

# WORLD WIDE ASSOCIATION OF TREASURE SEEKERS

## Application for “Affiliate Member Organization”

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The effective date of this document is and binding as of: \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_

### ARTICLE ONE: NAME/CLUB

The name of the Club associated with the *World Wide Association of Treasure Seekers* (WWATS) shall be:

\* Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### ARTICLE TWO: OFFICE / CLUB ADDRESS:

1. The principle mailing address of this WWATS Club shall be:

Club Name: same as above

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

2. The WWATS Club will promptly update with the WWATS National Office any address changes or Club status:

**World Wide Association of Treasurer Seekers / aka (WWATS)  
361 S. Camino Del Rio ~ Suite 241 ~ Durango Colorado 81303**

**Affiliate Member NOW REFERED TO AS “CLUB”.**

### ARTICLE THREE: PURPOSE

1. The WWATS Club purpose is to provide an environment for members and any other persons interested to interact and to increase public awareness by providing education on ecologically sound methods of prospecting, small-scale mining, treasure hunting, rock collecting or any other area of interest for adults, families and their children. This includes and is not limited to locating, identifying and legal removal of minerals, caches and treasures while conserving the environment and natural habitat. This shall be accomplished through lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on training at meetings, outings and any other settings deemed appropriate by the club Board of Directors and at no cost to the participants.

### ARTICLE FOUR: MEMBERS

1. There shall be two categories of local club members, as follows:

- **VOTING CATEGORY:** A Club voting member shall be a person who holds a current and valid active membership that is in good standing with the *World Wide Association of Treasure Seekers* (WWATS) as a free member or a Charter Member. The local Club may extend voting privileges to a Club member that is not a member of WWATS if they have addressed that in their by-laws and approve that situation with their by-laws.
- **SUPPORTING CATEGORY:** Any member of the Club that is not affiliated with WWATS and is addressed and defined in the Club by-laws.

2. **Distribution:** A copy of these WWATS and Club By-laws and Policies and Procedures shall be given to all members when they join this Club.

3. **Voting Rights:** Each Voting Category Member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote by the membership. **Proxy voting will not be allowed.** Supporting Category Members do not have the right to hold office but may vote in the elections of officers or board members in the WWATS Club as address by the Club by-laws.

4. All club members may vote on other Club actions and activities. WWATS encourages the involvement of all members of the club on matters not involving WWATS activities.

5. The WWATS Club will allow the general public and non - WWATS members to attend meetings and participate in fundraisers, lectures and other Club activities as addressed in the Club By-laws.
6. All Clubs that are in the WWATS Chapter Program must be run by the Voting Category Membership and elected officers. WWATS Clubs are not to be run by any one individual or family. No one family may hold a controlling vote at any meeting. No officer or nor member may use the Club for the purpose of alluring personal profits.
7. **Termination / Suspension:** The Club Board of Directors, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of all members of the board, may suspend or expel a member of the club "*for cause*" after an appropriate hearing before the board. The term "*for cause*" shall include (a) a member's conviction for a felony, (b) acts of reckless endangerment, (c) failure to perform commitments made to the club (d) conduct on the part of the member that would render him/her ineligible for indemnification if required by the board and (e) member conduct which constitutes a conflict of interest with club. No termination or suspension of membership shall be effective unless:
1. The member is given a 14 day written notice of the proposed termination or suspension of members and of reasons therefore
  2. Such notice is delivered personally or by certified mail or other document able means available to the recipient and to be sent to the last known address of the member shown on club's records.
  3. Such notice sets forth a procedure determined by the Club Board of Directors or a committee selected for that purpose by the board whereby the member will be given the opportunity to be heard by such body, either orally or in writing, not less than five (5) days before the effective date of the proposed termination or suspension.
8. **Resignation:** Any member may resign by submitting a written resignation with the Club Secretary or any Club officer if the Club Secretary is unavailable to accept it, but such resignation shall not relieve the member so resigning of the obligation of promptly paying any assessments or other charges theretofore accrued and unpaid.
9. **Reinstatement:** On written request by a former member submitted to the Club Secretary, the board of directors, by affirmative of vote of the majority of its members, may reinstate such former member to membership on such terms as the board of directors may deem appropriate.
10. **Transfer of Club Membership:** Membership to a WWATS club is not transferable or assignable. If a WWATS member or Charter member leaves a WWATS Club that membership becomes a stand-alone membership if it is in good standing with WWATS and the Club Secretary shall notify WWATS National Secretary of the status of that member.
11. **Club Membership Guidelines:** It is each club member's responsibility to read, understand and abide by the local Club bylaws, rules and regulations and any other related documents associated with the WWATS affiliated program. Violations of any rules, regulation or bylaw are subject to review by the Club Board of Directors and Officers for appropriate actions under the Club by-laws.

## **ARTICLE FIVE: OFFICERS**

1. **Elected Officers:** The officers of the local WWATS Club shall be a President (who shall be the "Chairperson" of the board), a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer and such other chairpersons, as shall be appointed by the local club board. All officers shall have the authority to perform the duties as shall be prescribed, from time to time, by the club board of directors. The same person may hold the offices of **Secretary and Treasurer**. Appointed officers that are not Elected: Those officers will be appointed by, and serve under, the direction of the Club President or as directed by the Club By-laws. Equipment Manager, Fund raising Coordinator, Outings Coordinator, or any other special organizer, etc. will all report directly to the Club President or as directed by the Club By-laws.
2. All Club officers are volunteers and are expected to serve without remuneration. Unforeseen and reasonable out of pocket expenses (i.e.: telephone calls or other misc. expenses), may be reimbursed by the local club with proper receipts and approval. Travel and other special expenses relating to club business, with prior approval of the club board and/or membership, shall be reimbursed with club funds.
3. There will be NO paid Club officers or Club employees unless addressed and approved in the Club By-laws.
4. **Election and Term of Office:** The club officers shall be elected at the meeting following the annual meeting of the Club membership and shall serve a one year term of office. There shall be no consecutive term limit unless addressed and approved in the Club By-laws. However, each officer must be re elected each year in accordance with these bylaws. If the election of officers is not held at such meeting, an election must be held as soon thereafter as is convenient. New officers may be created and filled at any meeting of the Club Board of Directors. The selection of officers and member(s) of the club board by the general membership shall be ratified by the club board without change.

5. **Removal:** Any chairperson appointed by the Club Board of Directors may be removed by the Clubs Board of Directors whenever, in its judgment, the best interests of local club would be served thereby, but such removal shall be without prejudice to the contact rights, if any, of the officer so removed.
6. **Attendance at Club Board meetings:** Members of the Club Board of Directors who miss fifty percent (50%) of the regularly scheduled meetings in one year may, by vote of the Club Board of Directors, be subject to removal from the Club board unless addressed and approved in the Club By-laws.
7. **Vacancies:** A vacancy in any officer position because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification or otherwise shall be filled by action of the Club Board of Directors. An officer appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve for the unexpired term of his/her predecessor. Each such appointment by the board shall be subject to the approval or disapproval of the general members at a regular or special meeting called for that purpose.

## **Officers Duties:**

A. **PRESIDENT:** The President shall be the chief executive officer of the local club and shall be primarily responsible for the operations of the club. He/she shall be responsible to set goals and direction and to implement programs to achieve them, as determined by the Club Board. As the chairperson of the club board, the President shall schedule, plan and officiate at all meetings of the members and or the Club Board of Directors. He/she will coordinate the activities of all other officers. He/she shall sign all deeds and conveyances, all contracts and agreements, and all other instruments requiring execution on behalf of the Club, and shall act as operating and directing head of Club, subject to policies and limitations established by the Club Board of Directors. In case of the permanent absence or inability of the President/Chairperson to act, the Club Board of Directors shall declare that office vacant. A successor shall be chosen by the club board, subject to the approval or disapproval of the general members at a regular or special meeting for that purpose. Additionally, the Club President will maintain liaison with National WWATS Headquarters and the Club Department.

B. **VICE PRESIDENT:** The Vice President shall act in place of the President, if and when the President is temporarily unable to carry out the required duties of his/her position. The Vice President shall not have the right of succession to the Presidency if and when the President/Chairperson is permanently unable to perform his/her duties. The Vice President shall also serve on committees and perform various duties as assigned by the President/Chairperson or the Club Board of Directors. Additionally, the Vice President will maintain order at all meetings and oversee the fund raising and activities during the meeting.

C. **SECRETARY:** The Secretary shall see that the minutes of all meetings of the General Membership and the Club Board of Directors are taken and kept. He/she shall be the custodian of the corporate seal and shall affix it to all proper instruments when deemed advisable by him/her. He/she shall have charge of all the books and records of the local club except the books of account, and, in general, shall perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary of a corporation and such other duties as may be assigned to him/her. Additional duties include, but are not limited to: Maintain all Club records including: The membership roster; all required forms; the Club Calendar; Master copies of the club bylaws, prepare, at the club officers direction, all Club correspondence; keep files of all outgoing and incoming correspondence in physical or electronic format; be the custodian for all Chapter office/mail supplies; other duties as directed by the Club officers and by-laws.

D. **TREASURER:** The Treasurer shall have general custody of all the funds and securities of the Club except such as may be required by law to be deposited with any state official. He/she shall see to the deposits of the funds of the Club in such bank or banks as the Club Board of Directors may designate. Regular books of account shall be kept under his/her direction and supervision, and he/she shall render financial statements to the Club President/Chairperson, board of directors and members at proper times. The Treasurer shall have charge of the preparation of the annual financial report and filing of such reports, financial statements, and returns as may be required by law. Additionally, the Treasurer will be the custodian of the club checking account/book, maintain open, accurate records of all financial transactions, prepare a monthly financial report for the membership, collect all monies and keep records of the club petty cash account.

E. **SECRETARY-TREASURER:** The officers of Secretary and Treasurer may be filled by a single person.

**F. EQUIPMENT MANAGER:** Sign for, store and maintain all club equipment; provide a system for chapter members to check out equipment when not being used for Club activities, for personal use; Coordinate with the Treasurer to acquire and restock the "For Sale" equipment; may, if deemed necessary, appoint an assistant.

**G. FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR:** Coordinate with Club Vice-President acquiring gold and merchandise for fund raising at the meetings; after fundraisers, complete the accounting form and present it, along with all movies to the Club President/Treasurer for verification.

**H. OUTINGS COORDINATOR:** Schedule and coordinate Club outings; prepare, in coordination with the President a list of proposed outings for the upcoming year, to be presented to the membership for approval; coordinate with State Director for statewide WWATS outings; all Officers will keep the President informed of Club activities and undertaking associated with WWATS or Club local activities. The Coordinator has the responsibility to notify WWATS so outing can be announced and promoted by the WWATS main organization.

## **ARTICLE SIX: ELECTIONS**

1. Nominations and Election of Club Officers shall occur each year as directed by the Club By-laws. A plurality of membership present at this meeting shall be required to elect each officer.
2. All outgoing Club Officers will turn over any and all Club records, supplies and equipment to the incoming Officer within fifteen (15) days or unless directed by the By-laws.
3. No individual or elected officer will be allowed to hold more than one elected office at any one time, with the exception of the offices of Secretary and Treasurer. Under the condition that is officer holding both positions will not carry a second vote.
4. If any elected office becomes vacant for any reason, a replacement will be nominated and elected at the next regularly scheduled meeting. An officer elected as a replacement will serve only the remaining term of his/her predecessor.
5. Any elected office may be considered vacant, at the discretion of the board, if the individual filling that position has two consecutive un-excused absences or four non-consecutive unexcused absences during his or her term. Only the Club President or two other officers may excuse officers from attending the meetings. The Club President may be excused by a quorum of two other elected officers. Normally, this must be done a minimum of 48 hours prior to the meeting, however, in an emergency this may be done after the fact.
6. If only one individual is nominated for any position, he/she shall be considered elected by acclamation, through a show of the raising of hands.

## **ARTICLE SEVEN: FINANCES**

1. There will be a voluntary CLUB MEMBERSHIP DUES associated with the World Wide Association of Treasure Seekers. The dues are set at \$36.00 for a 3 years membership in WWATS. The Club shall collect the three year membership fees and send to WWATS the dues for that member and may keep \$12.00 of that collected dues for every member that signs up by way of that Club or organization. The balance of the dues, \$ 24.00, shall be sent to WWATS in the name of that person with the Club or Organization being identified as the recipient of the \$12.00 being retained. WWATS will send the Charter membership cards back to the Club mailing address and the Club will see that the member is given his/her Charter Membership Card in WWATS. Any and all duplicate or replaced cards will cost \$5.00 each and will be sent to the address indicated when WWATS receives the payment for the replacement card.
2. All Club activities will be financed by proceeds from local Club dues and fees as addressed in the Club By-laws, the sales of equipment, the monthly fundraisers and any other donations the Club receives.
3. All elected Club Officers shall be signatories on a checking account opened in the Club's name or as directed by the Club By-laws. Two officers signatures should be required on all main account checks if not addressed in the By-laws.
4. Any two elected officers may authorize expenditures up to \$ 250.00 unless addressed in the By-laws. On all transactions in the amount over \$250.00 or greater, then that would require a vote of the members at a regularly scheduled meeting. A vote of the directors of the Club in an emergency or special situation can waiver this section and may be addressed in the By-laws.

5. The Club Treasurer shall maintain a Petty Cash Fund in the amount of \$50.00 or as directed in the By-laws. These funds will be used only with the approval of the Club President or in his absence, the Club Vice-President, or any two officers.
6. A yearly audit will be conducted by the Club President and Vice-President of the Treasurer's books and shall be addressed in the Club By-laws. This audit will cover all funds collected and all expenses from all sources. This audit shall include both the checking account and the petty cash fund. The resulting report shall be reviewed by the Club Board (officers) and, when accepted by vote, made available to the general membership.
7. The Club Board of Directors may authorize any Club Officer or general member, in addition to the officers so authorized by these bylaws, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name and on behalf of Club, and such authority may be general or may be confined to specific instances.

**ARTICLE EIGHT: OPERATING FUNDS**

Operating funds may be obtained through merchandise sales, legal raffles by law, donations, advertisement sales, and educational fund raising activities. All funds may be subjected to Federal, State and or Local government regulations and controls by law.

**ARTICLE NINE: ADOPTION & AMENDING**

1. These Bylaws shall become effective when adopted by a majority vote of Club members present at a regularly scheduled meeting.
2. To modify or amend (other than spelling or grammatical changes) shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority of members present at a regularly scheduled meeting or a majority vote at a regular officers' meeting which is to be confirmed by a majority at the next regularly scheduled general meeting.
3. Club By-laws and guidelines must be readily available to the general membership at every meeting along with a copy of the most current minutes. A copy charge may be levied for replacement copies for existing members.
4. All proposed amendments should first be sent to WWATS Club Department to determine if there are any questions as to the amendment affecting the contractual agreement. If it does affect the contractual agreement, the membership should be made aware of the effects before a vote is taken.

**For Clubs already formed, this is only suggested guidelines for new clubs! WWATS does not want to interfere with any organized clubs that become an Affiliate Member but WWATS must care about their good standing.**

**Club Officers:**

**President:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ eMail: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ c/h Charter # \_\_\_\_\_ WWATS# \_\_\_\_\_

**Vice President:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ eMail: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ c/h Charter # \_\_\_\_\_ WWATS# \_\_\_\_\_

**Secretary:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ eMail: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ c/h Charter # \_\_\_\_\_ WWATS# \_\_\_\_\_

**Treasurer:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ eMail: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ c/h Charter # \_\_\_\_\_ WWATS# \_\_\_\_\_

**Club Board Position:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ eMail: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ c/h Charter # \_\_\_\_\_ WWATS# \_\_\_\_\_

**Club Board Position:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ eMail: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ c/h Charter # \_\_\_\_\_ WWATS# \_\_\_\_\_

**Club Board Position:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ eMail: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ c/h Charter # \_\_\_\_\_ WWATS# \_\_\_\_\_

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_ eMail: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ c/h Charter # \_\_\_\_\_ WWATS# \_\_\_\_\_

**Club Board Position:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ eMail: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ c/h Charter # \_\_\_\_\_ WWATS# \_\_\_\_\_

The **World Wide Association of Treasure Seekers** welcomes your group of like minded people seeking to protect, preserve and promote our rights to enjoy life, liberty and the pursuit to exercise our rights under the law of the land. Your association with WWATS will make a stronger awareness in the World that groups like us only want to enjoy the freedoms provided by laws we hold so dearly in our hearts and minds.

Address for WWATS:

**World Wide Association of Treasurer Seekers / aka (WWATS)  
361 S. Camino Del Rio ~ Suite 241 ~ Durango Colorado 81303**

Web Information:

**WWATS.org** is the main site for all membership in our organization and associated clubs.

Questions and Concerns can be email: [nuggetbrain1@msn.com](mailto:nuggetbrain1@msn.com) or [kwills@etex.net](mailto:kwills@etex.net)

Copies: **WWATS (Originals)** Club: \_\_\_\_\_