



Domestic Regulations 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 Gold Wing 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 Programme;
- f. To prepare and make available to Member-Clubs the International GWEF Help Guide;
- g. To encourage international participation in regional events.

4. Membership

The GWEF recognizes three forms of membership:

- ❖ Applicant Club: Term used for any GW Club that has submitted an application for Membership of GWEF, while that club's application is under consideration. An Applicant Club will not receive GWEF membership cards, will not organise any GWEF event, and will only attend a GWEF meeting if invited to do so.
 - ❖ Provisional Member-Club: Term used following a successful application by a GW Club, until a probationary period has been successfully completed. A Provisional Member-Club will receive GWEF membership cards, will not organise any GWEF event, and IR will attend GWEF meetings without voting rights.
 - ❖ Joined Member-Club: Term used when a Club has 'full membership status'. A Joined Member-Club will receive GWEF membership cards, can request to hold a GWEF event, and IR will attend GWEF meetings with voting rights.
- 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 Gold Wing organisation from any European country. (Europe in this context is defined as the continent of Europe *including countries that are partly in Europe* and not by political or economic boundaries.)

- ii. The applicant Club shall
 - a. Prove it has been in existence for at least two years;
 - b. Have at least ten active members riding a Honda Gold Wing;
 - 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;
 - e. The Club constitution should show that it is a club/organisation that represents its members;
 - f. Be disciplined if ii. a, b, c, d or e are not valid anymore.

b. An applicant Club shall agree to accept and abide by:

- i. This and future Domestic Regulations by depositing a copy of these Domestic Regulations 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. The applicant club, once accepted shall be known as a Provisional Member-Club.

- i. The Provisional Member-Club shall serve a minimum two-year probationary period within GWEF. Individual Gold Wing members of Provisional Member-Clubs will receive all the benefits of full membership. A Provisional Member-Club will be required to appoint an International Representative and attend GWEF committee meetings but the Provisional Member-Club will not be permitted voting rights during their probationary period.
- ii. During the probationary period the Provisional Member-Club will be listed as such on the GWEF web site and any other national Gold Wing Club of that country will be able to challenge the provisional new member application.
- iii. Upon completion of the probationary period the GWEF committee will consider granting full membership status to that national club providing they have fulfilled their obligations (under 4aii, 4b, 4d), live up to the objective and purpose of GWEF (see 3.a. – g.) and there are no challenges received from other clubs from the same country. When a provisional member club does not comply during the two-year probationary period the committee can discipline them according to 9.a.
- iv. In the event of a challenge to provisional membership, the national clubs of that country must present their case in person to the GWEF committee at the next scheduled committee meeting. If the challenge is successful the challenger shall then serve a two year probationary term before being considered for full membership. If unsuccessful, the original applicant national club shall continue to serve the remainder of their probationary term prior to consideration for full membership by the committee.

d. Both Joined and Provisional Member-Clubs shall each publish the names of their Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer on the back-end of the GWEF website.

e. A Joined/Provisional 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 Joined/Provisional Member-Club.

f. Each Joined/Provisional Member-Club shall receive non-transferable GWEF membership cards for its individual members, eligible to receive a GWEF card.

g. Once the probationary term of a Provisional Member-Club has been served the GWEF Committee will consider a change of membership status from Provisional to a Joined Member-Club.

h. All Member-Clubs (Joined or Provisional) must maintain current affiliation conditions (and agreed future affiliation requirements).

i. Honorary membership

In recognition of worthy, long and dedicated service to GWEF, the Committee may bestow the title of Honorary Life GWEF Member on an individual. Honorary Life GWEF Members shall enjoy all the benefits of GWEF membership together with free admission to all international treffens during the rest of their lives.

5. Organisation

a. The GWEF Committee shall consist of:

i. A Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer who shall be known as the Directors. Directors may not concurrently serve on the national committee of any Joined/Provisional Member-Club.

ii. Up to two full voting representatives of the national committee of the Joined/Provisional MemberClub may attend the meeting, one of whom shall have been nominated as the International Representative (IR) appointed under the constitution of the Joined/Provisional Member-Club. It is a Joined/Provisional Member-Club's responsibility to appoint an Interrep who has a good working knowledge of the 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 Joined Member-Club may be exceptionally represented at a GWEF Committee meeting either by another representative of its national committee or, at the discretion of the Chairman, by an ordinary member of the Joined Member-Club. To apply this exception, the GWEF secretary has to receive a written authorization from the Joined Member-Club signed by two full representatives of the committee of the Joined Member-Club not less than 7 days before the meeting.

b. Periods of office

i. A Director's number of terms of office shall be indefinite. A Director can self-nominate for re-election. After 3 years in the post of Director, the representatives of the Joined Member-Clubs shall consider the continued position of the Directors or consider application by other interested persons. The Committee shall elect Directors on a rotating basis, one Director each year or sooner if a vacancy occurs. There shall be no limit to the number of periods of office of any Director.

ii. Nomination of candidates for Director's posts must be made by the national committee of a Joined Member-Club through the International Representative.

c. Committee Voting Rights and Voting

i. Each Joined Member-Club in attendance at the meeting has one vote. A Provisional Member-Club is not permitted to vote during their probationary period of membership.

ii. The Directors shall not have a vote except where circumstances in 5.c.iii occur.

iii. In the event of a tied vote, the Chairman shall have the casting vote.

iv. The quorum shall be 50% of the Committee members with voting rights. If changes in the Domestic Regulations are to be decided, the quorum shall be two thirds.

v. Voting decisions shall be carried by a simple majority. If changes in the Domestic Regulations are to be decided, two thirds of the Joined 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. Joined Member-Clubs must be represented at the Ordinary Committee meetings by an appointed representative.

iii. An Extraordinary Meeting may be called at any time by a majority of the Joined 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 joined Member-Club may organize annually one International Treffen with GWEF-recognition.

ii. Joined member-Clubs or individual members may organize other events which may be recognized by GWEF.

iii. A GWEF-recognized event shall benefit from:

a. One free advertisement (minimum A5) in each Member-Club's national magazine. If a Club doesn't have a magazine then they shall publish it by any other means.

b. Inclusion in the GWEF Touring Award programme.

c. Recognition implies that the event fulfils GWEF objectives and has been organized in accordance with GWEF rules and regulations.

b. Liability

Neither GWEF Directors 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 director 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 two 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 Director.
- 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 Directors in the fulfilment 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:
 - a. Items on the main agenda;
 - b. Proposal to discipline a Member-Club;

- c. Proposal to discipline a Director;
 - d. Proposal that a Member-Club should discipline an individual member.
- ii. 60 days written notice for:
- a. Application for membership;
 - b. Resignation of membership;
 - c. Nomination for the post of a Director from all candidates;
 - d. Resignation of a Director;
 - e. Proposal to change GWEF Rules.
- iii. 90 days written notice for:
- a. Proposal to change the Domestic Regulations;
 - b. Application for recognition of an event by GWEF.

9. Discipline

- a. "The GWEF committee expects the highest standards of behaviour from its Directors and Joined/Provisional Member-Clubs, not only within the framework of these Domestic Regulations and its rules but also against a background of mutual support, tolerance, honesty, friendship and respect for each other, regardless of background or nationality."
- b. In the event of a breach of these Regulations and values the GWEF committee may: Reprimand, suspend or expel a Joined/Provisional Member-Club
- i. Reprimand; impose conditions as considered appropriate in the circumstances.
 - ii. Suspend; GWEF affiliation will cease temporarily with immediate effect, GW Club will not attend GWEF meetings unless requested to do so by the Secretary at the request of the Committee or Board. GWEF membership cards will not be issued/recognised. Events will not receive GWEF recognition.
 - iii. Expel; GWEF affiliation will cease permanently with immediate effect.
- c. Remove a Director from office.
- d. 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 member's 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 Joined/Provisional Member-Club shall also inform the GWEF Committee if any disciplinary action will be taken.
- e. A Joined/Provisional Member-Club or a Director 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 30 days of the Joined/Provisional Member-Club or Director 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 anyway claim to speak for or to represent GWEF, it's committee or its Directors unless authorised by the Chairman or by the Committee. Any liability arising from any unauthorised representative shall be the sole responsibility of the individual(s) concerned.

11. Adoption

This, the Domestic Regulations of the GoldWing European Federation, replacing that last revised in 2022, is accepted by a majority of the GWEF committee meeting in Belgium 28th April 2023.