

## **BYLAWS for the METER STAMP SOCIETY**

### **ARTICLE 1 - NAME AND PURPOSE**

**Section 1:** This organization shall be known as the Meter Stamp Society, hereafter referred to as the MSS or the Society.

**Section 2:** The purpose of the Society shall be to support the study of that segment of philately and postal history dealing with stamps produced by meter machines and similar equipment such as automat-stamp vending machines.

### **ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1:** Membership shall be open to all persons interested in promoting the purposes of MSS.

**Section 2:** All members in good standing of MSS shall have the right to hold office, to nominate officers, and to vote in all elections.

**Section 3:** Annual dues shall be set by the Executive Committee and shall be levied on a calendar year basis, due on 1 January of each year. Any member in arrears after ninety (90) days shall be dropped from the rolls.

**Section 4:** Membership is subject to termination by the Executive Committee upon good cause being shown, such cause being fraud, dishonesty or similar activities reflecting adversely on the Society or its members.

**Section 5:** The membership of the Meter Stamp Society shall include (a) Regular Members and (b) Honorary Life Members. Honorary Life Members are Regular Members who have contributed materially to the Society or its welfare or who shall have performed outstanding service to the field of meter stamp collecting or research. Election to Honorary Life Membership requires the unanimous vote of the Executive Committee. Honorary Life Members do not pay dues but are entitled to all privileges of the Society including voting and holding office.

### **ARTICLE III - OFFICERS AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Section 1:** The affairs of the Society shall be managed by the Executive Committee, which consists of the President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Editor. All Officers and Executive Committee members shall serve without compensation except reimbursement for any authorized expenses.

**Section 2:** The elective Officers shall consist of the President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer. The offices of the Secretary and the Treasurer may be combined into one office. The elected Officers and immediate past President will appointment a member to the position of Editor.

**Section 3:** Elective offices shall be filled for a term of four (4) years. The normal elective terms shall commence on 1 January of each leap year.

## **ARTICLE IV - DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

**Section 1:** The Executive Committee is charged with the responsibility of handling the business affairs of the MSS and may take any action not otherwise provided for in these Bylaws, including the approval of expenditures and matters affecting the general well-being of the MSS.

**Section 2:** The President shall have general supervision of all Officers and Committees and of all affairs of the Society.

**Section 3:** The Secretary shall keep a record of all proceedings and affairs of the Society and shall handle all routine business of the MSS including, but not limited to, the processing of membership applications and conducting official correspondence. The Secretary may appoint Assistant Secretaries if necessary.

**Section 4:** The Treasurer shall account for all MSS funds. He or she may disburse funds as business requires or upon presentation of an invoice approved by an Officer. If the Treasurer questions the propriety of a requested disbursement, he or she may submit the matter to the Executive Committee for resolution. The Treasurer shall present an annual accounting of all MSS funds and his or her records shall be subject to audit whenever directed by the Executive Committee.

**Section 5:** The Secretary and the Treasurer shall, upon election of a Successor, deliver promptly to such successor all funds, papers records and other property of the Society in their possession or for which they had been responsible.

**Section 6:** The Editor-in-Chief shall be in charge of the contents of the Society publications and publishing of same. He or she, with the approval of the Executive Committee, may appoint one or more Associate Editors.

**Section 7:** Other optional appointed offices that may be filled at the direction of the Executive Committee are Librarian, Town List keeper, Auction Manager, Change Manager, Expertiser(s), and American Philatelic Society Representative. Other offices can be created and filled at the discretion of the Executive Committee. The Auction Manager may be authorized by the Executive Committee to operate a bank account in the name of the Society for the sole purpose of managing MSS auctions. A complete accounting of such an account and the financial transactions of the auctions will be provided annually by the Auction Manager to the Treasurer.

## **ARTICLE V -- ELECTIONS**

**Section 1:** The election of Officers shall be conducted by mail ballot with each member in good standing entitled to one vote. The member receiving the most votes cast for each office shall be elected.

**Section 2:** Any member in good standing may nominate another member for an elective office. Nominees must agree in writing that they are willing to serve should they be elected before their names will be announced in the Bulletin or put on the ballot. Nominations must be submitted to

the Secretary before 1 August of each year preceding a leap year.

**Section 3:** Officers shall be elected by printed ballot, which will be mailed separately or included with a Bulletin issued in the Fall of the election year. An Election Committee consisting of not less than two (2) members appointed by the Executive Committee shall tally the votes received on or before 15 November. The election results will be announced in the last Bulletin proceeding 1 January of all leap years.

## **ARTICLE VI -- PUBLICATIONS**

**Section 1:** The official publication of the MSS is known as the BULLETIN.

**Section 2:** The MSS may publish or reprint such other material as is considered desirable by the Executive Committee.

## **ARTICLE VII - COMMITTEES**

**Section 1:** The Executive Committee may appoint committees of members to carry out specific tasks, which are deemed necessary or desirable for the MSS.

## **ARTICLE VIII -- FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year of the Society is 1 January to 31 December.

## **ARTICLE IX - CHANGES TO BYLAWS**

These bylaws may be amended by vote of two-thirds of the voting members, due notice of the motion to amend having been given to all members least 15 days before the votes are counted.

## **ARTICLE X - DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY**

The Society may be dissolved by vote of a majority of voting members, due notice of the motion to dissolve having been given to all members at least 15 days before the votes are duly counted. Upon dissolution, all just debts shall be paid pro rata from the assets of the Society and any remaining assets shall be donated to a nationally recognized not-for-profit organization. No officer, appointee, member, or other individual shall realize any financial gain from dissolution.