

Charter

Charter of the American Whiskey Academy (e.V.)

Association for the Promotion of the American Whiskey Culture in Europe

Preamble

To promote the American Whiskey Culture in Europe, the American Whiskey Academy (e.V.) Association for the Promotion of the American Whiskey Culture in Europe has adopted the following Charter:

§ 1 Name, Headquarters, Business Year

The association will bear the name American Whiskey Academy (e.V.) Association for the Promotion of the American Whiskey Culture in Europe. It will be registered in the Register of Associations and will have its headquarters in Munich. The financial year is the calendar year.

§ 2 Purposes

The purposes of the Association are as follows:

1. the promotion of an international way of thinking and of an international understanding
2. the promotion of education and upbringing
3. the promotion of science and research
4. the promotion of art and culture

These objectives will be pursued through:

1. the development of contacts and exchange of experiences between European and American citizens and other groups of people. To this end the Academy will organize lectures, seminars, conferences, workshops, forums, talks and publications which will deal with questions including but not limited to transatlantic cooperation in promoting the American Whiskey Culture in Europe;

2. supporting and sponsoring of cultural, political and commercial projects designed to promote and further develop the understanding of the American Whiskey Culture in Europe;
3. awarding scholarships or providing other assistance in order to promote educational, study and research projects and other projects beneficial to the association's objectives;
4. promoting and organizing international exchanges, in particular between representatives, sponsors and supporters of the American Whiskey Culture;
5. intensive cooperation and networking with other organizations and associations.

§ 3 Selflessness, Allocation of Resources

1. This is a non-profit-making association. It does not primarily pursue goals serving its own financial interest.
2. The assets of the association will only be used for the objectives laid out in the charter.
3. No person is allowed, through expenditure, which is foreign to the statutory corporation's aims or through disproportionately high rewards, to be favored.

§ 4 Bodies

The association's bodies consist of the general meeting and the executive board. The following terms include both the feminine and masculine genders.

§ 5 General Meeting

1. The general meeting takes place, at least, once a year. The meeting is called for in the cases that are specified by the charter, when the association's interests call for it, or if 40 percent of the members request it by means of a written motion, stating the purpose and reasons.
2. Each member can demand the extension of the agenda until the beginning of the general meeting by means of a written motion sent to the executive board.
3. The president of the association or a representative appointed by him will chair the general meeting.
4. The general meeting accepts financial reports and cash statements. It supports the executive board, holds elections and determines statute amendments or the dissolution of the association. Members can file further motions.
5. The executive board will invite the membership to the general meeting by announcing the agenda, via e-mail or – if the executive board has accepted the membership of a person who didn't provide an e-mail address – via letter or fax, at least two weeks in advance. The agenda may be amended or changed by a majority vote of the assembly. This does not apply for amendments to the charter or the recall of members of the executive board.
6. An amendment to the charter requires a three quarters majority of the members present. The same majority is required for the dissolution of the association. Amendments to the objectives of the Association can only be decided unanimously. Other resolutions are passed by a simple majority of votes cast. Abstentions shall not be taken into account.

7. Each member has one vote. The exercise of the voting right by proxies is not allowed. All decisions will be taken in open voting.
8. Decisions made in the general meetings will be recorded in written form and signed by a member of the executive board.

§ 6 Executive Board

1. The executive board consists of the president, the vice president and the executive secretary.
2. The members of the executive board are elected every 5 (five) years. They remain until the statutable appointment of the next board in office. Incidentally, the time in office of an elected member of the executive board ends if such a member resigns from his position or leaves the association. In this case the remaining board members take over the tasks of the withdrawn member temporarily until the next general meeting. The executive board is permitted to choose a replacement for the time until the next general meeting. A recall of executive board members by the general meeting of members is only possible, if there is an important reason to do so.
3. The association shall be represented in and out of court by the president and the vice president, by each of them individually; they form the board within the meaning of section 26 BGB [German Civil Code].
4. The executive board conducts business dealings in line with the association's objectives. It can give itself rules of procedure. The committee is quorate if at least two of its members are present. Decisions will be made with a majority of the votes and they will be recorded in writing.
5. The executive board will be entitled to demand an appropriate remuneration for its activities.

§ 7 Board of Trustees

The executive board can form and summon a Board of Trustees made up of personalities who represent in public and in a unique manner, the goals and intent of the American Whiskey Academy (e. V.).

§ 8 Membership

1. Any natural person or corporate body can be a member. Admissions are decided by the executive board after consideration of written applications.
2. All members are obligated to promote achievement of the Association's purpose and objectives to the best of their ability.
3. Members must be at least 18 years old. Without exceptions minors can't be admitted as members.
4. Membership expires in the event of resignation, expulsion or dissolution of the association.
5. A resignation must be explained in written form to the executive board, giving three months notice to the end of the year.
6. Whoever is grossly negligent or acts intentionally in opposition to the association's interests or who is more than one year in arrears with regard to the payment of his dues can be suspended. The executive board decides. The member is entitled to

appeal against the decision at the general meeting. The appeal against the decision has to be made to the executive board within one month. The next general meeting decides the matter conclusively.

7. The data protection requirements of the GDPR and the German Federal Data Protection Act Protection are fulfilled by the association in a separate data protection regulation.

§ 9 Access to Events of the Association

1. Private functions are only open to guests invited by the president (or a person acting on behalf of the president) at his sole discretion. Under no circumstances can members of the association claim entitlement to be invited or admitted to the private functions of the association.
2. The association can also organize public events. However these events will never take place at its headquarters.
3. Fees may be charged for attendance at events of the association. The amount of such fees is decided by the president at his sole discretion.

§ 10 Membership Fees, Donations and Sponsorship

1. The association charges a yearly membership fee of 75 euros. This fee is non-refundable. The executive board may adjust or change membership fees.
2. In order to fulfill its objectives, the association charges fees for attendance at information events and for publications of any kind. The association is open to donations and sponsorship.

§ 11 Dissolution of the Association

1. Decisions regarding the dissolution of the association can only be made by the general meeting. Such a decision requires a three quarters majority of the members present and only at a meeting called for this purpose.
2. In the case of the association's dissolution or in the case of a disappearance of the present objectives, taxed at a lower rate, the complete funds would be handed over to a legal person governed by public law or to another tax-privileged corporation that shall use the assets to promote international understanding, in particular transatlantic relations.

§ 12 Coming into Effect

The rules come into effect on the day of the association's registration into the official register of societies and associations.

(The charter was adopted at the general meeting on April 12 2012 at Westenriederstraße 49, 80331 Munich, and was last amended at the general meeting on December 30th 2015.)