

# WALTER STEWART CLAN CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

*Amended 2018*

**ARTICLE I:** Resolved, that we the descendants of Walter Stewart of County Antrim, Ireland and his wives Mary Ross and Isabella Bobo, and those by direct marriage connection with this blood, do unite to establish a permanent association for the objects hereinafter set forth in Article III; and by our family council do ordain and establish the following Rules and Regulations for the government of this association.

**ARTICLE II:** This association shall be known as the Walter Stewart Clan.

**ARTICLE III:** The object of this organization is fraternal: to preserve and strengthen those kind and fraternal feelings which bind together those of one blood and to perpetuate the history and memory of the Walter Stewart Clan.

**ARTICLE IV:** We hereby adopt two mottoes as follows, viz., first, God our King, and second, Onward and Upward.

**ARTICLE V:** The Officers of this Clan shall be a Chief, Secretary, Treasurer, Chief Historian, and seven House Historians representing the lines of the seven sons of Walter Stewart. These officers shall constitute the Executive Committee and may be elected at such time and in such manner as may be best suited, provided the Clan may and does delegate the power to the Chief to designate Appointees when it may be deemed necessary, including but not limited to: Parliamentarian, Registrar and Publisher, Website & Newsletter Editor, Reunion Supervisor, Logistics Coordinator, Pianist/Organist, and Assistant Chief.

**ARTICLE VI:** The Chief shall serve for life, good behavior, or until resignation in writing.

**ARTICLE VII:** The Chief Historian, House Historians, Secretary, and Treasurer shall serve for two years and until their successors may be elected and installed. The Chief Historian, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected during the same year; those elections shall alternate with the election of the House Historians.

**ARTICLE VIII:** The duties of the Chief shall be (1) to preside at all Annual Business Meetings and Executive Committee meetings; (2) to call all meetings of the Executive Committee; and (3) to wear appropriate insignia of rank when presiding in the Annual Business Meetings. The Chief shall have the authority to veto any or all measures adopted by the whole Executive Committee and such veto shall have force unless a two-thirds majority is obtained against such objection.

**ARTICLE IX:** The duties of the Secretary and Treasurer shall be those reserved to such officers, acting under the advice of the Chief.

**ARTICLE X:** The duties of the Chief Historian and House Historians shall be to research, record, maintain, update, communicate and report historical facts pertaining to the Clan as needed and directed by the Chief. The House Historians shall also advise the Chief on matters of interest specific to their respective Houses.

**ARTICLE XI:** All persons descending from Walter Stewart of Antrim or connected by marriage to this blood over twelve years of age shall be entitled to a vote at any Annual Business Meeting.

**ARTICLE XII:** Any descendant of Walter Stewart of Antrim is eligible to hold the office of Chief. Any descendant of Walter Stewart of Antrim or their spouse is eligible to hold any other office or be appointed to any other role.

**ARTICLE XIII:** The Executive Committee may at any time when a vacancy arises from death or resignation or for cause, appoint an eligible member of the Clan to temporarily fill the vacated office. Such temporary appointee shall serve until being replaced or officially elected at the next scheduled Annual Business Meeting.

**ARTICLE XIV:** Those present in person and eligible to vote constitute a quorum of the Annual Business Meeting. Any person present and eligible to vote may move to request a vote at the Annual Business Meeting once recognized by the Chief. Voting shall be by show of hands and the results recorded by the Secretary. Anyone present and eligible to vote may nominate anyone present and eligible for an office to be filled. With the exception of election or recall of a Chief, a simple majority is required to pass any motion. Election or recall of a Chief requires a two-thirds supermajority to pass. Election of all other officers requires a simple majority to pass. Those present, either in person or via remote teleconference, constitute a quorum at meetings of the Executive Committee. The Chief, or in their absence, the presiding officer as designated by the Chief, shall administer any Executive Committee votes in a similar manner.

**ARTICLE XV:** Upon the death, incapacitation, or resignation of the Chief, the eldest Stewart obtainable shall act as temporary Chief until the permanent Chief can be elected by the entire Clan at the next Annual Business Meeting. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for identifying and nominating a candidate for both temporary and permanent Chief, who may be the same person.

**ARTICLE XVI:** Unless specifically stated otherwise herein, annual business meetings and Executive Committee meetings shall be held in accordance with the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

**ARTICLE XVII:** This constitution and bylaws may be annulled, added to or amended by a two-thirds vote of gathered Clan at the Annual Business Meeting, provided that proposed amendments or notice of intent to annul shall be provided in writing to Clan members with notice of the meeting at least one month before said meeting.