

European Association
of American Square Dancing Clubs e.V.



STATUTES

of the

**EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN SQUARE DANCING CLUBS e. V.
(EAASDC)**

TABLE OF CONTENT

§ 1 NAME AND SEAT - 3 -

§ 2 OBJECT - 3 -

§ 3 NON-PROFIT PURPOSES - 4 -

§ 4 BUSINESS YEAR - 4 -

§ 5 MEMBERSHIP - 4 -

§ 6 ACQUISITION AND TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP - 5 -

§ 7 RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE MEMBERS - 6 -

§ 8 ORGANS AND INSTITUTIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION - 6 -

§ 9 BOARD - 6 -

§ 10 MEMBERSHIP MEETING - 7 -

§ 11 AMENDMENTS OF THE STATUTES - 9 -

§ 12 DISSOLUTION - 9 -

§ 13 DATA PROTECTION - 9 -

§ 1 NAME AND SEAT

- (1) The name of the Association is EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN SQUARE DANCING CLUBS e.V. (EAASDC) and is recorded in the register of associations.
- (2) The Association has its seat in Berlin.

§ 2 OBJECT

- (1) The object of the Association is exclusively and directly the cultivation and advancement of dancing activities in the form of American Folk Dance, in particular, of American Square Dance and related dance programs (Round Dance, Clogging and so on) as an activity for all ages.
Furthermore, young people shall be inspired for this dance activity, a chance for common physical activity for families shall be created, and the human and cultural relations with other nations shall be promoted and strengthened.
- (2) The objects set out in the Statutes are realized, in particular,
 - a) by organizing dance events such as Square Dance workshops, trainings and meetings, by supporting the member clubs when organizing and hosting such events, and by promoting the training of dancers,
 - b) by spreading the idea of Square Dance and related dance forms, and by respective advertising,
 - c) by the advancement of friendship and mutual understanding between people of all nations by commonly practicing Square Dance and related dance programs,
 - d) by spreading news and information, which are of interest to the Square dancing clubs and their members,
 - e) by supporting the members in organizing their clubs and activities,
 - f) by representing the members and protecting their interests towards GEMA, its sister organizations, and towards insurance companies.
- (3) The Association supports the principle of equal opportunity. Nobody will be discriminated against because of nationality, race, color, religion, sex or age, and membership eligibility will not be made dependant thereon. Furthermore, the Association will not participate in any activity of organizations known to be discriminatory to people. The Association will impose these principles on its members and shall supervise their observance.
- (4) The Association may pass a resolution to join other associations or organizations.

§ 3 NON-PROFIT PURPOSES

- (1) The Association serves exclusively and directly non-profit purposes within the meaning of chapter "Tax-privileged purposes" of the Fiscal Code of Germany [Abgabenordnung] (§ 59 f.). The Association acts altruistically; it does not primarily pursue own economic interests.
- (2) The funds of the Association may be used only for the objects set out in the Statutes. Board or members shall not receive any allowances from the funds of the Association.
- (3) The Association may not provide a benefit to any person by means of expenditure unrelated to the objects of the Association or disproportionately high remuneration.
- (4) Donations, in particular from earmarked funds of a public institution, may only be used for the specified object.
- (5) Expenses of members doing volunteer work, in particular Board members, arising in connection with their activity for and on behalf of the Association will be refunded against proof. The regulations of the current Fiscal Code of Germany [Abgabenordnung] are to be observed as per § 3 (1) of these Statutes.
- (6) By decision of the Membership Meeting, members doing volunteer work may be paid an appropriate expenses flat rate subject to the requirements of the respective volunteer work. The regulations of the current Fiscal Code of Germany [Abgabenordnung] are to be observed as per § 3 (1) of these Statutes. The amount of the flat rate will be decided on by the Membership Meeting and is limited to the amount specified in § 3 no. 26a of the German Income Tax Law [EStG].

§ 4 BUSINESS YEAR

The business year is the calendar year.

§ 5 MEMBERSHIP

- (1) The Association has
 - a) regular members
 - b) associated members
 - c) preliminary members
 - d) honorary members
 - e) supporting members

- (2) The term "association" used in the below provisions comprises all kinds of federations possible under national laws independent of their legal qualification.
- (3) Regular membership is open to all associations in Europe cultivating American Square Dance or related dance programs (Round Dance, Clogging, Contra, and so on).
- (4) Associated membership is open to all associations active in the areas covered by the objects of the EAASDC set out in these Statutes.
- (5) Preliminary membership is open to all associations active in the areas covered by the object of the EAASDC set out in these Statutes, which, however, do not yet fulfill the conditions of regular or associated membership according to the policies of the Association.
- (6) Regular, associated, or preliminary membership is also open to children or youth associations provided the representatives of that association entitled to vote have full legal capacity.
- (7) Honorary membership can be conferred by decision of the Membership Meeting to persons, who gained special merits as regards Square Dance or Round Dance or related dance programs (Clogging, Contra, and so on) in Europe or for the EAASDC.
- (8) Any natural or legal person supporting the EAASDC in the areas covered by the object set out in these Statutes, can become a supporting member. The Board decides on the application using the same procedure as specified in § 6 (1) of these Statutes.

§ 6 ACQUISITION AND TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- (1) Membership is acquired by written application, on which the Board decides. The details of the procedure are governed by the policies of the Association.
- (2) Membership ends (details of the procedures are governed by the policies of the Association)
 - a) by leaving the Association at the end of a business year, of which the Secretary has to be notified in writing at least 2 months prior to the end of a business year,
 - b) by exclusion because of dishonorable activities or a conduct detrimental to the Association,
 - c) in case of non-payment of dues.

§ 7 RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE MEMBERS

- (1) Regular members have the full right to speak, to file a motion, and to vote at the membership meeting. Each member club has one vote. Another member club may be authorized to cast the vote, if no representative of a member club is present at a membership meeting.
The voting right of member clubs outside of the Federal Republic of Germany may be transferred to the representative of the home country of the member club. Nobody may be authorized by more than 3 member clubs.
- (2) Associated and preliminary members as well as supporting members have no right to file a motion or to vote, but shall be entitled to speak at the membership meeting.
- (3) The members have to pay the dues and fulfill the other obligations (apportionment and the like) as fixed by the Membership Meeting. Details are governed by the policies of the Association.
- (4) Honorary members have the right to speak and to file a motion, but have no voting right at the membership meeting. They are exempted from dues and other contributions.

§ 8 ORGANS AND INSTITUTIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION

- (1) Organs of the Association are
 - a) the Board
 - b) the Membership Meeting
- (2) By decision of the Membership Meeting or the Board further organizational institutions may be established, in particular committees with special tasks.
- (3) The Association introduces policies to govern internal procedures. Policies of the Association are not part of the Statutes. The Membership Meeting is responsible for enacting, amending, or suspending policies of the Association, unless otherwise decided

§ 9 BOARD

- (1) The Board consists of the President, the Vice President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the national representatives, and a maximum of 5 assessors for specific tasks. Any natural person may exercise any Board function, independent of nationality and permanent residence.
- (2) Legal representatives within the meaning of § 26 of the German Civil Code [BGB] are the President and the Vice President as well as the Treasurer. Each one of them is authorized to represent the Association alone.

- (3) In their internal relationship the power of agency given to the Treasurer is limited to the sphere of business allocated to him.
- (4) The Board is elected by the regular Membership Meeting. In order to do so the regular Membership Meetings elects an Election Committee consisting of 3 people in the year before a Board election and determines, with a simple majority of the votes cast, the voting method for the next Board election. The possible voting methods are individual election and block election.
- (5) The term of the complete Board with the exception of the national representatives is 2 years. Re-election several times is admissible. The term ends with the election of the new Board. The documents are to be handed over to the new Board 30 days after the election at the latest. Details regarding the term of the national representatives are governed by the policies of the Association.
- (6) The national representatives are appointed by the member clubs located in the respective country. They determine the procedure independently.
- (7) The activities of the Board are voluntary services. The Board may adopt board policies, as long as the Statutes or the policies of the Association do not contain any provisions.
- (8) Board members have the full right to file a motion and to speak at the membership meeting.

§ 10 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

- (1) The regular membership meeting of the Association will be held at the Spring Jamboree (second weekend in March). There is no need for a separate invitation. The member clubs have to be informed of the agenda 21 days prior to the meeting at the latest by mail (postmark), electronic data transfer (email), or by publication in the Bulletin. The respective Bulletin edition needs to be dispatched to the members at least 21 days before the meeting (date of delivering it to the post office). Regarding votings as per § 10 (8) of these Statutes a publication in the Bulletin is not mandatory.
Motions for the regular membership meeting and the further membership meeting are to be submitted in writing to the Board at least 42 days prior to the date of the respective membership meeting.
- (2) The obligations of the regular Membership Meeting are
 - a) receipt of the Board reports
 - b) approval of the minutes of the membership meetings
 - c) granting discharge to the complete Board
 - d) election of the new Board, if applicable
 - e) election of 2 auditors (re-election is admissible)
 - f) amendment of the Statutes
 - g) determining dues and apportionment as per Dues Policy

- h) decision on motions
 - i) nomination of honorary members
 - j) dissolution of the Association
 - k) amendment of the policies of the Association
- (3) The Board may convene an extraordinary membership meeting, if there is an important reason or if at least one third of the members request this in writing and stating a reason. In both cases, the meeting has to be convened in writing with an invitation period of at least 4 weeks.
- (4) Each membership meeting convened in due time constitutes a quorum regardless the number of members entitled to vote present. It decides on all motions with simple majority, unless Statutes or the law provide other binding rules.
- (5) a) Each motion has to be published in the agenda. It is possible to discuss, change, decide on, and withdraw the motion.
- b) New motions filed only during the current membership meeting and/or not published in the agenda can only be discussed and decided on at the next membership meeting following the meeting where they were filed or announced. This does not apply to motions as per § 5 (7) of these Statutes or motions regarding the agenda or By-Laws, according to regulations of the Law of Associations.
- (6) Meeting minutes are to be drawn up about the Membership Meeting and its decisions, which is to be signed by the Secretary, to be published, and to be approved by the Membership Meeting at the meeting following the publication.
- (7) Furthermore, the Board may obtain decisions from the members concerning items b), g), h), i), j), k) of § 10 (2) of these Statutes by post or by electronic data transfer. In deviation to § 32 section 2 German Civil Code [BGB] the rules for majority votes on decisions concerning §§10 (4), 11 (1), 11 (2), 12 (1) of these Statutes are to be applied to this procedure. The appropriate laws are to be observed and it must be guaranteed that all members can exercise their rights. The relevant documents are to be kept in accordance with the laws on retaining documents and in compliance with the Federal Data Protection Act [Bundesdatenschutzgesetz]. The outcome of these decisions must be communicated to the members promptly and in a comprehensible manner. Further details are governed by the Voting Policy.

§ 11 AMENDMENTS OF THE STATUTES

- (1) Amendments of the Statutes and of the object require a 2/3 majority of the valid votes cast.
- (2) Amendments of policies of the Association as per § 8.3 require the simple majority of the valid votes cast.

§ 12 DISSOLUTION

- (1) A dissolution of the Association requires a 2/3 majority of the valid votes cast.
- (2) A written vote is possible. The details are governed by the policies of the Association.
- (3) On the dissolution of the Association or discontinuation of the tax-privileged purposes, the assets of the Association devolve on a legal person under public law or on another tax-privileged corporation to be used solely for the public-benefit purpose of advancing mass sport in the area of dancing.

§ 13 DATA PROTECTION

The association creates a separate data protection policy. It is a policy as per §8.3 of the statutes.

...The Membership Meeting decided changes of Statutes on 09 March 2019....

Translated by:
Gabi Russell (original version)
Nicole Siebentritt (changes 2019/03/09)