

**SPOKANE CHAPTER
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON
BY-LAWS
(Revised to September, 2006)**

**ARTICLE I
Purpose**

Section 1. This organization shall be known as the Spokane Chapter of the Structural Engineers Association of Washington, Incorporated. The term "Association" as hereinafter used shall refer to that Corporation. The term "Organization" or "Chapter" shall refer to the Spokane organization.

Section 2. The object of the organization is to promote the interests of the Profession of Structural Engineering in Spokane and the geographic area tributary to Spokane, in the ways included in the Articles of Incorporation of that Association:

- (a) Educational
- (b) Scientific

(c) To assist in the establishment and maintenance of the highest standards of structural engineering to the end that the profession of structural engineering shall be so practiced that the public, the members of the profession, and clients seeking professional structural engineering services shall have their best interest protected and advanced.

(d) To promulgate and advocate adherence to a code of ethics for the guidance of the members of the structural engineering profession.

(e) This organization is not formed for pecuniary profit, but for the purpose of education, scientific, benevolent and social welfare, the promulgation of good will, the establishment of high professional and ethical standards, and for the advancement, encouragement and aid of the science and profession of structural engineering. It is not formed for the purpose of carrying on any public trade, avocation or profession for profit and no pecuniary profit shall inure to any member.

Section 3. Membership shall be granted only to respectable persons of good character and reputation in accordance with the requirements of these by-laws.

**ARTICLE II
Membership**

Section 1. The membership shall be composed of Honorary members, MEMBERS, Professional Associate members, Affiliate members, Associate members, Student members, Life members, Retired members, and Non-resident members.

(a) An Honorary Membership may be awarded by the Board of Directors to any person who meets either of the following qualifications: 1) a person of acknowledged eminence in some branch of engineering or the science related thereto; or 2) a person who has been a member in good standing of this Association for 25 years or more and who, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, has contributed outstanding service to the Association.

A person who has been a MEMBER prior to award of Honorary Membership retains all rights of MEMBER, and shall be designated as an HONORARY MEMBER.

(b) A MEMBER of the Association shall be a Registered Professional Engineer specifically authorized by the Washington State Board of Engineering Examiners to practice Structural Engineering, and regularly engaged in the practice of Structural engineering at the time of his admission to this classification. The term MEMBER shall include all members designated as HONORARY MEMBER, LIFE MEMBER, and RETIRED MEMBER as specified in this section unless specifically noted otherwise.

(c) A Professional Associate member shall be a Registered Professional Engineer or Architect, licensed to practice in the State of Washington.

(d) An Affiliate member at the time of his admission to the Association shall be a person who, by scientific attainments or practical experience, holds a position in his special pursuit qualifying him to cooperate with Structural Engineers in the advancement of professional knowledge and practice.

(e) An Associate member at the time of his admission to the Association shall have graduated from an approved engineering school or college or shall have had other engineering education or experience which is satisfactory to the Board of Directors. His connection with the Association as an Associate shall cease upon the achievement of ten (10) years' combined engineering education and experience at which time the membership

classification shall be automatically changed to Affiliate member.

(f) A Student member at the time of his admission to the Association shall be a Junior, Senior, or Graduate engineering student interested in Structural Engineering who is enrolled in an approved engineering school or college. His connection with the Association as a Student member shall cease when he is no longer a full-time student in an engineering school or college, or after four years as a Student member, whichever comes first.

(g) A Life or Retired membership may be awarded to a member at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Qualifications for such membership shall be as follows:

- (1) Life member shall have been a member in good standing of this Association for a minimum of 20 years.
- (2) Retired member shall have been a member in good standing of this Association for a minimum of 10 years.
- (3) Member shall have retired from the active profession of engineering or have reached the age of 65 years.
- (4) Member shall have made written request to the Board of Directors for such membership.

A member receiving such membership classification shall retain the class of membership at the time of retirement plus the designation of "Life" or "Retired". A MEMBER receiving such membership classification shall be designated as a LIFE MEMBER or as a RETIRED MEMBER.

(h) A Non-resident member is a member of the Association who moves his residence out of the State of Washington who applies for a Non-resident membership. The application shall be written communication to the Chapter President who shall present the application to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors, at its discretion, may grant the member's request for the current calendar year. Non-resident membership may be renewed at the discretion of the Board of Directors when requested in writing. A Non-resident member shall receive all correspondence and other information pertaining to the Association which is normally mailed to the general membership. A Non-resident member shall also be entitled to all rights and privileges accorded his classification of membership, except that he may not have a vote in Association affairs and he may not hold elected office. Annual dues for this classification of membership shall be one-half the amounts listed in Article II, Section 3(b) of these by-laws.

(i) Subject to review by the Board of Directors, any person who meets the qualifications listed above may become an Honorary member, MEMBER, Professional Associate member, Affiliate member, Associate member, Student member, Life member, or Retired member providing he subscribes to the aims and objects of the Association as specified in the Articles of Incorporation filed with the Secretary of the State of Washington on April 22, 1950 and pays the prescribed admission fee. Such person meeting the qualifications for MEMBER or Professional Associate member shall be accepted only in the higher classification for which he qualifies. When any member acquires the qualifications of MEMBER or Professional Associate member his membership classification shall be automatically changed to the higher classification for which he qualifies.

(j) When MEMBER is written in capital letters it shall refer to a "MEMBER" as described in paragraph (b) of this Section. When "member" is written in small letters it shall refer to all classes of members as described in paragraphs (a) through (h) of this Section.

Section 2. Admissions, Expulsions, Leaves of Absence and Resignations.

(a) **ADMISSIONS** The name of every proposed member must be submitted to the Board of Directors with the endorsement of at least three (3) members of the Association, one of whom must be a "MEMBER" of the Association.

The membership of the Chapter shall receive written notices of all applications for membership within sixty (60) days of receipt by the Board of Directors. The membership shall have a period of one month from the date of mailing notices of any application, in which to file objections, in writing, to the election of the applicant. After the expiration of the prescribed time, the Board of Directors shall vote upon the application giving due consideration to any objections that may be received. The applicant shall be duly elected upon receipt of favorable votes from a majority of the members of the Board of Directors.

(b) **EXPULSIONS**

(1) The Board of Directors shall consider proceedings toward the expulsion of any member on receipt of written information, properly signed, that for cause set forth a person belonging to the Association should be expelled. The Board of Directors shall consider the case, and if the circumstances appear to warrant further action, it shall advise the accused of the charges against him, who may, if he so desires, present a defense either in person or in writing which shall be considered at a meeting of the Board of Directors, of which he shall receive due notice.

(2) No member shall be expelled from the Association except after due notice has been given as provided in Paragraph (a) of this Section and then only by a majority vote of the Board of Directors with subsequent referral to the members of the Chapter and a two-thirds (2/3) vote of MEMBERS voting provided a majority of the MEMBERS vote.

(c) LEAVES OF ABSENCE A member of the Association may apply for a leave of absence by written communication to the Secretary of the Chapter, who shall present the same to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors at its discretion, may grant the leave of absence for the current calendar year. Leaves of absence may be renewed at the discretion of the Board of Directors when requested in writing.

(d) RESIGNATIONS If all his dues have been paid, a member of the Association may apply for resignation by written communication to the Secretary of the Chapter to be presented to the Board of Directors which is empowered to accept the resignation. A member thus resigned may be reinstated by the Board of Directors without payment of initiation fee.

Section 3. Fees, Dues and Assessments.

(a) The initiation fee shall be fifteen dollars (\$15.00) for MEMBERS, Professional Associate members and Affiliate members, and five dollars (\$5.00) for Associate members.

(b) The annual dues for each class of membership shall be as follows, of which the first quoted amount is required to be paid to the Treasury of the Association by the Chapter:

Honorary Member	(None)	None
MEMBER	(\$95.00)	\$70.00
Professional Associate	(\$85.00)	\$60.00
Affiliate	(\$95.00)	\$70.00
Associate	(\$67.50)	\$45.00
Student	(None)	\$5.00
Life members	(None)	None
Retired members	(***)	***
Equilibrium Mailer	(****)	

*** 50% of the class of membership at the time of Retirement

**** As determined by Seattle Chapter

Dues for the current calendar year shall be paid by candidates for membership before acceptance by the Chapter, reduced to half the annual amount on or after July 1 of each year.

(c) Annual dues are payable in advance, and any member whose dues are more than one year in arrears, except as herein provided, ceases to be a member of the Association.

(d) The Board of Directors, at its discretion, may, on application from any member and for causes, remit part or all of the Chapter's share of dues and/or assessments of the member or extend the time of payment.

(e) Any additional monies required to carry on the activities of the Chapter may be raised through assessments. Any assessments proposed by the Board of Directors shall be referred to the MEMBERS by letter ballot. If two-thirds (2/3) of those voting vote favorably, provided at least fifty percent (50%) of the MEMBERS vote, the assessment shall be declared carried.

(f) The Board of Directors is empowered to receive contributions from any source; provided, the funds so received are used to further the aims and objectives of the Association.

ARTICLE III
Government

Section 1. The Chapter shall be governed by its Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of not less than five (5) members which include the President, the Vice-President, the last available Past President and at least two (2) members at large. If no Past President is available, a special Director shall be elected for a one-year term. Only MEMBERS and Professional Associates in good standing shall hold the offices of Directors.

Section 2. The Officers of the Chapter shall be President, Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined in one person. Only MEMBERS in good standing shall hold the offices of President and Vice-President.

(a) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee and the Chapter.

(b) The Vice-President shall fulfill the duties of the President in his absence.

(c) The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee and the Chapter, and all records of the Chapter. He shall maintain the membership list and have charge of all correspondence and notices of meetings. Financial allowances shall be made to the Secretary by the Board of Directors.

(d) The Treasurer shall be custodian of all funds of the Chapter, and shall keep financial records of his term of office. He shall make disbursements by direction of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV
Meetings

Section 1. Business Meetings: All business of the Chapter and the Board of Directors shall be conducted at meetings of the Executive Committee, which shall consist of the Board of Directors, the Officers, and all other members in attendance.

A quorum shall be a majority of the Board of Directors.

Only the Directors shall have a vote, except in a general election, and a majority vote of the Directors present shall be sufficient to carry or defeat any motion. All other members shall have the right to speak, and to make and second motions.

Any group of three members may challenge the vote of the Board of Directors before its acceptance by the Chair, and require the question to be put before the membership. A vote of a majority of the total membership will serve to require a directed vote by the Board of Directors as representatives of their electorate.

Business meetings, or meetings of the Executive Committee, shall be held regularly at least once each month, and at such other times called by the President. The Secretary shall notify all members in advance of each regular and special meeting.

Section 2. General Meetings: Meetings of the Chapter shall be held at regular intervals, and at special occasions, as determined by the Board of Directors. Such meetings shall be announced, with a statement of the program, to all members, by the Secretary, sufficiently in advance. The Board of Directors may declare these meetings to be open to the public, or by invitation to other than members, and may make public announcement or may direct invitations to be sent.

ARTICLE V
Elections

Section 1. Elections: The annual joint meeting of the Structural Engineers Association of Washington, Inc. shall be represented by two Chapter member Trustees, consisting of the latest Past President and the current elected President.

Section 2. Prior to June 1, at a regular business meeting announced and identified as the annual election, to all members of the Chapter, the Directors and Officers for the ensuing year shall be elected. Every member of each grade of membership shall have the right to vote in this election. Written proxy votes of absent members shall be honored in the first and second ballots only.

Section 3. The terms of office of Directors and Officers shall be one year, commencing June 1.

Section 4. Vacancies in office of Trustees, Directors and Officers except President, shall be filled by selection by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI
Amendments

Notice of intention to amend these Bylaws must be given thirty (30) days prior to voting on such amendments. Bylaws may then be amended at any regular meeting of the Chapter by two-thirds (2/3) of the MEMBERS voting, provided a majority of all the active MEMBERS vote.