

Constitution of the Gold Wing European Federation

1. Title

The Federation shall be called the Gold Wing European Federation, abbreviated to GWEF.

2. Language

The official language of GWEF shall be English.

3. Objectives and purpose.

- a. To promote international contact, friendship, activities and information between member Goldwing clubs and riders.
- b. To promote international contact, activities and friendship among motorcyclists
- c. To promote the Gold Wing and its rider as an example of all that is worthwhile about motorcycling.
- d. To agree a yearly calendar **and** minimum standards for GWEF Treffens, tours and recognised events and prepare rules and conditions for same.
- e. To organise and manage the GWEF touring award program.
- f. To prepare and make available to member clubs the International GWEF help guide.
- g. To encourage International participation in regional events.

4. Membership

- a.
 - i. At the discretion of the GWEF committee and subject to their approval, membership shall be open to only one national Gold Wing club or organisation from any European country.
 - ii. The applicant club shall
 - a. Prove it has been in existence for at least two years.
 - b. Have at least ten active members.
 - c. Confirm its committee is resident in the club's country.
 - d. Provide a national club constitution signed by two members of the clubs committee containing a section pertaining to GWEF affiliation.
 - b. An applicant club shall agree to accept and abide by:
 - i. this and future Constitutions by depositing a copy of this Constitution with GWEF, signed by the club chairman and one other committee member.
 - ii. the rules governing GWEF-recognized events, the Touring Award programme and majority decisions of the Committee.
 - c. Once accepted, the national club shall be called a Member-Club.
 - d. A Member-Club may withdraw from GWEF at any time only after fulfilling its current obligations. The intention to withdraw must be submitted in writing to the GWEF Chairman by the committee of that Member-Club.
 - e. Each Member-Club shall receive non transferable GWEF membership cards for its individual members.
- f. In recognition of worthy, long and dedicated service to GWEF, the Committee may bestow the title of Honorary Life GWEF Member on an individual. A Honorary Life GWEF Member shall enjoy all the benefits of GWEF membership including free admission to all international Treffens as long as they belong to any Member-club and receive each Member-Club's magazine.

5. Organisation

- a. The GWEF Committee shall consist of:
 - i. A Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer shall be known as the Officers. Officers may not concurrently serve on the national committee of any Member-Club.
 - ii. Up to two full voting members of the committee of the Member Club, may attend the meeting. One of whom shall have been nominated as the International Representative (IR) appointed under the constitution of the member club. It is a Member-club's responsibility to appoint an Interrep who has a good working knowledge of English language
 - iii. Non voting Individual persons co-opted by the Chairman or Committee to help and/or advise the Committee on specific matters.
 - iv. A Member-Club may be exceptionally represented at a GWEF Committee meeting either by another member of it's national committee or, at the discretion of the Chairman, by an ordinary member of the Member-Club. To apply this exception the GWEF secretary has to receive a written authorization from Member Club signed by two full members of the committee of the Member-club not less than 7 days before the meeting.
- b. Periods of office.
 - i. The Officer's term of office shall be three years. The Committee shall elect Officers on a rotating basis, one officer each year or sooner if a vacancy occurs. There shall be no limit to the number of periods of office of any Officer.

- ii. Nomination of candidates for officer's posts must be made by the national committee of a member club through the International Representative.
- c. Committee Voting Rights and Voting
 - i. Each Member-Club in attendance at the meeting has one vote.
 - ii. The Officers shall not have a vote.
 - iii. The Chairman shall have the casting vote
 - iv. The quorum shall be 50% of the Committee members with voting rights. If changes in the Constitution are to be decided, the quorum shall be two thirds.
 - v. Voting decisions shall be carried by a simple majority. If changes in the Constitution are to be decided, two thirds of the Member-Clubs must approve.
- d. Meetings
 - i. A minimum of two Ordinary Committee meetings shall be held annually on dates and at venues set by the Chairman.
 - ii. An Extraordinary Meeting may be called at any time by a majority of the Member-Clubs.
 - a. The call shall be made in writing, with an agenda and proposals, to all Committee members.
 - b. The meeting shall take place within 30 days of receipt of the call, on a date and at a venue set by the Chairman.

6. GWEF Recognized Events

- a. Events
 - i. Each Member-Club may organize annually one International Treffen with GWEF-recognition.
 - ii. Member-Clubs or individual members may organize other events which may be recognized by GWEF.
 - iii. A GWEF-recognized event shall benefit from:
 - 1. One free advertisement (full page) in each Member-Club's national magazine.
If a club doesn't have a magazine then they shall publish it by any other means
 - 2. Inclusion in the GWEF Touring Award programme.
 - 3. Recognition implies that the event fulfils GWEF objectives and has been organized in accordance with GWEF rules and regulations
- b. Liability.

Neither GWEF officers nor any Committee members shall be liable for any costs incurred in organizing a GWEF- recognized event, nor for any injury, loss, damage or result of legal action arising out of the event.

7. Finances.

- a. The financial year shall be from 1st January to 31st December inclusive.
- b. The GWEF annual budget shall **be consistent** with the law for non profit making organization (VZW SPRL) in Belgium, where GWEF is registered under the company number BE 0881.261.727.
- c. No GWEF officer or IR shall be in receipt of payment by way of remuneration from GWEF funds for fulfilling his/her duties towards GWEF.
- d. Annual accounts will be presented to the first Committee meeting after 31st December. They shall be audited by 2 persons, appointed by the GWEF committee and a certified balance sheet, prepared by the Treasurer, provided by them.
- e. GWEF shall be financed by:
 - i. Annual subscriptions from Member-Clubs based on the total number of members registered by that Member-Club. The amount shall be set at the last Committee meeting of the previous year.
 - ii. Member-Clubs shall pay the annual subscriptions invoice within 30 days of receipt based on the total number of Membership Cards ordered for the current year.
 - iii. Contributions from organisers of GWEF-recognised events based on the total number of vehicles attending. The amount shall be set at the last Committee meeting of the previous year. Organisers shall:
 - a. Inform the Secretary of the total number of vehicles attending within 15 days of the event ending.
 - b. Pay the invoice within 30 days of receipt.
 - iv. Sales of GWEF regalia.
 - v. Any other source determined by the Committee.

- f. Monies shall be held under the co-signatory authority of the Treasurer and any one other Officer.
- g. The funds shall finance:
 - i. The GWEF Touring Award programme.
 - ii. The purchase of GWEF regalia for resale.
 - iii. Reimbursement of costs incurred by the Officers in the fulfillment of their duties.
 - iv. Any other costs determined by the Committee.

8. Formalities

- a. Periods of notice. For discussion at a Committee meeting, the following periods of notice shall be necessary:
 - i. 30 days written notice for items on the main agenda.
 - ii. 60 days written notice for:
 - a. Application for membership.
 - b. Resignation of a membership.
 - c. Proposal to discipline a Member-Club.
 - d. Nomination for the post of an Officer from all candidates.
 - e. Resignation of an Officer.
 - f. Proposal to discipline an Officer.
 - g. Proposal that a Member-Club should discipline an individual member.
 - h. Proposal to change GWEF Rules.
 - iii. 90 days written notice for:
 - a. Proposal to change the Constitution.
 - b. Application for recognition of an event by GWEF.

9. Discipline

“The GWEF committee expects the highest standards of behaviour from its officers and member clubs, not only within the framework of this constitution and its rules but also against a background of mutual support, tolerance, honesty, friendship and respect for each other, regardless of background or nationality.” In the event of a breach of these constitutional requirements the GWEF committee may:

- a. Reprimand, suspend or expel a Member-Club.
- b. Remove an Officer from office.
- c. Should a GWEF membership-card holder contravene the aims, rules or regulations of GWEF;
 - i. The card may be confiscated at any time by its holder's national committee, a GWEF committee member or the organizers of a GWEF-recognized event. The confiscated card shall be returned to the members club shown on it. Explanation for confiscation of the card shall be given in writing to its holder and to the GWEF Committee within 14 days.
 - ii. The member- club shall also inform GWEF-committee if any disciplinary action will be taken.
- d. A member-club or an Officer disciplined by GWEF under 9(a) or 9(b) shall have a right of appeal. Notice of this appeal shall be given to the GWEF chairman in writing within 30days of the Member – club or officer being officially informed of the disciplinary action. The appeal shall be heard at the first committee meeting following the receipt of the appeal. The appellant may be present. The committee decision on the appeal shall be final.

10. Representation

- a. GWEF shall be represented publicly by the Chairman and/or Committee members formally authorized by the Committee.
- b. No individual(s) shall in any way claim to speak for or to represent GWEF, its Committee or its Officers unless authorised by the chairman or by the Committee. Any liability arising from any unauthorised representation shall be the sole responsibility of the individual(s) concerned.

11. Adoption

This, the Constitution of the Gold Wing European Federation, replacing that last revised in 2006, was accepted by a majority of the GWEF Committee meeting at Mondorf les Bains, Luxembourg 05 september 2009.