



# **Midwest Stangs Club Bylaws**

## **2010**

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## **ARTICLE I – PURPOSE**

### **SECTION 1: NAME**

The name of the club shall be the Midwest Stangs (hereinafter referred to as the “Club”).

### **SECTION 2: PURPOSE**

The general purpose of the Club shall be to promote increased enjoyment of Mustang ownership to the Club members by providing planned, regulated, social and competitive activities, to provide support to charitable organizations, and to encourage careful and safe driving on public highways.

## **ARTICLE II – FISCAL YEAR**

### **FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year of the club shall run from January 1 of each year to December 31 of the same year. The Membership dues will cover the same time period.

## **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

### **SECTION 1: MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in the Club shall be restricted to Mustang owners, Mustang enthusiasts, and spouses or companions who hold a valid license to operate motor vehicles upon the public roads and who are properly insured.

### **SECTION 2: APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

Applicants submit a completed official Club Application for Membership (available from the Club's website) together with the appropriate dues for the remainder of the fiscal year (see **ARTICLE III Section 5**).

Applications will be reviewed/approved at the next officer's meeting. Applications may be rejected for any cause. Any member may inform officers of reasons why an application should be rejected. Rejection of an application requires a majority vote of the officers in attendance at the meeting. Upon successful completion of the application/review process, new members will be introduced and given their membership package at the next meeting.

### **SECTION 3: RESIGNATION**

Any member may resign by directing a letter of resignation to the Club President. His/her resignation shall be effective upon receipt, provided all indebtedness to the Club is paid. No refund of fees or dues will be made to the resigning member.

### **SECTION 4: EXPULSION**

A member conducting him/herself in a manner which harms or tarnishes the image of the Club, may be expelled from the Club by a majority vote of the Club's officers. However, before such expulsion action is taken, the member shall have an opportunity to submit, in writing or in person, his/her position on any charge of which he/she shall be notified. Any expelled individual forfeits Club membership and all rights and privileges thereof, effective the date of the expulsion. A Club member expelled under this section is not entitled to any refunds or monies paid to the Club as fees or dues. Status as a "Member" may be reinstated should the member submit a written request for membership reinstatement and the appropriate amount of dues (if any) to the Club Treasurer. Reconsideration for reinstatement of Membership status shall be determined by the Officers of the club.

A Mustang owner having become a Club Member, then selling or otherwise disposing of the Mustang, may retain Club membership if that member so desires. However, should it become evident to the Club that such a member has lost interest in the Club; a ruling majority may cancel that membership.

Membership will automatically lapse for nonpayment of dues at the end of each fiscal year. This clause, however, is subject to **ARTICLE III Section 5**.

## **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP (CONT.)**

### **SECTION 5: MEMBERSHIP DUES**

The fee for members and their spouses or companions shall be \$30.00 (thirty dollars) per Fiscal Year and will include a copy of the Bylaws. Members and member spouses or companions are entitled to all Club privileges. Additional benefits are as follows:

- 1 Club T-Shirt (1<sup>st</sup> year of Membership)
- Window Stickers – 2 small stickers (1<sup>st</sup> year of Membership)
- Membership Status on the Club Message Boards
- Member Profile Page(s)
- Ability to Participate in Club Sponsored and Paid for Events
- Voting Rights or Say in Club Decisions
- Club Membership Cards

Fiscal Year is outlined in **Article II Section 1**(See pro-rating Club Dues below for members not joining in January of any calendar year).

Club dues must be paid within thirty (30) days after the beginning of the Fiscal Year or the member will be considered “not in good standing” and will be subject to expulsion under **ARTICLE III Section 4**. Should a member fail to pay his/her dues within the above-mentioned thirty (30) days, the person will no longer be considered a Club member and will not receive future benefits of the Club until dues are paid at \$30.00 (thirty dollars) per year. This would also result in the loss of member’s seniority. Arrangements can be made for financial hardship cases. Any member whose dues are not paid, and is not a member in good standing, will not be allowed to vote on any issue.

Applicants joining the Club January 1 – 31 will pay the full \$30.00 (thirty dollars) Membership fee. Any member joining between April 1 and December 31 will pay a pro-rated Membership fee of \$3.00 (three dollars) per month. Members will receive all\* initial items listed in paragraph one above. (i.e. Member 1 joins October 13<sup>th</sup> – this member will pay 3 months of dues equaling \$9.00 (nine dollars) until January 1 renewal and then dues will be the standard \$30.00 (thirty dollars)).

\* Prorated amount will not include a T-Shirt or MWS Stickers unless full \$30.00 is paid despite the time joined

## **ARTICLE IV – MEETINGS**

### **SECTION 1: ELECTION MEETING**

Election of new officers will be held the 3<sup>rd</sup> (third) Sunday of November of each year. Nominations for new officer candidates will be collected on the Club Message Boards beginning October 1 and leading up to the Election Meeting. The Election Meeting will follow the same format as the Monthly Meetings (see **ARTICLE IV Section 2**).

### **SECTION 2: CLUB MEMBER MEETINGS**

Periodic monthly meetings will be held the 3<sup>rd</sup> (third) Sunday of scheduled months. Meetings may be changed due to pending events or circumstances and the President will give sufficient notice of said change(s) as to provide members a chance to arrange their personal schedules to be able to attend. Details will always be published on the events calendar so that everyone knows what is taking place each month.

The format of the Monthly Meetings shall be as follows:

- Introduction of new Members
- Review Previous Meeting Minutes
- President / Vice President review of New Business as discussed in the Officers Meeting
- Treasurer presentation of club financials
- Events Coordinators presentation of club activities
- Open Discussion
- Informal Showing of Vehicles

### **SECTION 3: MONTHLY OFFICER MEETING**

Regular monthly Officer Meetings will be held the second Sunday of each month at a location to be determined by a different officer each month. The Officer Monthly Meetings may be changed due to pending events or circumstances and the President will give sufficient notice of said change(s) as to provide officers a chance to arrange their personal schedules to be able to attend. The Officer Monthly Meetings will be facilitated by the President and shall involve all officers and the Club Webmaster.

### **SECTION 4: CLUB RULING MAJORITY**

All Club actions, selections of officers, and amendments of the Bylaws may be passed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members present at the meeting where the subject is discussed. Voting by proxy or absentee ballot shall be allowed as provided for under **ARTICLE V**.

### **SECTION 5: POLICY DECISIONS**

Any decisions regarding Club policy that require an immediate decision may be decided by a vote of the majority of the Club Officers.

# **ARTICLE V – OFFICERS**

## **SECTION 1: OFFICER ELIGIBILITY**

Club members will not be eligible to run for a Club office unless that member has attended a minimum of seventy five percent (75%) of the Club's meetings and events for the year that is ending, unless they are nominated by a majority of the members for a position. New members will not be eligible to run for a Club office unless that member has attended a minimum of seventy five percent (75%) of the Club's meetings and events since their membership application was approved, unless they are nominated by a majority of the members for a position.

## **SECTION 2: NUMBER OF OFFICERS**

The officers of the Club shall be as follows: Each of the following shall exist for the Club; President, Vice President, Treasurer, Membership Chair / Historian, and Events Coordinators. There will also be a Merchandiser and Web Master representing the Club. They shall serve for one (1) year.

## **SECTION 3: SELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Candidates for office shall be selected and nominated on a voluntary basis. Candidate selections will be made during the Month of October of each year. During that period of time, candidates may volunteer or be nominated for office. Any candidate for the office of President must have served at least one year as an officer in any capacity anytime prior to being nominated for President. Should no prior or current officer accept the nomination for President, this requirement may be waived by a majority vote of the members at the Election Meeting in favor of the nominated member. The names of the candidates for the various offices will be recorded on the Club Message Boards.

Ballots for officers will be cast at the Election Meeting in November of each year. Ballots are to be marked in secret and submitted to the Club President at the beginning of the Election Meeting. A member may not vote unless his/her dues for the current fiscal year have been paid (**ARTICLE III Section 5**).

All officers shall be selected by a majority vote of the valid ballots submitted to the President at the Election Meeting (**ARTICLE IV Section 4**).

In the event that any officer shall resign or become unable to hold office before the end of his/her term, the President shall appoint a member to fill the vacancy of the current term, subject to the approval of a Club majority vote as outlined in **ARTICLE IV Section 4**. An officer may be removed from office by the consenting vote of two-thirds (2/3) Club majority as outlined in **ARTICLE IV Section 4**.

All officers are expected to attend monthly Officers Meetings in addition to regular Club meetings, and as many events as possible. Officers are encouraged to meet and greet new members, guests, and established Midwest Stangs members at events and meetings.

## **ARTICLE VI – OFFICER’S DUTIES**

### **SECTION 1: PRESIDENT**

The President shall preside at all meetings of the members and officers and shall administer all Club activities. The President shall also ensure that the Club bylaws are followed as outlined.

### **SECTION 2: VICE PRESIDENT**

In the absence of the President, or in the case of his resignation or inability to act, the duties usually pertaining to that office shall be performed by the Vice President. In the event it becomes necessary to replace the President, the Vice President will become President. The Vice President shall assist the President as requested in the administration of the Club, and shall act as advisor in coordinating activities in the Club. The Vice President is also to record information, post pictures, etcetera of events that occur. In addition, the Club’s banner is the responsibility of the Vice President.

### **SECTION 3: TREASURER**

The Treasurer shall, subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be made by the officers, have custody of all monies, debts and obligations belonging to the Club. The Treasurer or any officer shall be authorized to accept Club memberships or any other monies. Receipts shall be issued to any person applying for membership and paying dues to any officer.

The Treasurer shall receive all monies of the Club and deposit same to the Club bank account, and shall make all payments of Club debts upon approval of the President. All contracts, checks, drafts, notes and other orders for payment of money shall be signed in the name of the Club Treasurer and countersigned by the President or Vice President in Charge.

The Treasurer shall give a report of the financial status of the chapter at the Monthly Meeting.

No obligation, debt or other liability shall be incurred by the Treasurer without the specific approval of the President. Additionally, the following limits are placed to obligate Club monies; (a) expenditures up to three hundred dollars (\$300.00) will need approval by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the officers, (b) any expenditure exceeding three hundred dollars (\$300.00) will need approval of a two-thirds (2/3) members vote as stated in **ARTICLE IV Section 4.**

In the absence of the Treasurer from any activity, a Treasurer pro tempore shall be chosen by the presiding officer. Any monies collected shall be turned over to the Treasurer at the first opportunity.

### **SECTION 4: MEMBERSHIP CHAIR / HISTORIAN**

The Membership Chair shall be in charge of recruiting all prospective Club members. It shall be his/her responsibility to explain Club policies to prospective members. Responsibilities shall also include assisting prospective members in the completion of membership applications and facilitate collecting membership dues. The Membership Chair will issue Club Bylaws. The Membership Chair shall also introduce all new members to the Club as a whole, as well as to individual members. This officer will also collect information from members about apparel, stickers, and membership cards needed.

It is the responsibility of the Club Historian to record and publish the minutes of both Club member meetings and Club officer meetings, as well as present this information at the following member and officer meetings. Furthermore, the accuracy and updating of the Club bylaws shall be done by the Historian.

## **ARTICLE VI – OFFICER’S DUTIES (CONT.)**

### **SECTION 5: EVENTS COORDINATOR**

The Events Coordinator shall direct - in coordination with the Club officers – the selection and planning of all Club events which includes planning, coordinating, and follow through. This person shall coordinate formation of Midwest Stangs member/officer teams to organize specific Club events. The Events Coordinator will ensure that all activities are posted on the Message Boards and also listed on the Website Events Calendar.

### **SECTION 6: WEBMASTER**

The Web Master shall be responsible for the maintaining and updating of the Club’s official website – [www.midweststangs.com](http://www.midweststangs.com). Information on the website will be in harmony with the purpose of the Club. Information will be updated on a regular basis, giving the Club members and prospective members current information about Club events and activities. The Web Master will keep Club officers informed of significant changes to the web page(s).

### **SECTION 7: MERCHANDISER**

The Merchandising Officer shall be responsible for procurement, maintenance and distribution of saleable merchandise bearing the Club name and logo, including distribution of Window Decals to New Members.

### **SECTION 8: ASSUMPTION OF DUTIES**

Any officer’s duties may be assumed by another officer if necessary.

# **ARTICLE VII – ACTIVITIES**

## **SECTION 1: ACTIVITIES**

The activities of the Club shall consist of planned trips, social gatherings and competitive events as directed by the President and the Events Coordinator. Events will be planned and scheduled at regular meetings of the Club officers. Any suggestions from the Club members will be welcome. Any member wishing to plan and direct an event will be welcome to do so, as long as the Club officers feel the event is in keeping with Club policies and purpose. Any committee required to organize an event will be formed according to the provisions in **ARTICLE VI Section 5**.

## **SECTION 2: NOTIFICATION OF ACTIVITIES**

Members shall be advised of all meeting and events via Monthly Meetings, the Club website ([www.midweststangs.com](http://www.midweststangs.com)), and on the website events calendar. Activities shall be planned in advance so that all particulars may be outlined at the Monthly Meetings. When time does not permit updating the “Events” web page, an attempt will be made to notify all members of changes or new activities by telephone.

## **SECTION 3: PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVITIES**

All members in good standing will be allowed to participate in any open event. For events where only limited participation is possible (such as some car shows, etc.), members will be accommodated on a first come, first serve basis. A vote of Club officers will settle any disputes.

Any member participating in Club displays, etc., will conform to the Club’s standards for that display. Additional signs or displays will not be permitted.

## **SECTION 4: CONDUCT**

Club members participating in all Club activities will conduct themselves in a socially acceptable manner. Anyone found causing embarrassment to the Club will be subject to expulsion under **ARTICLE III Section 4**.

## **SECTION 5: RECURRING ACTIVITIES**

The following activities will be considered permanent recurring activities. Different Activities may be coordinated each year, however the list below are permanent and will occur each year. The recurring activities may be changed according to the provisions in **ARTICLE IV Section 4**.

**January** - Formal Monthly Club Member Meeting (Club Dues are payable at this meeting)

**February** - Formal Monthly Club Member Meeting

**March - Bowling** – Each Winter in March the club will sponsor a bowling event. Lineage fees will be paid for by the club for Members and Spouses only. The bowling Event will replace the March Monthly Meeting.

**April** - Formal Monthly Club Member Meeting

**May - Dyno Day** – Each May the Club will participate in a Dyno Day at C&S Motorsports. Dyno Day will replace the May Monthly Meeting.

**June - Track Nights or TBD** – Each June we will devote the month to Drag Racing down at MAM and encourage all of our members to come down and support those who are racing, even if you aren’t planning to run your car. Other informal gatherings may also be planned. Track nights will replace the June Monthly Meeting.

**July - Track Nights or TBD** – Each July we will devote the month to Drag Racing down at MAM and encourage all of our members to come down and support those who are racing, even if you aren’t planning to run your car. Other informal gatherings may also be planned. Track nights will replace the July Monthly Meeting.

**August - Parade and BBQ** – Each year the club will pay the entry fee for the Arrow's to Aerospace Parade. Following the parade we will have the BBQ for Members and Spouses Only. The club will provide the meat and members will provide the sides. The parade and BBQ will replace the August Monthly Meeting.

**September - MWS Pot Luck/ Club Photo** - A Club potluck and photo shall occur in the month of September each year. This will replace the September Monthly Meeting.

**October - Track Nights or TBD** - Each October we will devote the month to Drag Racing down at MAM and encourage all of our members to come down and support those who are racing, even if you aren't planning to run your car. Other informal gatherings may also be planned. Track nights will replace the October Monthly Meeting.

**November** - Formal Monthly Club Member Meeting. (Vote for new Officers for the following year)

**December - Holiday Dinner** - Every year, MWS will have a holiday dinner, paid for by the club. The dinner will replace the December Monthly Meeting.

## **ARTICLE VIII – LIABILITY**

### **SECTION 1: PERSONAL LIABILITY**

All persons or corporations extending credit to, contracting with, or having any claim against the Club or its officers, shall look only to funds and property of the Club for payment of any such contract or claim or for payment of any debt, damage, judgment, or decree or any other money that may otherwise become payable to them from the Club or the officers; so that neither the members of the Club, the officers, present nor future, shall be liable personally therefore.

### **SECTION 2: WAIVER OF LIABILITY**

All participants in any Club-sponsored activity for which a participation entrance fee is required must sign a liability waiver that will release the Club from liability for damages caused by or to the participant.

## **ARTICLE IX – BYLAWS**

### **SECTION 1: AMENDMENT TO THE BYLAWS**

The officers of the Club or any ten (10) voting members may propose an amendment to the Bylaws. Upon such a proposal being made, the proposal shall be made to the members. If two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at the meeting are qualified to vote and vote in favor of the proposal, the proposed amendment shall thereby be approved and adopted. All proposals brought before the Club may be modified by the proposing member after the discussion.

## ARTICLE X – LOGO(S)

### **SECTION 1: LOGO(S)**

The Midwest Stangs logo(s) is/are a trademark of the Club and any use of the logo(s) must be authorized by a majority vote of the officers.

### **SECTION 2: DESCRIPTION**

One Midwest Stangs logo will consist of the words “MIDWEST STANGS” (in blue) with a “Running Horse” (gray) embossed over the letters.



A second Midwest Stangs logo will consist of a Ring (black) with the letters “MWS” (white) engraved on the ring, with a “Running Horse” (grey) centered over the top with the words “MIDWEST STANGS.com” (blue) embossed over and centered at the bottom of the Ring.



A third Midwest Stangs logo will consist of a Ring (any color) with a “Running Horse” (same color) embossed over and centered on the Ring. The words “Midwest Stangs” (same color) will be placed on either side of the Ring using the Ring as the placeholder between the two words. This logo is typically used for Members’ windshield decal but may be used for other applications (i.e. Banner, etc.).

