

Constitution of the “Organisation Scientifique et Technique Internationale du Vol a Voile”. (OSTIV)

A) Object, name, seat and membership

- 1) The association bears the name “Organisation Scientifique et Technique Internationale du Vol a Voile”, in brief “OSTIV”. The association is to be registered in the German register of associations. Its name shall then adopt the supplement “e.V.”.
- 2) The OSTIV is a specialized independent international non-profit entity that is affiliated with the “Federation Aeronautique Internationale” (FAI). OSTIV has the special status of an International Affiliated Member of FAI. Each party, the OSTIV and the FAI, has the right of representation – with voting right – in the General Conferences of the other party, and the right to appoint observers: the OSTIV to the meetings of the International Gliding Commission (IGC) of the FAI and the IGC to the meetings of the Sailplane Development Panel, the Training and Safety Panel and Meteorological Panel of the OSTIV.
- 3) The association solely and directly pursues non-profit purposes in the sense of tax-privileged objects of the German tax code.
- 4) The objectives of the OSTIV are to encourage and co-ordinate internationally the science and technology of soaring and the development and use of the sailplane in pure and applied research, the design, airworthiness and operation of gliders of all types, and the safety and training of pilots.
- 5) The constitutional objectives of the OSTIV are achieved by seeking new knowledge, by encouraging dissemination through symposia and publications and by consultation with authorities.
- 6) The association operates selflessly. It does not pursue predominantly commercial purposes.
- 7) The association’s funds must be used for the constitutional purposes. The members do not receive benefits from the association’s funds.
- 8) No person shall be benefitted by expenditure that is extraneous to the purpose of the entity or by disproportionately high salaries.
- 9) The association has its registered office in Braunschweig, Germany.
- 10) There are five kinds of membership to the OSTIV
 - a) Active membership
 - b) Scientific/Technical membership
 - c) Individual membership
 - d) Student membership

e) Honorary membership

Active membership is open to each National Aero Club that is a member of the “Federation Aeronautique Internationale” (FAI). Active membership shall be acquired by written application, about which a member of the Board shall decide. Each National Aero Club, member of the FAI, that has become a member of the OSTIV shall authorize one or more of its members to act as its representative in the OSTIV.

Scientific/Technical membership is open to organizations working in the field of aviation and interested in the furtherance of the sciences and techniques related to soaring. Scientific/Technical membership shall be acquired by written application.

Individual membership is open to individual persons. Individual membership shall be acquired by written application.

Student membership is open to individuals younger than 25 years. A copy of a student ID card or one time proof of the age of 24 or younger is required. Student membership shall be acquired by written application.

Honorary membership. One Honorary President, one Honorary Vice-President and an unlimited number of Honorary Members may be elected by the General Conference in recognition of having rendered special services to OSTIV itself and/or its activities.

- 11) The OSTIV may also affiliate or associate itself with other international organizations devoted to the furtherance of the sciences and techniques related to soaring.

B) Organs of the OSTIV

- 12) The OSTIV has two governing bodies, the General Conference and the Board.
- 13) The Board is composed of a President and a Vice-President. Seven additional members of the Extended Board contribute to the operations and decisions of the Board.
- 14) A meeting of the Extended Board may take place as a teleconference. It is the responsibility of the President to provide minutes of the decisions taken by the Extended Board signed by him.
- 15) The President may appoint a Secretary and a Treasurer to support the work of the Board. The Secretary and the Treasurer report to the Extended Board but they have no vote.
- 16) The General Conference shall elect the members of the Extended Board. The President, the Vice-President and the seven other members of the Extended Board shall be elected for the period between two consecutive General Conferences (Extraordinary General Conferences convened in accordance with Article 18 being ignored); they may be re-elected immediately.
- 17) The President and the Vice President individually represent the organization in legal and other proceedings.
- 18) It is the responsibility of the President to convene a General Conference of members of the OSTIV at least once in every four years and to choose the date and the place for the Conference. The date and the place for the General Conference shall be approved by the Board and

announced to the members at least 30 days prior to the date of the Conference. The Agenda must be sent to all Active members of the OSTIV at least 30 days prior to the date of the Conference in writing. Message by Email is valid. A General Conference may take place as a teleconference.

- 19) The minutes of the decisions made at the General Conference, produced and signed by the President, shall be sent to the Active members.
- 20) An Extraordinary General Conference may be convened at any time either on a decision of the Board or at the request of at least one-fifth of the Active members. Notice of an Extraordinary General Conference and the Agenda must be sent to all Active members of the OSTIV at least 30 days prior to the date of the Conference.

C) Scientific and technical work of OSTIV

- 21) The Board shall create Sections to deal with its work. The Board shall select Chairmen for the Sections created. The Individual members of a Section shall be selected by the Chairman and approved by the Board.
- 22) The functions of the Sections shall be to foster and coordinate efforts to seek new scientific and technical knowledge by means of the sailplane, as well as to gain scientific and technical knowledge for the development of soaring. The Sections shall gather information within their respective fields of activity for distribution to the members of the OSTIV.
- 23) At least once in every four years an OSTIV-Congress shall be organized for the presentation of scientific and technical papers. The programme of talks shall be arranged on the basis of the proposals of the Chairmen of the Sections and with the approval of the Board. The timetable of the subjects shall be distributed to the members at least two months before the Congress. General conferences and Congresses shall be organized preferably during and at the place of the World Gliding Championships.
- 24) Papers presented during the Congress shall be reviewed and published.
- 25) The Board shall create Panels for exchange and discussion. The President shall appoint the Chairmen of a Panel with the approval by the Board. The individual members of a Panel shall be selected by the Chairman and approved by the Board.
- 26) The function of the Panels is to ensure technical and scientific discussions of coordinated efforts to improve training methods, the design, construction and safe operation of gliders, sailplanes and accessories, particularly with the view to increasing proficiency, performance, flying qualities, meteorological support, safety and comfort for the benefit of soaring and aviation in general. The Panels shall also provide consulting for authorities.

D) Finances of OSTIV

- 27) The annual rates of subscription to be paid by members and any changes thereto shall be fixed by the General Conference, except that changes to the rate of subscription to be paid by Individual members may be determined by the Board provided that such changes shall not exceed an amount corresponding to the average inflation rate for the period since that rate was

last amended.

The annual subscriptions of Active and Scientific/Technical members must be paid before May 1st of each year, and those of Individual members before February 1st of each year.

- 28) Active members that fail to pay their annual subscriptions shall have no voting power.
- 29) The Board as well as the members of the OSTIV shall endeavor to find other sources of revenue additional to the subscriptions.
- 30) All subscriptions and other revenues must be remitted to the Treasurer of the OSTIV who administers the finances. He yearly submits a statement of accounts to the Board which in turn reports to the General Conference when the latter assembles.

E) Resignation and expulsion

- 31) Notice of resignation of Active members from the OSTIV must be sent by registered letter to the Secretary of the OSTIV before October 1st of the year prior to the effective year of resignation.
- 32) In the event of non-payment by an Active member or in case serious objections have been raised against a member, the Board of the OSTIV can propose to the General Conference that such a member shall be expelled from the OSTIV.

F) Voting, change of constitution, dissolution

- 33) Decisions taken in the General Conference and in the Extended Board or under Article 26 of this Constitution (voting by correspondence) shall require a majority of votes, except in the case as specified in Article 35. In case of a tie, the President shall have the deciding vote. Each Active Member that has paid its annual subscription shall have one vote. Scientific/Technical, Individual and Honorary Members may attend the General Conference, but they have not vote.
- 34) In special circumstances voting by correspondence or by proxy may be arranged when specifically authorized by the Board.
- 35) A decision to dissolve the OSTIV, to change the Constitution or the rate of subscription shall require a majority of two thirds of the votes of all Active members of the Organization entitled to vote, or – when such a decision is taken during the General Conference – a majority of two thirds of the Active members present at that Conference, provided that there is a quorum of one half of all the Active members of the OSTIV entitled to vote.
- 36) In the event of dissolution of the OSTIV or in case of the loss of tax-privileged purposes, the assets shall fall to a public-law entity or any other tax-benefited corporation, which must use the assets directly and exclusively for non-profit purposes in the field of science and research.
- 37) In all cases for which no provision has been made in this constitution the Board will decide.
 - Adopted in the General Conference at Buxton (England) on August 3, 1954.

- Amended in the General Conference at South Cerney (England) on June 12, 1965, in the General Conference at Chateauroux (France) on July 29, 1978, in the General Conference at Paderborn (Germany) on June 6, 1981, and in the Extraordinary General Conference at Lausanne (Switzerland) on February 27, 2015.
- Amended by written consent of the Active members during June/July 2015.