that:

a. - The organization is affiliated with THE LEAGUE OF SILENT FLIGHT USA, as a chapter, and membership status in the chapter shall be as in the parent body, and

b. The Chapter shall levy no membership dues or fees and shall impose no obligations, requirements or limitations of or for membership other than as specified in the By-laws of the parent body.

Section 11 - National Chapter By-laws will be filed with the Executive Board within thirty (30) days after ratification.

Subsequent changes, amendments, additions and all other modifications to national by-laws will be filed on a similar schedule.

Section 12 - The full and formal name of a National Chapter will be THE LEAGUE OF SILENT FLIGHT of (name of country), such as:
THE LEAGUE OF SILENT FLIGHT OF USA
THE LEAGUE OF SILENT FLIGHT OF AUSTRALIA

Section 13 - The Executive Board may appoint an existing LSF member in any country other than the United States of America as an official "COUNTRY COORDINATOR" for that specific country. The purpose is to provide a collective contact for all LSF-related operations within that country and simplify and accelerate correspondence and service to all local LSF members. This Country coordinator may be the National Chairman of a National chapter or may be active in a country without a National Chapter. The Country Coordinator will assume all responsibility for the following procedures;

- Act as the singular representative for the LSF Executive Board, through the LSF Secretary, in matters of Soaring Accomplishment (SAP) matters, promote the purposes and policies of LSF within the particular environment of each country and provide support of and to LSF as appropriate and necessary.
- Maintain a database of his/her country's LSF members and their SAP levels.
- Receive SAP vouchers and, after confirmation of tasks completed, issue new vouchers for the next Level.
- Forward level achievement information to the Executive Board in a timely manner.

e. Receive and distribute membership cards and other member documents as appropriate.

f. Maintain a supply of written LSF materials and consumables for sale (to qualified members) in the country represented. The Country Coordinator will not assign LSF member numbers, this being the responsibility of the LSF Secretary only. The Country Coordinator will forward any materials related to achievement of Level 5 directly to the Executive Board for immediate processing.

ARTICLE VIII - OFFICERS

Section 1 - The Executive Officers of THE LEAGUE OF SILENT FLIGHT are the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Executive Officers constitute the Executive Board.

Section 2 - The Executive Officers are elected, by written ballot, in December of each odd numbered year by Individuals on the LSF Membership Roll as of the immediately preceding August 31. Each officer serves for a two-year term commencing 1 January following the election and ending 31 December of the next odd year or until his successor is elected. No officer will be eligible to more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office.

Section 3 - A vacancy in the office of Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer will be filled for the unexpired term by direct appointment by the President. Vacancy of the Presidency will be filled by the Vice President who will then, as President, appoint a Vice President.

Section 4 - The PRESIDENT is the chief executive officer, the official representative and spokesperson for the LSF. The President is responsible for the general management of the LSF. The President has the authority to establish and dissolve Special Committees and to appoint and remove Special Committee Chairmen and members. With the approval of the Executive Board, the President may appoint and remove chairmen and members of Standing Committees. The "President, ex officio, is a member of all Special and Standing Committees. The President has the authority to make final and binding decisions relative to disputes and protests. The President may appoint an Executive Assistant, one or more Press Secretaries and other special aides as desired, including a Special Post Box Monitor to forward mail collected at the LSF permanent mailing address.

Section 5 - The VICE PRESIDENT performs the duties of the President in case of disability of the President and such other duties in connection with the LSF as may be undertaken at the suggestion of the President. The Vice President, ex officio, is a member of all Special and Standing Committees.

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Section 6 - The **SECRETARY**, under the direction of the President and the Executive Board, keeps all administrative books, records, and the Membership and Aspirant Rolls. The Secretary is responsible for regular and special reports to the Executive board Members and National Chapters; and such other duties as may be undertaken at the suggestion of the President.

Section 7 - The **TREASURER** receives and disburses all funds of the LSF under the direction of the President and the Executive Board. The Treasurer is responsible for a Quarterly and an Annual Financial Report to the executive board and such other duties as may be undertaken at the suggestion of the President.

Section 8 - The **NATIONAL CHAIRMAN** or **COUNTRY COORDINATOR** of each National Chapter will coordinate all matters of LSF policy, rules and administration within his National Chapter and will advise the Executive board in all matters of business consistent with these Bylaws and will be the official channel of communication between the LSF Executive board and his National Chapter.

Section 9 - There will be such agents as the interests of the LSF may require and as the Executive board may establish. Their powers, duties and responsibilities will be set by the Executive Board.

Section 10 - An Executive Officer may resign by submitting a written notice to the Executive Board. Resignations will be effective as of the date of submittal.

ARTICLE IX - EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1 - The **EXECUTIVE BOARD**, consisting of the Executive Officers may exercise any and all powers in the management of the business and affairs of the LSF, except that the Executive board does not have the right to exercise any powers which can be exercised only by a vote of the eligible membership. Action of a majority of the Board members is valid as a corporate act.

Section 2 - Each member of the Board will serve without compensation.

Section 3 - The Executive board will cause to be kept a complete record of all its acts and will present periodic reports to the membership through the LSF newsletter. These periodic reports will show in detail the condition of the affairs of the LSF and will summarize the activities and business for the report period.

Section 4 - The Executive Board will issue such newsletters, bulletins, special reports or other communiqués as may be necessary with distribution as appropriate.

ARTICLE X - BOOKS AND ACCOUNTS

Section 1 - The fiscal year of the LSF will begin as of January 1st of each calendar year.

Section 2 - Annually, within fifteen (15) days after the end of the fiscal year, the books and accounts will be audited by a special auditing committee of two, appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Executive Board. The Executive Board, by a majority vote, may cause an independent audit to be made at any time when in their judgment it is deemed advisable.

ARTICLE XI - SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

Section 1 - Any member or Aspirant of the LSF whose activities are deemed inimical to the best interests of the LSF is subject to suspension, expulsion from LSF or, if an officer, removal from office.

Section 2 - Charges believed to warrant disciplinary action will be submitted to the President. If the President and Executive Board concur with the severity of the charges, the President will relay the charges to the accused. The accused may:

(a) Answer the allegation and request that both the charges and defense be submitted to the Members;

(b) Make no response and thereby tender his resignation from office or from the LSF; or formally submit his resignation. If a response to the President's request for a statement of defense is not forthcoming within thirty (30) days after the date of request, it will be assumed that the accused plans no reply.

Section 3 - The President, with the concurrence of the Executive Board, may dismiss the statement of charges and defense to the Members with a specific recommendation for disciplinary action. Authority for such recommendation requires a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative majority of all votes received by the Executive Board.

Section 4 - Charges made against the President will be directed to and processed by the Vice President. Executive Officers accused of acts warranting disciplinary action will not sit on the Executive Board during discussion or processing of such action.

Section 5 - A National Chapter which is deemed inimical to the best interests of the LSF, or so modifies its national bylaws as to refute or nullify the bylaws previously accepted by the LSF is subject to suspension or expulsion. Any such charges will be processed as if for an individual Member or Aspirant except that the member population of the National Chapter may not vote on disciplinary action. Disciplinary action against a

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National Chapter will not be considered an act against the national member population or any individual Member or Aspirant.

ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS

Section 1 – These Bylaws, and any supplements or attachments, may be altered, amended, deleted or replaced by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Executive Board and subsequent concurrence of a simple majority of the votes cast by active members, except the super requirements contained in Section 2.

Section 2 – Proposed amendments to Article XII Section 1, and Section 2, and Proposed amendments to Article XVI - LSF Soaring Accomplishment Program must meet the requirements contained in Article XII Section 1 and That vote must also contain affirmative votes of two-thirds (2/3) of the then current living Level IV's and Level V's.

Section 3 - Proposed amendments must be submitted to the active members via individual communications, and mass communication announcement methods such as the Model Aviation and RCSE, and must allow a minimum of thirty days (30) days from date of mailing for response and consideration. Such dates must be so stated on the ballot.

ARTICLE XIII - COMMITTEES

Section 1 - The President may, as is deemed necessary, appoint various committees for a specific purpose and time.

Section 2 - These Committees will report directly to the President and will have their duties and responsibilities identified in writing at the time of initiation.

ARTICLE XIV - ELECTIONS

Section 1 - An Election Board will be appointed by the Executive Board on or before August 1 of each odd-numbered year. Members of the Executive Board are ineligible to serve on the Election Board. The Election Board will issue a call for nominations, select nominees, issue ballots and conduct the election of Executive Officers. The Election Board will be dissolved at such time as the new Executive Officers have been elected and a report has been submitted to the Members.

Section 2 - The Election Board will call for nominations for Executive Officers by August 15 of each odd-numbered year. Any active LSF member

may nominate one member for each office. Nominations must reach the Election Board by October 1 for consideration.

Section 3 - The Election Board will, after October 1, select the two nominees who have received the most nominations for a given office as the candidates for the office, subject to acceptance by the nominee. Any nominee who receives the necessary nominations to be eligible for candidacy for more than one office will be offered candidacy for the highest office. If the nominee declines candidacy for the highest office, candidacy for the next highest office will be offered. The order of preference shall be President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 4 - The Election Board will issue official ballots to all active LSF members, as defined in ARTICLE VI, section 6, by October 15.

Section 5 – Active members will vote by identifying the candidate preferences on a ballot, or reasonable facsimile thereof, which can be interpreted by the Election Board, and has reasonable assurance to reflect the actual preference of the voting active member. The Election process should only be limited by those measures needed to insure that the voter is the active member who they represent to be. The onus is on the Election Board to ensure voting integrity, while maintaining the right for an active member to vote.

Section 6 - Candidates who receive the greatest number of votes cast for each contested office will be awarded the position. In the case of a tie vote, the position will be decided and awarded by the Election Board.

Section 7 - The Election Board will certify and count the ballots received by the deadline and will notify the Executive Board of the results by December 10. The successful candidates will be notified by December 20 and will be expected to assume their duties by January 1 of the following year. The Election Board will then issue a report of the election results to the membership by January 15.

Section 8 - In the case where only there is only one nominee for an office, that candidate will be declared the winner by the Election Board without further voting by ballot.

ARTICLE XV - DISSOLUTION

Section 1 - THE LEAGUE OF SILENT FLIGHT may be dissolved by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the active members.

Section 2 - Funds received from the sale of the assets of LSF at the time of dissolution shall, after all obligations have been paid, be given to a worthy organization with similar purposes as determined by the Executive Board at the time of dissolution.

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ARTICLE XVI - SOARING ACCOMPLISHMENTS PROGRAMS

The LSF SOARING ACCOMPLISHMENTS PROGRAM and the LSF ELECTRIC SOARING ACCOMPLISHMENTS PROGRAM (ESAP) are supplements to these Bylaws and is included herein by reference.