

American International Women's Association of Venice

Associate member of The Federation Of American Women's Clubs Overseas

CONSTITUTION

November 2019, *revised August 2023*

Adopted 4 September 2023

ARTICLE I: NAME

Section 1. The name of the organization shall be **The American International Women's Association of Venice**, hereby knowing at the **Association** (hereafter "the Association").

ARTICLE II: FOUNDING

Section 1. The Association was founded on October 18, 2019.

ARTICLE III: PURPOSE

Section 1. The American International Women's Association of Venice (AIWAV) is a recently founded, non-political, non-sectarian and not-for-profit group of international women living in Venice, Italy. Our membership is welcoming and inclusive of English-speakers of all nationalities and offers monthly social and cultural activities within the community.

Section 2. In the furtherance of these objectives, the Association is a member of the Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas – FAWCO

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. All women of the United States (US) residing in the Venice area who follow the mission and purpose of the club area are eligible for membership.

Section 2. Women who are not US citizens but English speaking, reside in the Venice area, "internationally-minded", and follow the missions and purpose of the club are also eligible for membership.

Section 3. Applications for membership shall be submitted to the Leadership Team (hereafter "LT") for approval. Acceptance of new members will be based on compliance with Art. IV, S(1-2).

Section 4. If a member refuses to fulfill a financial obligation (and did not request a financial waiver), her membership will be revoked.

Section 5. All business transacted shall be carried by a two-thirds majority of members present at

announced business meetings.

Section 6. Regular membership is for the fiscal year running from 1 August through 31 July.

Section 7. The social year shall go from September to June.

ARTICLE V: DUES AND FEES

Section 1. The annual dues shall be determined by the LT.

Section 2. Annual dues will include one official meeting/event per month from September through June. Some events may require an additional fee – for which members will be informed about in due time.

Section 3. Annual dues are not refundable.

Section 4. The Association will have a hardship fund to assist any member, anonymously, who has difficulty paying their annual dues.

Section 5. If there is any surplus at the remainder of the fiscal year, the surplus shall be divided between a charity to be selected by the members and an event for the members.

ARTICLE VI: RESIGNATION AND EXPULSION

Section 1. A member may submit her resignation in writing to the LT at any time, but dues will not be refunded as a result of this resignation.

Section 2. A member may not take part in any activity in the name of, nor use the name of, AIWAV in any way which may be construed to be political in nature or which may be for personal or monetary gain.

Section 3. The loss of membership is imposed by the LT following a motion by two of its members, with a two thirds decision of its members at a meeting of the LT at which at least three fourths of its members are present, and with the ratification of the decision of the LT at the first General meeting which follows.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1. The Association shall meet once a month from September through June (the social calendar) with additional monthly events in July/August - the day to be designated by the current LT at the first LT meeting of the year.

Section 2. All Association business shall be conducted according to two thirds majority voting. There shall be a monthly meeting before each monthly event to discuss current business, finances, and upcoming events. Additional meetings involving Association business may be called by the LT or by a written request to the LT of at least 10% of active members of the Association.

Section 4. Each member has the right to a vote regarding club decisions.

ARTICLE VIII: LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Section 1. The roles of the LT can vary year to year due to needs. However, the LT always will consist of a Vision Coordinator, Advisor, and Treasurer, along with other roles as needed. Three of the LT shall be U.S. citizens.
- Section 2. In addition to the Officers of the LT, the Consular Agent shall be named Honorary Vision Coordinator.
- Section 3. The terms of a member of the LT shall be 1 year with a possible renewal. LT members are eligible to re-apply. The terms of office of the LT shall begin after the installation of the new LT at the closing meeting of the year.
- Section 4. The general management of the affairs of the Association shall be vested in the LT. The LT shall meet quarterly from August through July and when necessary for needs of the Association - at such time as may be called by the Vision Coordinator or by the majority of the LT.
- Section 5. In the event a member needs to address the LT, they can attend an LT meeting with prior permission and without the right to vote.
- Section 6. An LT member can appoint a committee chairwoman to represent them at an LT meeting if they are unable to attend. This person has the right to vote on behalf of the LT member they are representing.
- Section 7. LT elections will be held every June for the coming year. Nominations must be received by 31 May. Members may self-nominate.

ARTICLE XI: ELECTION OF LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Section 1. Elections will be held at the June meeting. Nominations must be received by 31 May. All members present will vote on candidates. Winning vote will go to the candidate with two thirds majority.
- Section 2. The candidates shall be presented at the election meeting. Election shall be by ballot. Voting will be anonymous online.

ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS

- Section 1. This Constitution may be amended at any meeting with a two thirds majority of members present.

ARTICLE XI: ASSETS OF THE ASSOCIATION

- Section 1. The funds of the Association shall consist of annual dues of the members, interest on bank deposits, gifts, contributions, income from public/private events (such as dinners, dances,

bazaars, lotteries) and special fundraisers as well as funds from any other activity approved by the LT

Section 2. The Association shall not make donations outside of the Province of Venice except special contributions to FAWCO programs.

Article XII: DISSOLUTION

Section 1. To effect dissolution of the Association, a meeting shall be called for that sole purpose. Every member in good standing shall receive notice, emailed at least 21 days in advance of the meeting of the reasons for dissolution. In order to pass, a resolution to effect dissolution shall require a majority of those casting a vote.

Section 2. In the case of dissolution for whatever motivation, the assets of Association, if any, shall be donated to a designated ONLUS for social, educational or organization(s) as designated in the resolution calling for dissolution-. According to article 3 comma 190 of the law number 23 December 1996 n. 6 and except differently specified by law.

ARTICLE XII: TRANSFER OF MEMBERS FROM OTHER FAWCO GROUPS

Section 1. Persons who transfer from other FAWCO clubs shall be required to complete a membership application; although, they shall be exempt from the annual dues should it have been paid for that calendar year. Upon receipt of their application, They shall be accepted as a member.

ADOPTED

ADOPTED 4/9/23