

BYLAWS of the SOUTHEAST CHAPTER OF RMS

Article I: Membership

Section 1 - Eligibility

Any individual who is in good standing of THE RIVER MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, (from now on to be represented in this document by the initials RMS) and who resides in the geographical areas of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia or West Virginia will be considered a member of the Southeast Chapter. All members who are in the professional or Lifetime category will be granted the rights and privileges, including but not necessarily limited to voting, printed materials, service on chapter committees, and nomination and election to any office as provided in these bylaws.

Associate members of the chapter will be entitled to RMS periodicals and may attend meetings and workshops sponsored by the chapter.

Organizational members will be entitled to any RMS periodicals and may attend meetings and workshops sponsored by the chapter.

The student category of RMS membership will be entitled to all RMS periodicals and may attend chapter meetings and workshops.

Section 2 - Resignations and Terminations

Resignation from membership in RMS will automatically result in termination from membership in the chapter.

Section 3 - Suspensions

Any suspension from RMS will concurrently result in suspension from the subsequent chapter.

Article II: Management of the Chapter

Section 1 - Administrative Structure

The elected officers of the Chapter will be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Events Coordinator/Treasurer. If there is no chapter selection of officers then the National Board of Directors will appoint.

No salary will be paid to the officers.

Officers will hold office for a period of three years, preferably (if possible) under staggered terms.

All officers will hold office until their respective successors are elected.

The chapter president will serve as a member of the National RMS Board of Directors.

Section 2 - Election of Officers

All officers will be elected by the general membership from a list of candidates nominated by chapter members.

All chapter members in good standing may nominate and accept nominations for a chapter officer position, however, all elected officers must be current SE Chapter members at the professional or lifetime levels.

All professional and lifetime category members from the chapter may vote in chapter elections.

Section 3 - Elections

Elections will be called for every three years by the chapter president. The elected officers will administer the election with the help of the Executive Director of the RMS. Ballots will be provided on the RMS membership or SE Chapter webpage. Voting will take place electronically.

Section 4 - Vacancies of Office

Any vacancy occurring in the Chapter officers will be filled by presidential appointment from a list of candidates submitted by the general membership. Should the position of President be vacant during a term, in the event that the current officers do not wish to serve as president then other names will be submitted to the National RMS board for appointment until such time as elections are conducted. The terms of any appointment will be held to the original holders term limit.

Section 5 - Expenses of Chapter Officers

The Chapter officers may be reimbursed from the funds of the chapter for traveling expenses incurred for the purpose of attending meetings with the approval of the Chapter President and Event /treasure officer if either of these are vacant the majority of chapter officers will prevail.

Once approval is given the Chapter President or Event/Treasure officer must request the funds from the National Treasurer.

Article III: Powers and Duties of the Chapter Officers

Section 1 - President

The President will preside at all the meetings of the Chapter and will represent the interests of the Chapter members. The President will provide direction to other officers in the Chapter.

The President may appointment sub-chapter officers, such as state leaders, as may be needed to promote RMS activities within the chapter.

Society responsibilities: The President is responsible at the National Society level to serve on the National RMS Board; attend national Society events; serve on the scholarship committee; participate in conference calls with the Board; attend the annual Board meeting (or find a replacement) and provide an annual chapter summary report to the Board at its annual meeting.

The President will submit quarterly updates for *The RMS Journal*, and organize conference calls with Chapter officers.

Section 2 - Vice President

The Vice President will help in the coordination of two chapter events per 3-year term of office and contacting new members of the chapter.

The Vice President, in coordination with the President, will help promote chapter issues and communicate to chapter members with at least two emailing's per term of office.

The Vice President will help organize chapter elections or the process for selection of Chapter officers as needed by the Chapter.

Society responsibilities: The Vice President will serve as a member on the national succession committee or recruit a chapter member to do so. The Vice President will fill in for the President, as needed, on national duties such as Board calls and meetings.

Section 3 - Secretary

The position of Secretary will be responsible for maintaining current and past membership lists for the chapter including email and phone numbers as posted on the RMS website. The Secretary will also

maintain lists of river outfitters, commercial guides, private boating groups and any other related groups as necessary.

The Secretary will track the location and distribution of any chapter equipment, such as RMS displays which may be in use by the chapter, and assist the President in organizing chapter events and mailings.

The Secretary will endeavor to identify and regularly communicate to chapter members any seasonal training opportunities or job shares within the chapters and contribute to social media and the SE Chapter webpage as needed.

Society responsibilities: The Secretary will serve on the national RMS Membership Committee or recruit a chapter member to do so. The Secretary may forward governance documents to the National Secretary for incorporation into the Society's historical records as needed.

Section 4 –Event Coordinator/Chapter Treasurer

The Event Coordinator /Treasurer is responsible for coordinating at least two chapter floats or events in the Southeast per three year period and if monies are left over from said events then this person is responsible for getting those funds to the National Treasurer to place said funds in the SE Chapter account.

Society responsibilities: Events / Treasurer Coordinator will serve on the National RMS fund raising committee or recruit a chapter member to do so. The Events Treasurer / Coordinator will assist the Executive Director with national RMS events and will keep track of Southeast Chapter funds with the National Treasurer.

Section 5 - Execution of Instruments

Agreements, conveyances, transfers, obligations, certificates, and other instruments and documents may be executed and delivered or accepted on behalf of the chapter by the President or his or her representative, provided that all expenditures involving monies (or obligations over \$1000.00 or more) must first be approved by the SE Chapter officers and submitted to the National Treasurer for RMS approval.

Article IV: Chapter Officer Proceedings

Section 1 - Meetings

The Chapter officers shall meet at least twice a year through a variety of methods. Conference calls and/or annual float trips may serve as methods of meetings for officers.

Section 2 - Decisions

A simple majority of the voting officers shall comprise a quorum. The Chapter President, if unable to attend a meeting, may appoint another officer of that Chapter to represent the Chapter's interests. That representative shall have full voting rights for that meeting. No proxy votes are allowed.

Article V: Committees

Section 1 - Structure

The President may appoint standing committees with the concurrence of the other officers.

Committees may be set in place from time to time as necessary. All such committees will be advisory in character and will report to and act under the direction of the President. Members of such committees can be reimbursed (if there are funds available) for any travel expenses incurred while attending regular committee meetings.

Section 2 - Duties

Duties of each standing committee and other special committees will be determined by the Chapter Officers as appointed. Reports will be made to officers by the committees as needed.

Article VI: Finances

Section 1 - Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Chapter will coincide with the calendar year.

Article VII: Amendment of Bylaws

SE Chapter members may propose or suggest amendments to the SE Chapter officers.

The SE Chapter officers may approve those amendments.

Voting on bylaw amendments may take place electronically.

Any amendments must be consistent with the constitution of RMS.

SE Chapter By-laws, as approved by the SE Chapter officers are to be ratified by the voting majority and must be made available to the membership on the RMS website two weeks before voting.

Members must be notified by email two weeks before voting or elections.