

**Palouse Watercolor Socius
Bylaws
Revised 2/27/2015**

Mission Statement

Our mission is to encourage and promote watercolor artists and to foster an appreciation of watermedia in the Palouse.

Palouse Watercolor Socius (PWS) is dedicated to encouraging artists at all levels of ability and artistic achievement in a nurturing, educational and supportive environment. PWS will work to enhance the awareness of watercolor as an art form and the value of each artist's vision and works by cooperating in community efforts which support that awareness. Identified goals include (but are not limited to): the recruitment and maintenance of membership, monthly meetings, the democratic election of officers and appointment of standing committees, at least one annual exhibit and sale, and the sponsorship of workshops or other educational events for members and the community.

I. Membership

- Any individual who subscribes to the mission of PWS and has an interest in creating watermedia may become a member by filling out a registration form and paying annual dues. The membership year begins on January 1 and ends on December 31. Current membership entitles a person (1) to participate in the membership activities of PWS, (2) to vote in membership matters, and (3) to be an elected officer and/or to serve on a committee. All members will be encouraged to actively participate by holding office, serving on committees or volunteering at events. Membership requires an annual donation of three miniature paintings to be used for the purpose of fundraising for PWS' treasury.

- Any member can be removed for just cause by a majority vote of the membership.

II. Meetings

- Membership meetings are to be held the first Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. The location of the meetings is at United Church of Moscow, First and Jackson Streets, Moscow, Idaho. Membership by simple majority vote may change the date, time and place of these meetings as required by circumstances.

- The meeting's agenda will include a brief business session, helpful critiques of individual's works and/or educational offerings. The majority of meeting time should be spent on the critiques and educational programs or activities.

- A majority of members constitutes a quorum for conducting business, and a majority of votes cast is required in order to pass a motion.

III. Officers & Board

The Board of Directors is comprised of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and three Members of PWS. The Board shall meet virtually or in person, as needed, to discuss business, committee appointments, and facilitate budgetary and financial matters with the goal of minimizing the duration of business discussions during membership meetings. Four members of the Board, present virtually or in person, constitute a quorum. The votes of four members of the Board are required to pass any motion. The Board shall maintain minutes of all meetings."

President: The president shall plan and conduct meetings, call for board or special meetings, appoint members as chairs of various committees, and communicate with members in a timely manner as needed.

Vice President: The vice-president shall conduct meetings in the absence of the President, support the president in his/her duties .

Secretary: The secretary shall record and retain minutes of meetings and distribute minutes to members by email or mail, and compile and maintain the current membership roster.

Treasurer: The treasurer shall: 1. Receive and give receipt for money due and payable to PWS. 2. Deposit all moneys in the established PWS bank account. 3. Be responsible for collecting, reporting and paying all Idaho state sales taxes collected from PWS sponsored sales and shows. 4. Deducting PWS commissions from these sales and distributing the balance of the sale to the appropriate artist. 5. Pay all bills as directed by the Executive Board. 6. Keep accurate records of all receipts and disbursements and make monthly and annual reports of the condition of PWS finances to the Executive Board and membership.

IV. Election of Officers

- Terms of office are to be one year each with re-election possible.
- Election of officers will be held each year in May with new officers assuming their positions in June of the same year.
- The Board shall serve as the nominating committee. Nominations may be accepted from the floor with the consent of the nominee.
- Voting will be by email prior to meeting and by paper ballot with a simple majority determining the Board members and Officers.
- If someone cannot serve out his or her term, the executive board shall appoint a successor to serve until the next regularly scheduled election.

V. Committees/Appointments

- The board may create both standing and special committees and appointments.

VI. Exhibit and Sales

- There will be at least one annual exhibit and sale providing that 75% of the membership will participate. Other sales or events may occur but require approval by the Board and sufficient membership participation.
- It is not required that PWS members submit their paintings for sale at these events.
- A commission will be charged on an individual's total sales and will be placed in the PWS bank account to be used for the support of the Socius. Refer to current Handbook.
- PWS maintains Show and Sale procedures.

VII. Amendments

The board will notify all members via email two weeks in advance of a general membership meeting to amend the by-laws. These by-laws may be amended by a simple majority vote.

**Watermedia will be defined as any watercolor, acrylic, water-based ink and other water-based paints only.*