

**CONSTITUTION**  
**Michigan Button Society**  
**Organized May 21, 1940**

This Constitution adopted May 15, 1999.

Amended -----, 2021, May 8, 2009, Amended May 3, 2003.

**Article I. Name**

The name of this organization shall be: MICHIGAN BUTTON SOCIETY, and called the "Society" or "MBS" herein.

**Article II. Vision and Mission Statements Previously "OBJECT"**

**Section 1. Vision Statement:** Michigan Button Society's vision is to encourage the pursuit of collecting; conservation and display of garment buttons, fasteners and ornamentations for enjoyment and educational purposes; to hold exhibits that bring the art, history, cultural significance and beauty of buttons to the public; to preserve and grow the button community for future generations.

**Section 2. Mission Statement:** Michigan Button Society is an inclusive community dedicated to the study, preservation and enjoyment of garment buttons, fasteners and ornamentation.

**Article III. Membership**

**Section 1.** Subject to the terms of this Constitution and its Bylaws, membership in this Society shall be open to all persons interested in the hobby of button collecting.

**Section 2.** There shall be three divisions of membership: Adult, Junior (ages 6-17, inclusive), and Honorary.

**Article IV. Leadership Previously "Officers, Representatives, and Executive Board"**

**Section 1.** The Elected Officers of the Society shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. They shall be chosen from the Adult members and elected for two-year terms.

**Section 2.** The Appointed Officers of the Society shall be the Editor or Editors of the bulletin, Junior Advisor, Membership Chair, Show Coordinator, Dealer Coordinator, Chair of Competition, Chair of Awards, Chair of Entries, Historian, Publicity Chair, Quick News Editor, Social Media Coordinator, and Webmaster (if an MBS member) and any additional officers as may be deemed necessary for the proper conduct of the Society. These officers shall be appointed by the President

from among the Adult members of the MBS with confirmation by the Board of Directors for such a length of time as seems desirable.

**Section 3.** Each local, Adult, Michigan button club affiliated with this Society shall have a voting representative on the Board of Directors.

**Section 4.** The Elected Officers, together with the Past-President, Editor, Junior Advisor, Membership Chair, Show Coordinator, Dealer Coordinator, Chair of Competition, Chair of Awards, Chair of Entries, Historian, Publicity Chair, Quick News Editor, Social Media Coordinator, Webmaster (if an MBS member), and one member from each of the Adult local clubs constitute the Board of Directors, and known as the "MBS Board" or "Board" herein. If a member holds more than one Board position, she/he possesses just one vote thereon. The Board shall conduct business and bring information and appropriate suggestions to the General Membership for consideration and action.

**Section 5.** Should a vacancy occur among the Elected Officers, the Board has the power to fill the position until the next regular election. Should a vacancy occur in any appointed office, the President, with confirmation by the Board, shall name a replacement. Confirmation by the Board may be conducted by telephone or electronic means.

**Section 6.** Any member of MBS may attend a meeting of the Board of Directors as an observer. If the visiting member wishes to speak to a given topic at the meeting, she/he must make a prior arrangement with a Board member. At an appropriate time during the meeting, the Board member will address the topic and present the visitor to participate in that discussion.

## **Article V. Voting and Elections**

**Section 1.** In the year elections are held, a Nominating Committee consisting of three (3) members appointed by the President at least five (5) months prior to the fall General Membership meeting, shall, at the time of the General Membership meeting, present a slate of Officers.

**Section 2.** Nominations for any Elected Officer may be made from the floor by any Adult member attending the fall General Membership meeting.

**Section 3.** Voting shall be by a show of hands, but a paper ballot may be used if it is warranted.

**Section 4.** Officers shall be elected every second year at the fall General Membership meeting and their terms of office shall commence on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year following the election, for a term of two years.

**Section 5.** All Adult members present at a General Meeting have voting privileges. Junior and Honorary members are welcome at all General Membership meetings but may not vote, submit motions, nominate, or hold office.

## **Article VI. General Membership Meetings**

**Section 1.** An annual, General Membership meeting shall be held at each MBS fall show. A summary of the MBS Board directives will be presented at this meeting by the MBS President.

**Section 2.** The Treasurer's report shall be printed annually in the bulletin, plus reports outlining the expenses for any MBS shows as they occur.

**Section 3.** A full recording of minutes of any Board of Directors or General Membership meeting, by the Secretary, will be available upon request, otherwise only a condensed version of Board and General Membership meeting minutes will be printed in the bulletin.

## **Article VII. Voting Quorum**

**Section 1.** Twenty-five (25) or more voting members present at a meeting shall constitute a voting Quorum for a General Membership meeting of the Society. A Quorum is required for the transaction of Society business.

**Section 2.** A voting Quorum of the Board of Directors shall exist if one more than half of the Board is present.

**Section 3.** If a Quorum is assembled at a meeting, a simple majority of members present and entitled to vote is required to pass business motions at either a Board of Directors meeting or at a General Membership meeting.

## **Article VIII. Amendments to this Constitution and Bylaws**

**Section 1.** If a Quorum of the General Membership is assembled, this Constitution or its Bylaws may be amended at any MBS meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of all members present at the meeting in which they are entitled to vote.

## **Article IX. Shows**

**Section 1.** Unless emergency situations require a show delay or cancellation, the Society shall meet and hold a minimum of two shows each year for business, exhibits, and/or competition. The spring and fall shows are hosted by local Michigan clubs on a rotating basis.

**Section 2.** The Host Club shall have overall charge of show details. The Show Coordinator shall be in charge of site selection, negotiating and contracting with hotels, room scheduling, and finance.

*Note: This document consists of three pages.*