

BYLAWS of The USMA Class of 1965

(As Approved 18 May 2015, and amended effective July 2021)

These Bylaws were approved for adoption by vote of a quorum of members present at a duly convened Membership Meeting. By the Secretary's signature hereon these Bylaws are adopted by the USMA Class of 1965

ARTICLE I NAME

The Name of this organization shall be The USMA Class of 1965 (the "Class").

ARTICLE II PURPOSES

The Purposes of the Class shall be:

- To continue the association of the Members begun as Cadets;
- To further the ideals of the United States Military Academy (USMA); and
- To provide an interface with the West Point Association of Graduates (WPAOG).

The Class as organized herein provides a means for defining membership and administering Class affairs. The Class shall be a members' association supported by the volunteer efforts of its members and as needed by contributions or fund raising activities. No class activities will be carried on for profit.

ARTICLE III OFFICE

The office of the Class shall be at West Point, New York, or such other location as the Class Leadership Team (as defined in Article VI, Section 1. may designate.)

ARTICLE IV MEMBERS

Section1. Composition. The Class shall be comprised of Members, Associate Members, and Honorary Members

Section2. Members. Individuals who graduated from USMA in 1965.

Section 3. Associate Members. Individuals who were classmates, but did not graduate with the USMA Class of 1965 and who applied for Associate

Membership in the WPAOG. Widows of deceased Members and Associate Members automatically become Associate Members of the Class; next of kin may also be invited to become Associate Members.

Section 4. Honorary Members. The Class Leadership Team (hereinafter defined) may designate individuals not otherwise eligible for membership as Honorary Members. Honorary Members are not formal members of the Class but may be extended invitations to participate in Class functions.

Section 5. Voting. Only Members may vote. Voting shall occur: (a) at any time and in any manner as reasonably called for by the Class Leadership Team; or (b) in person at each Reunion Meeting. Proxy votes are allowed based on a signed statement by a Member. A majority of the votes cast shall constitute a decision by the Members.

Section 6. WPAOG Membership. All Members and Associate Members are strongly urged to participate actively in the WPAOG.

ARTICLE V **OFFICERS**

Section 1. Officers. The Officers of the Class shall be a President, a Senior Vice President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Scribe, a Treasurer, an Historian and an Information Systems Officer (ISO) . Except for the office of President, a Member may hold two offices at the same time. The Officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these Bylaws.

Section 2. Election. The Officers shall be Members. They shall be elected by the Members in accordance with Article IV, Section 5 to serve for five years or until their successors are elected, unless they should sooner die, resign, or be removed. Their term of office shall begin at the close of the Reunion Meeting at which they are elected.

Section 3. Vacancies. Vacancies resulting from the resignation, removal, or death of an officer may be filled by a majority vote of the Class Leadership Team, and the officer so chosen shall hold office until the next Reunion Meeting, at which meeting an individual shall be elected to fill the vacancy. Where the Presidency shall become vacant, the Senior Vice President shall assume the position of President and the vacancy shall exist in the office of Senior Vice President. The Class Leadership Team may then fill that vacancy.

Section 4. President. The Officer serving as President shall coordinate the activities of the Class Leadership Team and chair meetings of the Class. The President shall be an ex officio member of all Class committees except the

Nominating Committee.

Section 5. Vice Presidents. The Officers serving as Senior Vice President and Vice President shall perform duties defined by the Class Leadership Team. In the absence of the President, the Senior Vice President shall chair meetings of the Class.

Section 6. Scribe. The officer serving as Scribe shall be responsible for maintaining continuous communication with all members to keep them informed of Class activities and events, and along with the ISO maintaining a current address roster of members and for developing other communications as necessary. Upon the death of a Classmate, actual or imminent, solicit a volunteer to be Class POC to implement the Class funeral protocol.

Section 7. Secretary. The Officer serving as Secretary shall develop and maintain written records of all Class Leadership Team meetings, with particular attention to the documentation of decisions made therein. The Secretary shall work with the Scribe and the Historian and ISO to ensure that records of significance are preserved for use by future leaders of the class.

Section 8. Treasurer. The Officer serving as Treasurer shall maintain the Class Administrative Fund, the Class Gift Fund, such other Class Funds as may be established by the Class Leadership Team, conduct transactions as directed by the Class Leadership Team, and interface as needed with the fund raising Chairman chartered by the Class Leadership Team.

Section 9. Historian. The Officer serving as Historian shall maintain Class records as directed by the Class Leadership Team. The Historian will work closely with the Secretary, Scribe and ISO to preserve data and information that has enduring value.

Section 10. Information Systems Officer. The Officer serving as Information Systems Officer shall be responsible for all matters involving technology, including, but not limited to the maintenance of the Class Web Site and its contents, the Class Listserv and the Class Database.

Section 11. Removal. An officer may be removed from office based on a recall petition signed by a Member for consideration by the Leadership Team. The recall petition will be given careful consideration by the Leadership Team to include providing the subject of the recall petition an opportunity to respond to the petition. Approval of the recall petition and removal of the officer requires a unanimous vote of the other members of the Leadership Team.

ARTICLE VI

CLASS LEADERSHIP TEAM

Section 1. Membership. The Class Officers shall constitute the Class Leadership Team (herein collectively so called).

Section 2. Voting. Officers representing a majority of the Class Leadership Team constitute a quorum. Decisions of the Class Leadership Team shall be by majority vote of those present. Votes may be made in person, in writing, or by telephonic or electronic means. In the event of a tie vote, the President will be responsible for making a decision.

Section 3. Responsibilities and Authorities. The Class Leadership Team shall provide general supervision of the affairs of the Class. The Class Leadership Team has responsibility for organizing Class Activities and overseeing use of the Class Funds. The Class Leadership Team shall make a formal report of its activities by means of a letter to the Class from the President, or other means, at least once a year. The Class Leadership Team may appoint committees to manage the affairs of the Class. These include, but are not limited to: reunion committees, nominating committees and fund raising committees. The Class Leadership Team may provide guidelines and approaches to these committees, as judged necessary, to provide effective governance. All actions by the Class Leadership Team shall be consistent with these Bylaws. In addition, as time permits, the Class Leadership Team shall seek feedback and guidance from the Class on all major issues and decisions. In the event (a) an emergency arises during the time the Class Leadership Team deems it advisable to obtain an immediate vote of the Class on a matter, and (b) it is not feasible, or there is not enough time, to conduct such vote, actions taken by unanimous consent of the Class Leadership Team shall be deemed for all purposes to be consistent with these Bylaws and in the best interests of, and representing the vote of, the Class.

Section 4. Meetings. The Class Leadership Team will meet from time to time during the year to attend to the affairs of the class. Reunion meetings of the Class Leadership Team shall be held on the first full day of each quinquennial reunion to facilitate maximum participation by Class Members and Associate Members.

Section 5. Liaison Officer(s). The Class Leadership Team may from time to time appoint a Member or Associate Member to serve a defined term as a liaison with the WPAOG, with the Class or Class committees, or with the Academy leadership.

ARTICLE VII

OTHER COMMITTEES

Section 1. Nominating Committee. This committee will be chaired by the Immediate Past President unless he is not available to serve for personal reasons, reasons of health, or any other reason as determined by the Class Leadership Team. At least six months prior to each quinquennial reunion, after consultation with the Class Leadership Team, the Nominating Committee Chairman shall identify four additional Members of the Class to serve on the committee. Members of the Class Leadership Team may not serve as members of the Nominating Committee. It shall be the duty of the Nominating Committee to nominate a candidate for each of the offices to be filled at the Reunion Meeting. Members will be notified of the slate of nominees not later than sixty days prior to the quinquennial reunion.

Section 2. Reunion Committee. At least two years prior to each quinquennial reunion, the Class Leadership Team shall designate a Member of the Class to serve as the Reunion Committee Chairman. The Reunion Committee Chairman, after consultation with the Class Officers, will form a committee that will be responsible to the Class Leadership Team for the planning and conduct of the quinquennial reunion.

Section 3. Other Committees. Other committees, standing or special, may be appointed by the Class Leadership Team from time to time as deemed necessary to carry on the work of the Class.

ARTICLE VIII

MEETINGS

Section 1. Reunion Meeting. The Reunion Meeting of the Class shall be held on the first full day of each quinquennial reunion weekend unless otherwise ordered by the Class Leadership Team. This meeting shall be known as the Reunion Meeting and shall be for the purpose of electing officers, receiving reports of officers and committees, and for any other business that may arise.

Section 2. Quorum. Those members present at the Reunion Meeting, regardless of number, shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE IX

FUNDS

Section 1. Class Funds. The Class shall administer funds through the West Point Association of Graduates (WPAOG).

Section 2. Class Administration Fund. This Fund includes monies that have been deposited with the WPAOG for Class activities. Authorized uses of the Administrative Fund include, but are not limited to: the normal conduct of Class business, Class mailings, purchasing flowers, memorial charitable contributions and sending and returning Class flags for deceased members' ceremonies as well as reunion expenditures. Upon dissolution of the Class, the Class Administration Fund reverts to unrestricted use apportioned equally between the West Point Fund and the Long Gray Line Endowment.

Section 3. Gift Fund. The Gift Fund includes monies for Class-approved projects that support the mission of USMA. Since the 50th reunion gift is the last formal Class gift, the Gift Fund, at the vote of the Class Leadership Team, may be closed and any funds remaining be apportioned to the WPAOG as approved by the Leadership Team. Individual classmates may still donate through the WPAOG to the West Point Fund, The Long Gray Line Endowment or other USMA activity sanctioned by the WPAOG.

Section 4. Financial Reports. The Class Treasurer will provide an annual administrative report to the Class Leadership Team that includes monies received, interest earned, capital gains and expenditures. The report shall list all Class Fund transactions for the calendar year just ended. (The WPAOG provides the Class Treasurer with its income, balance and project activity reports for preparing the Administrative Fund annual report). A condensed report of the Class Administrative Report may be included as part of annual communications to the Class.

Section 5. Expenditure Authority. The Class Leadership Team has the authority to approve expenditures from the Administrative Fund and the Gift Fund. Normally, this approval is transmitted to the WPAOG by the Class Treasurer, Class President or any other Class Officer after full disclosure to the Class Leadership Team.

ARTICLE X
ADOPTION OF BYLAWS

These Bylaws, as amended, will become effective once they have been approved by two-thirds of the Members voting at a Reunion Meeting of the Class.

ARTICLE XI
AMMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

These Bylaws may be amended by any vote of the Class called by the Leadership Team in accordance with Article IV, Section 5 hereof, or at any Reunion Meeting of the Class, by a two-thirds vote of the Members voting.

ARTICLE XII
DISSOLUTION

When there are insufficient Members to constitute a Class Leadership Team capable of administering the affairs of the Class, the Class shall be dissolved, and all funds remaining in the General Fund shall become the unrestricted property of the AOG.