



Western United States Pipe Band Association Northern Branch By-Laws

Revised July 2007

ARTICLE I – Name:

The name of this organization is the Western United States Pipe Band Association Northern Branch, hereafter referred to as the Northern Branch or NB.

ARTICLE II – Objectives-Goals:

The NB shares the goals and objectives of the Association (WUSPBA) as stated in its Constitution and By-Laws. These By-Laws shall not conflict with those of the Western United States Pipe Band Association, hereafter referred to as WUSPBA.

The NB serves member pipe bands and solo players in good standing with WUSPBA in the Northern region of the Western United States. The NB is one of two in California and represents both Northern California and all of Nevada, except Las Vegas.

ARTICLE III – Branch Membership:

All pipe bands and soloists located within the NB region that are members in good standing with the WUSPBA (i.e., not in arrears or lapsed standing, as determined by the WUSPBA Treasurer), are eligible for affiliation with the NB.

Article IV – Officers:

1. **President**- shall preside at all NB meetings and represent the NB on the WUSPBA Executive Committee. The President shall organize or delegate the running of the NB workshops and gather information of interest to members for inclusion in the WUSPBA newsletter.

Vice President-shall assist the President if required, preside at the NB meetings in the absence of the President, and become President if the President resigns or otherwise leaves office during his/her term of office. The Vice President shall conduct a yearly informal audit of the NB financial books and bank account and provide a report to the membership at the annual meeting.

Secretary- shall notify member bands and solo members of NB meetings, make a record of all NB meetings, and mail or electronic mail hereafter referred as email, a summary of business transacted at NB meetings to all member bands and solo members. The Secretary shall handle NB correspondence, serve as workshop registrar, and maintain a notebook of meetings minutes including a brief record of NB activities and achievements for the year. The notebook shall document the history of the NB, and will provide valuable information for future NB officers.

Treasurer- shall keep records of the NB finances, maintain a back account for the NB, control member band assessments and workshop registration fees, and pay expenses as necessary. The Treasurer shall prepare a summary financial report for presentation at the annual meeting and make available the books and back account ledger/statements for audit by the NB Vice President.

2. **Election of Officers- Terms of Office:** Officers of the NB will serve for a 2-year period, beginning the day following the NB annual meeting. Staggering the terms of Office, along the same line with the WUSPBA Executive Committees' terms of Office.

3. **Replacing Officers-** The Vice President will automatically assume the Office of President, should the President leave office during the year. If the Vice President is unable or unwilling to assume the Office of President, the remaining NB officers will appoint a President. For the Office of Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer, the remaining NB officers shall appoint a replacement.

4. **Reimbursement of Officers-** NB officers shall serve without pay or honoraria, but shall be reimbursed for expenses directly related to fulfillment of the responsibilities of office.

5. **Removal of Officers-** Any officer who fails to fulfill his/her duties may be removed from office at a special meeting called by the general membership. Each member band present or solo member present and in good standing shall vote at the same ratio for band, game sponsor, and solo member as allowed at the WUSPBA annual general meeting on the question of removal from office. Votes on the question of removal from office shall be conducted by secret ballot. If an officer is removed at a special meeting, the vacancy shall be filled at that meeting by nominations from the floor.

5. **Branch Elections- Nominations:** the President shall appoint a nominating committee of no less than three (3) members from different NB member bands or solo members to serve as the nominating committee. The nominating committee shall provide information about office duties and NB activities to potential candidates, and provide the names of the candidates to the NB Secretary at least 30 days before the annual meeting. The Secretary shall verify that the candidates are members of the NB bands or solo member in good standing and provide the proposed slate of officers to NB bands/solo members at least 15 days before the NB annual meeting. Nominations shall also be accepted from the floor at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE V – Branch Meetings:

1. The NB annual meeting shall be held yearly for the purpose of electing new NB officers and discussing the year's activities and the proposed activities for the next year. The Secretary shall notify member bands and solo members at least 30 days before the meeting of the place, time and agenda, as well as the nominating

committee's slate of proposed slate of officers, if an election will be held. Three Officers shall be considered a quorum.

2. **Special Meetings:** Special meetings to discuss the business of the NB may be called by a majority of officers at any time. Written notification of a special meeting, including the agenda, shall be sent to each member band or solo member at least 15 days prior to the special meeting. Written notification may be sent via email.
3. All NB business may be conducted via email.

ARTICLE VI – Board Meetings:

1. Meetings shall take place when the President calls a meeting. The Secretary shall notify all board members of the time and location of the meeting via email. The President shall give at least a 5 day advance notification prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE VII– Amendments-By-Laws NB

1. Any NB member band or solo member in good standing may propose a change to the By-Laws. Proposed changes must be submitted in writing to the Secretary at least 30 days before the annual meeting and shall be mailed or emailed to all member bands and solo members no later than 15 days before the meeting at which the changes will be considered. Each member band and solo member present and in good standing shall be entitled to the voting ratio set by WUSPBA on each proposed change to the By-Laws. Members present at any meeting will be decided by majority vote on all issues other than those elsewhere stated in these By-Laws.
2. WUSPBA By-Laws. Any proposed changes to the WUSPBA By-Laws must be proposed 30 days prior to the annual AGM meeting, in writing and mailed or emailed to Executive Secretary.