

## **PREAMBLE**

### **TO THE BY-LAWS OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF DOWSERS, INC.**

Dowsing is a faculty employed with intent to expand the perceptive abilities of its practitioner beyond three-dimensional limitations. It is a most ancient, varied craft, as ancient and varied as humanity itself. Dowsing has roots, among all manner of peoples, lands, and epochs. There seems to exist an ageless natural knowledge, that enables us to identify ourselves with an unknown source of being and becoming; it is of primary significance, joining Earth, sea, and stars.

Explanation of dowsing's whys and wherefores is still far from satisfactory, but to refuse to explore the unexplainable simply because it cannot presently be explained is unscientific and irresponsible. Dowsing is fact.

As awareness grows, the public mind should recognize that, when based on ample training, experience, and talent, dowsing is a most useful skill, applicable to many fields of human activity.

Spiritual pride is to be avoided by the dowser. Psychic powers, intellectual aptitudes, or physical skills are useless unless applied for the benefit of all, because they bring increased sensitivity. These may properly be expressed only in an increasing awareness of the oneness of all life and in greater love for the whole of humanity.

Any activity that investigates, perpetuates, and expands humankind's lore, mysteries, beliefs, traditions, and useful abilities should command at once loyalty and service. In the energizing of such activity, the power generated in and by a group of interested persons is greater by far than the sum of its numbers.

Upon these concepts THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF DOWSERS, INC. is founded.

Amended: November 6, 1996; October 15, 2003, December 16, 2006; Ratified by Membership 4/1/2007

## BY-LAWS OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF DOWSERS, INC.

### CHAPTER I

#### NAME

The name of this organization shall be THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF DOWSERS, INC., a nonprofit corporation of the State of Vermont in the United States of America.

### CHAPTER II

#### PURPOSES

Section 1. The purposes of this Society shall be:

- (a) to support, encourage and promote dowsing and dowsers in a manner consistent with the highest standards of personal integrity and behavior;
- (b) to establish and maintain Focus Groups to bring like minded Dowsers together to use their dowsing abilities to concentrate on, and bring solutions to, specific problem areas in society and/or the world;
- (c) to establish and maintain a Register of Professional Dowsers for each Focus Group;
- (d) to establish and maintain an Educational Program for each Focus Group with an Instructor Registry and curriculum to educate and guide each Focus Group to a high level of success;
- (e) to promote and foster communication and fellowship among all persons in any way interested in dowsing, for the enjoyable social sharing of this common interest;
- (f) to build in America an effective, responsible body of men and women devoted to active investigation, study and application of dowsing;  
Amended: 7/30/2007 – Ratified by membership 6/16/2009.
- (g) to advance dowsing knowledge and practice in every beneficial branch, phase, and aspect thereof;
- (h) to encourage the application of methods of modern scientific inquiry to dowsing so a body of scientific information relating to it may evolve;
- (i) to offer evidence of dowsing's realm of usefulness to humankind;
- (j) to give all possible assistance and encouragement to the quickening and development of the dowsing faculty to the end that dowsing may become part of the culture of modern people.

Section 2. It is the basic purpose of this Society to nurture the dowsing faculty and to encourage its general development and demonstration.

Amended: 7/30/2007 – Ratified by membership 6/16/2009.

Section 3. This Society is wholly a non-stock, nonprofit, non-commercial corporation.

Section 4. This Society is an independent organization but it shall at all times endeavor to promote and maintain cordial and mutually helpful relations with organizations having similar or pertinent purposes in the United States and in other countries.

Section 5. The Society has organizational boundaries. It is of the United States of America and its territories. However, dowsing has no boundaries, only frontiers. In applying the methods of modern scientific inquiry to dowsing, the principles of scientific freedom and responsibility shall have this goal: that science is the search for truth.

### CHAPTER III

## MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Any responsible person of good character and repute, regardless of age, sex, race, color, national origin, or other affiliation, who is sincerely interested in any phase of the faculty, craft, skill, talent, art, technique, and/or science of dowsing or in any matter related or pertinent thereto, may be admitted to Membership in this Society in accordance with Section 3 of this Chapter. That person may retain Membership in good standing by paying the fees, dues, and subscriptions established from time to time by this organization and by fulfilling other obligations stated in these By-Laws or otherwise determined from time to time by this Society, including its Code of Ethics.

Section 2. Good standing in the Membership of this Society shall consist not only of the payment in full of all financial obligations assumed by each Member but also in observance of the spirit as well as the letter of these ByLaws, including the Preamble and such other rules and regulations as may be established by this Society from time to time.

Section 3. The Membership of this Society shall consist of Members, Junior Members, Special Members, and Honorary Members.

(a) The grade of Member shall be available to all persons who are eighteen (18) years of age or older who qualify under Sections 1 and 2 above. For the purposes of the By-Laws, a person shall be deemed to be eighteen (18) years of age the day of his or her 18th birthday.

(b) The grade of Junior Member shall be available to all persons not yet eighteen (18) years of age who qualify under Sections 1 and 2 above. Junior Members shall have all the privileges of the Society except voting and holding office.

(c) Special dues paying Members shall be designated at the vote of the Society under such terms and conditions as seem appropriate (for example Family Membership, Life Membership, Family Life Membership) and shall be available to all persons who qualify under Sections 1 and 2 above. A Family Membership and a Family Life Membership are defined as two individuals plus children under 18 years of age. The dues for these Memberships are 1.5 times that of the corresponding Individual Memberships. When children reach age 18 they must then join as an individual. Family Lifetime Memberships are not available to individuals under 18 years of age but they (Individuals under 18) may join as an Individual Life Member. Family Memberships and Family Life Memberships are not transferable, i.e. from the current spouse of an individual to a different spouse for that individual. Family Memberships receive only one copy of any ASD Publications.

Amended: 7/30/2007 – Ratified by membership 6/16/2009.

(d) Honorary Members. Should the Society wish to honor a Member or some person or persons for generous contribution or distinctive service to this Society or to its objectives, then in each case this Society may vote to grant such persons Honorary Membership herein (for example Honorary Membership, Honorary Life Membership) under such terms and conditions as seem most appropriate in each case.

Section 4. Application for Membership shall be sent to the Operations Manager, at the Headquarters Office of ASD, who will carry out all the steps necessary for the enrollment of a new Member.

Section 5. A Member in good standing may resign by presenting a resignation in writing to the Operations Manager of this Society.

Section 6. Anyone whose Membership has been terminated by nonrenewal or resignation may at any time reapply for Membership. Reinstatement of membership for anyone who has resigned must have their application approved by a majority vote of the BOT. If the applicant is not approved, they may reapply in another two years. Reinstatement of membership for anyone who has resigned is not guaranteed.

Amended 4/14/2010 to remove original Sections 6, 7, and 8 and add a new Section 6. Ratified by Membership Ballot 2011.

## CHAPTER IV MEMBER FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Section 1. Year defined.

- (a) The annual Financial Accounting Period or Fiscal Year of this Society shall be from January 1st to December 31st.
- (b) A Membership Year shall include the annual Membership Meeting.

Section 2. All financial obligations, as Dues, Subscriptions, etc., of each Member shall be fixed by the Trustees of this Society with the advice of the Treasurer. The financial obligations assessed upon a Junior Member shall automatically be fifty (50) percent of the financial obligations of a Member. Entrance Fees to any American Society of Dowers, Inc. sponsored event, such as the Annual Convention and Schools, shall be fixed by Committee with the approval of the Board of Trustees.

Section 3. Any Member who resigns after January 1st of any year shall be liable for the financial obligations of that fiscal year.

Section 4. Member in Arrears.

- (a) Any Member whose financial obligations are in arrears at the time of any General Meeting shall not be entitled to vote or exercise any of the privileges of a Member.
- (b) If a Member's subscription to a Society publication is in arrears more than two (2) months, the Member shall not be entitled to receive the publication again until the subscription is reinstated.

#### CHAPTER V HEADQUARTERS

The location of the principal or Headquarters Office of this Society shall be the Town of Danville, County of Caledonia, in the State of Vermont.

#### CHAPTER VI GOVERNMENT

Section 1. General.

- (a) This Society shall be governed and managed in full accord with democratic principles. The governing powers shall generally be exercised by the Members in a General Meeting.
- (b) The affairs of this Society shall be actively conducted by its duly elected Trustees. These Trustees shall be accountable to the Membership of the Society in all matters of Society business, and shall at all times conduct the business of the Society in accord with its Articles of Association, its By-Laws, including the Preamble, and with policy, authority, and instruction voted by the Members in a General Meeting. Amended: December 16, 2006; Ratified by Membership 4/1/2007
- (c) The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, shall govern this organization in all procedures not covered by this Society's By-Laws, provided such procedures are not in conflict with statutory regulations enacted by the State of Vermont for corporate bodies such as this.

#### CHAPTER VII CHAPTERS AND/OR REGIONAL SUBDIVISIONS

Section 1. The executive powers of the Trustees shall include the authority to create regional divisions or branches and local Chapters of this Society that shall be subordinate to this Society and subject to its Articles of Association, Preamble, and By-Laws. Each individual Member of such subdivisions shall be a Member of this Society subject to all of its rules, regulations, and enactments. Each Chapter in a division or branch shall be a Chapter duly authorized by this Society.

#### Section 2. Formation.

(a) Eight (8) or more Members of this Society residing within a limited, designated area, may petition the Trustees of this Society for a dispensation to organize a local Chapter. Three (3) duly organized Chapters within a limited, designated region, may petition the Trustees for a dispensation to establish a district or regional division or branch.

(b) The disposition made of such petitions shall always carefully consider the merits of each petition from the point of view of advancing the best interests of this Society as a whole.

(c) In the event any such petition shall be denied by the Trustees and the petitioners are dissatisfied with the action of the Trustees, said petitioners may, upon written notice to all Members, present their petition to a regular General Meeting of the Members of this Society for final disposition. At such meeting a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all Members present and voting shall be required to override the action of the Trustees.

(d) Charter Approval - Name Change: The Board of Trustees shall be notified in writing of any proposed change in name and/or service area. The Board shall approve or disapprove the proposed change(s). If approved, a new charter for that Chapter will be issued, thereby negating that Chapter's former charter.

(e) Charter Approval - Newly Merged: If two or more Chapters choose to merge, they shall apply to the Board of Trustees to be chartered as a new Chapter. The old Chapters shall then be considered dissolved under their existing charters.

Section 3. All Members of this Society residing within the territory of any subdivision thereof shall be eligible for Membership in that subdivision. No person shall be admitted to Membership in any subdivision until after their admission into this Society in the manner provided by its By-Laws, nor until the individual has paid the fees, dues, subscriptions, and other financial obligations fixed by this Society. Any Member suspended or expelled, or in any other way losing Membership in this Society, shall thereupon cease to be a Member of any subdivision. (Nonmembers are classified as guests)

Section 4. Each duly organized subdivision of this Society may make such By-laws, rules and regulations for its own government as do not conflict with the Articles of Association, Preamble and By-Laws of this Society, or with its policies.

#### Section 5. Finances.

(a) Funds received by any division, Chapter, branch, or subdivision of this Society shall not accrue to the benefit of any individual Officer or Member thereof. In the event of the dissolution of any division, Chapter, branch or subdivision of this Society, all funds in its hands shall promptly be transferred to the Headquarters of this Society after payment of its just debts.

(b) Chapter Funds: Chapters choosing to merge to form a new chapter shall keep any existing funds respectively separate until charter approval (by the Board of Trustees) of the newly merged chapter and/or forward their funds to ASD in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of ASD, Chapter VII, Section 5, Paragraph (a). (c) Each division, Chapter, branch, or subdivision of this Society shall by January 31<sup>st</sup>, submit a Chapter Annual Report for the Calendar Year to the President and Treasurer of this Society showing its current President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, contact numbers, meeting place, number of members, guests and any other pertinent information. Optional information- income, expenditures, assets and liabilities and cash on hand.

Amended: 7/30/2007 – Ratified by membership 6/16/2009.

Amended: 4/14/2010 \_ Ratified by Membership Ballot 2011

Section 6. As soon as they are substantial enough to do so, Chapters are advised to give serious consideration to incorporation in the State of their domicile, as nonprofit, educational, and scientific institutions and to apply to the tax or revenue boards of their State treasury departments for fully tax exempt status: meaning that dues and contributions to them shall be tax deductible and the Chapters themselves shall be exempt from State taxes. Before filing their Articles of Incorporation in their home states, Chapters shall submit same to Headquarters of this Society for approval by Society Counsel and a committee of Trustees.

Section 7. Chapters and Divisions are created for (a) the benefit, use, and, convenience of the Members of this Society and (b) for the promotion of the purposes, objectives, policies, and ideals of this Society.

## CHAPTER VIII

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

#### Section 1. Trustees and Executive Officers

(a) Number of Trustees. This Society shall have a maximum of 14 elected Trustees. And no less than Three (3) Trustees to be compliant with State of Vermont requirements. Trustees shall be elected biennially by mail ballot as per Chapter IX, Section 5 for four (4) year terms. In the event the number of Trustees decreases to 7 or less, additional Trustees shall be appointed by the remaining trustees to bring the number of Trustees to 8, but only for the purpose of serving until the next biennial election or to fill unexpired terms. Four (4) or more of these Trustees shall serve as Executive Officers, i.e. President, Executive Vice President or Vice Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer, and the remaining shall serve as overall, general management Officers and these will be referred to hereafter herein as Trustees-at-Large.

Ratified by Membership 4/1/2017

(1) In the first year of implementation, there will be seven (7) Trustees elected to 2 year terms and seven (7) Trustees elected to 4 year terms. Trustees receiving the most votes will be given the choice of choosing a 4 year or a 2 year term until there are 7 of one or the other. The remaining elected trustees will be given the other term that remains unfilled. In the next biennium the 2 year positions will be refilled by electing trustees to new 4 year terms and the 2 year positions eliminated.

Amended: December 16, 2006; Ratified by Membership 4/1/2007

(b) Officers Elect. Trustees Elect may hold a meeting to choose their Executive Officers Elect (President, Executive Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer). The President Elect may appoint interim officers, in case of loss of an officer elect, to serve between the election and the first Board of Trustees' meeting of the new term. Amended: December 16, 2006; Ratified by Membership 4/1/2007

#### Section 2. Duties of Officers

((a) The President shall: (1) preside at all Meetings of the Society and of the Trustees and perform all other functions usual to the office; (2) serve as a member of all committees without vote; (3) direct the affairs of this organization subject to the authority and direction of the General Assemblies or Meetings of this Society and of the Trustees; (4) Devote a reasonable amount of time to ways and means for the continuation and extension of this Society; (5) appoint and designate all committees not otherwise created, with the advice, consent, and confirmation of the Trustees; (6) issue the calls for regular and special Meetings of the Trustees. Such calls shall be in writing stating the business to be considered, the time, and the place of the meetings: that time shall not be less than twenty (20) days from the issuance of the call; (7) prepare and present a report at each Annual General Meeting of the Members of this Society: this report shall include such suggestions and recommendations as the President may see fit to incorporate therein; (8) between annual General Meetings, the President, with the advice, consent, and confirmation of the Trustees or by authority received from the General Meeting, may appoint Members of the Society to serve as Historian and Provosts. The Historian will maintain a general historical record of the affairs of the Society. A Provost will serve as the local official

resident representative of the Trustees/ within the assigned geographical region. The President shall present substantive changes in the operations of the Society to the Trustees for review and approval before being activated, except that in performing this duty the President is authorized to expend Society funds, not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) on any single project prior to its presentation to the Trustees. Amended: December 16, 2006; Ratified by Membership 4/1/2007

(b) The Executive Vice President shall do the following: (1) preside at meetings of the Society and its Trustees in the absence of the President and shall act for the President in case of disability; (2) actively aid and assist the President in directing the affairs of this organization and undertake such special assignments as may be given by the President or Trustees; and (3) upon the death, resignation, or incapacity of the President, succeed and assume all duties, prerogatives, responsibilities, as well as the title of President and shall so serve until the next General Membership Election of the Society.

(c) All Vice Presidents shall have only such duties as shall be assigned to them by the Board of Trustees of this Society.

(d) In the event of the Office of President becoming vacant and there is no successor such as indicated in (b) 3 above to fill it, then the Trustees shall elect one of their number as President. That individual shall serve the unexpired term of President. The Secretary shall record the votes cast and shall inform the Trustees of election results.

(e) The Secretary shall perform the following: (1) attend all General Membership Meetings of the Society and all Meetings of the Board of Trustees; (2) keep a true record of all proceedings of General Membership Meetings of the Society and of the Board of Trustees; (3) keep both written and audio recorded records; (4) deliver the minutes and all audio recordings of such proceedings to the American Society of Dowsters, Inc. Headquarters Office within thirty (30) days of said meeting; (5) when relieved of duties, within 10 days deliver all records, files, correspondence and any other ASD property to the ASD headquarters; (6) perform or cause the following to happen: (i) securing all records in a secure and fire protected area (ii) maintaining audio recordings for 3 years unless instructions for continued storage are given by the sitting Board of Trustees; preserving paper and electronic records of the Society securely. Minutes of the Society and the Trustees are a permanent record of the Society, and shall be preserved forever. (f) The Treasurer is the custodian of the Society's funds and is responsible for keeping accounts, disbursing funds, and providing financial reports in accordance with the Board of Trustees' direction and Society policies. The Treasurer is responsible for submitting the Annual Budget for the Society, based on Executive Committee guidelines and suggestions, for the approval of the Board of Trustees.

The Treasurer shall perform the following: (1) comply with all financial and tax regulations with respect to any employees of the Society and shall file necessary reports, with the assistance of the Operations Manager; (2) cause all fees, dues, subscriptions and other financial obligations due this Society from any source to be collected and cause all bills to be paid when expenditures are recognized by the President with Board approval; (3) present a monthly financial account to the President, a financial report at Board meetings, and an Annual Report to the Membership; (4) provide that accounts shall be audited annually as provided in Chapter X, Section 1; (5) keep all moneys belonging to this Society distinctly separate from personal funds and all other funds; (6) prepare a proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year [ : this shall be done] with the assistance of the Operations Manager and presented to the Board of Trustees, annually and in a timely fashion; (7) advise the Board of Trustees about the investment money of the Society, after obtaining current information from the best available sources; and (8) attend all General Membership Meetings of this Society and meetings of the Board of Trustees.

Amended: December 16, 2006; Ratified by Membership 4/1/2007

(g) The Trustees acting as a Board shall have the management and control of the affairs, business, and property of this corporate Society and subject to statutory provisions of the State of Vermont, the Articles of Association, and these By-Laws, may exercise all the powers of the corporation. In case of the absence of any Officer of this Society or for any other reason whatsoever that may seem sufficient to the Trustees, the Trustees may by majority vote at any meeting delegate the powers and duties of such Officer to any other Officer or Trustee.

(h) The Trustees-at-Large shall have the special auditing duties set forth in Chapter X, Section 1. They may in emergency situations, recognized by a majority of those in office, in writing by First Class Mail, or by return receipt e-mail, or verbally by telephone, or by any combination of these methods, call special Meetings of the whole Board of Trustees and/or special General Meetings and they may conduct such meetings when assembled by such calls. The Trustees-at-Large shall serve as check, balance, and stimulus to officers, Trustees and this Society as a

whole, having the right of independent scrutiny into any matter concerning this Society to which they may choose to address themselves, and making appropriate reports thereof to the Board of Trustees as a whole and/or to this Society as a whole. Amended: December 16, 2006; Ratified by Membership 4/1/2007

### Section 3. Specific Requirements.

a) All Trustees shall be chosen from the Members in good standing of this Society, who are 18 years of age or older, and are citizens of the United States of America. Their term of office shall be four (4) years and shall serve until their successors are elected, appointed, and qualified, both in their capacities as Trustees and as specific elective Officers of the Society, subject to the provisions and exceptions set forth in Section 5 of Chapter VIII.

Amended: December 16, 2006; Ratified by Membership 4/1/2007

(b) A majority of Trustees in office and properly notified and present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business which may properly come before them. A vote of a majority of Trustees present and voting shall constitute action of the Trustees. Any decision of the Trustees may be reconsidered or rescinded at a subsequent meeting of the Trustees by a two-thirds majority of those present. Amended: November 19, 2005;

December 16, 2006; Ratified by Membership 4/1/2007

(c) The day following the Annual General Meeting, the elected and re-elected trustees shall take office for the purpose of meeting and organizing for the new two (2) year term. At this Meeting they shall set in motion the affairs of the Society for the coming year, in accord with policy, authority, and instruction previously voted by the Members of this Society.

(d) The Trustees shall have the right to vest the Offices of Secretary and Treasurer in one person, when and if such procedure seems to be for the best interests of the Society. This shall be done only as an emergency and a temporary measure.

e) Trustees shall meet at least three (3) times a year. The President after consultation with the other Trustees shall issue the call for all meetings of the Trustees stating the time and place thereof. Such time shall not be less than twenty (20) days from the issuance of the call, except that this provision does not apply to the first meeting of the year, as this first Meeting shall convene automatically without notice the next day after the close of the Annual General Meeting, with time and location announced at the Annual General Meeting. Amended: December

16, 2006; Ratified by Membership 4/1/2007

(f) When it is impossible for a Trustee to attend a scheduled meeting, that trustee may participate by teleconference or video-conference if available. Alternatively a Trustee may submit votes relative to specific issues or questions listed in the call for such a meeting by mail, e-mail, fax, or telephone. These votes must be verified by return direct communications from the Secretary of the Society to the Trustee.

Amended: 7/30/2007 – Ratified by membership 6/16/2009.

Section 4. Until otherwise voted by this Society, no Official thereof shall receive any compensation for services rendered to the society.

Amended 4/14/2010 to remove the entire Section 5. Ratified by Membership Ballot 2011.

## CHAPTER IX ELECTIONS

Section 1. Nominating Committee. This Society shall have a Nominating Committee composed of Members in good standing. Its purpose and function is to nominate qualified candidates for election to the ASD Board of Trustees. This Nominating Committee shall have representation of each region and one appointee by the president. This appointee will call the first meeting. This Committee shall be appointed following elections of Trustees and Officers and shall serve until the next election. Said Committee shall elect its own Chairperson. It shall be the duty of this Committee to survey the entire Membership of this Society, including its Trustees, Officers, and Staff to prepare a list of candidates who are ready, willing, able, and qualified, to serve as Trustees of this Society. This list shall be presented in a timely manner/ to the existing Board of Trustees for information purposes only. The final list of



candidates shall be presented by the Committee Chairperson, to the secretary, and the Operations Manager, no later than 45 days prior to the scheduled date of ballot distribution.

Amended: 7/30/2007 – Ratified by membership 6/16/2009.

Amended: 4/07/2016

Section 2. The mail ballot shall follow the provisions of Section 5 of this Chapter and shall provide space for write-in candidates of the voter's choice.

Section 3. Trustees and Officers of this Society may succeed themselves in office with the exception of Presidents who may succeed themselves as a Trustee but shall not serve more than two successive terms as President without a lapse of time.

Section 4. Trustees shall not serve on the Nomination Committee but may confer, with any or all of the Members of said Committee.

Section 5. Voting shall be by mail ballot for the election of Trustees, and/or for amendments to the By-Laws and other certain matters.

(a) Any candidate must receive at least thirty-five percent (35%) of the vote (a vote meaning a valid ballot. A valid ballot must have votes for at least one-third of the listed candidates on the ballot. Invalid ballots are not to be counted) to be elected as a Trustee. Amended: December 16, 2006; Ratified by Membership 4/1/2007

- (b) The voting packet shall contain the following:
1. Instructions for voting and returning by the required date (Section 6. (d) below)
  2. A list of candidates for Trustees, with space provided for write-in candidates, and space for voting for each
  3. Brief biographies of the candidates for Trustees
  4. A list of any other issues or questions being brought to the membership and space for voting on each
  5. A brief explanation of the effect of a vote on those issues or questions
  6. A specially recognizable return envelope addressed to the Operations Manager
  7. Space for the voter's signature on the back of the return envelope

(c) In order to vote by mail, application for (or renewal of) membership must be received at ASD Headquarters prior to the issuance of said ballots. Members in good standing shall be determined by Chapter III, Section 2.

(d) The Secretary shall send each Member a First Class mail ballot at least sixty (60) days prior to the election deadline. Said ballot must be received by the Operations Manager, American Society of Dowsers Headquarters, Danville, Vermont, on or prior to the election deadline.

(e) The mail ballots shall be retained at ASD Headquarters for no more than 90 days after the election deadline, during which time any challenges to the election process must be brought before the Board of Trustees. After 90 days without a challenge having been brought, the ballots shall be destroyed.

Section 6. At each election of Trustees, the ballots shall be received and all questions regarding the qualifications of voters be decided by three inspectors, who shall be the three members of the Auditing Committee. Such inspectors shall be sworn to faithfully perform their duties and shall report in writing the results of the ballot. Said report shall be published in an American Society of Dowsers publication.

Amended: December 16, 2006; Ratified by Membership 4/1/2007

Section 7. Qualifications for Write In Candidates: All Write In Candidates must have completed at least one term as an ASD Trustee. Amended: December 16, 2006; Ratified by Membership 4/1/2007

CHAPTER X  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEES

Section 1. Auditing.

- (a) Members in good standing attending the General Meeting of this Society shall elect an Auditing Committee of three (3) Members of this Society to audit the accounts of the Treasurer of this Society.
- (b) In the event the Membership fails to elect auditors, the annual Audit shall be in charge of the Trustees-at-Large who shall appoint said Auditing Committee of three (3) Members or hire a Certified Public Accountant to conduct the audit.
- (c) The Audit shall include an examination of the accounts of the Treasurer of this Society and shall determine compliance with the procedures outlined in Chapter VIII, Section 2, (f) above. The auditors shall determine whether there is complete and accurate communication between the Offices of the President, Secretary and Treasurer in all matters relating to money and finance and shall make a report with recommendations to both the Trustees and the Members of this Society.

Section 2. Members in good standing attending a General Meeting of this Society may elect committees to consider particular subjects and may delegate to such committees such powers as they believe expedient.

Section 3. Every committee must report to the body that created it. (The Board of Trustees or as states in section 2)

- (a) Any committee created is not an entity unto itself.
- (b) Upon request, the committee Chairperson must submit a written report to the body that created it in a timely manner.

Amended: 7/30/2007 – Ratified by membership 6/16/2009.

CHAPTER XI  
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF DOWSERS TRUST FUND (ASDTF)

Section 1. Purpose

This amendment to the Bylaws of the American Society of Dowsers (ASD) sets up the American Society of Dowsers Trust Fund (ASDTF). The purpose of this fund is to provide a safe vehicle for benefactors to contribute to the ongoing vitality of the American Society of Dowsers (ASD) by letting them donate to the ASDTF.

Section 2. Investment Trustee

The ASDTF is to be invested only by a government regulated or government sponsored professional trust company, to be called the Investment Trustee

Section 3. Trust Advisory Committee (TAC)

A Trust Advisory Committee of three current ASD members who preferably are financial advisors, accountants, or CPA's, will annually review the performance of the ASDTF Investment Trustee and recommend either leaving the funds with the current Investment Trustee or changing to a new Investment Trustee. Except for the first year, one new member will be elected each year by the general membership at the Annual General Meeting and serve for three years. The member having served for two years will become the Chairman of the Trust Advisory Committee in their third and last year. The Chairman will consult with the other two members, consult with the other two members, decide who the Investment Trustee should be for the coming year, and report to the Annual General Meeting. In the first year all three committee members will be chosen by the Annual General Meeting: one for a one year term, one for a two year term, and one for a three year term. The person chosen for the one year term will be Chairman the

first year. Resignations shall be filled by Presidential appointment until the next Annual General Meeting when the position will be filled by election.

#### Section 4. Investment Strategy

The Investment Trustee shall invest in high quality equity and high quality fixed income investments. In no case shall more than fifteen percent (15%) be invested in "alternative investments". The variance between equity and fixed income is to be determined by the expertise of the Investment Trustee and to be no more than twenty (20%) of the total fund, to be readjusted quarterly if necessary. Changes to this investment strategy may be made by the TAC upon consultation with, and recommendation of, the Investment Trustee.

#### Section 5. Initial Funds

Until the funds have reached an amount of \$30,000 or until an Investment Trustee can be found to invest the funds, they shall be invested in certificates of deposit at the best rate possible to be determined by the Trust Advisory Committee (TAC) and no distribution shall be made.

#### Section 6. Distribution

At the end of each quarter (March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31) the Investment Trustee will distribute up to one percent (1%) (depended upon the needs of the Society as determined by the Treasurer) of the average Market Value after fees of it's fund (to be determined by averaging the ending monthly Market Value of the ASDTF) to the ASD general checking account. In total the Investment Trustee will annually distribute up to four percent (4%) of the average monthly market value of the fund. If the Investment Trustee achieves a net annual return greater than 6 percent after all expenses and fees, two thirds of the difference between the 4 percent and their actual annual return may be distributed (dependent on the needs of the Society as determined by the Treasurer) the next year to the ASD general checking account at the same quarterly distributions.

#### Section 7. Reporting

The Investment Trustee will report fund performance quarterly to the ASD Treasurer, the Chairman of the ASDTF Committee, and the ASD Operations Manager.

#### Section 8. Amendments

Once adopted this amendment may only be changed by a seventy five percent (75%) affirmative vote of the *entire current membership* of the ASD at that time.

#### Section 9. Dissolution

In the event of dissolution of the American Society of Dowsers, this trust fund will be distributed to known legally recognized dowsing organizations, preferably current chartered ASD Chapters to be determined by the sitting ASD Trustees.

This chapter added 7/30/2007. Ratified by membership 6/16/2009.

## CHAPTER XII GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

Section 1. A general meeting and a convention of the Members of this Society shall be held annually, the time and place to be determined by the Board of Trustees. The annual membership meeting of the ASD may be held anywhere in the United States, as approved by the BOT. The Secretary shall give each Member at least thirty-five (35) days notice in writing of General Meetings, the business to be transacted, and a program of the Meeting. Such notice shall be mailed to the last known address of the Member. The date of posting shall be accepted as the date of Notification. Amended: 7/30/2007 – Ratified by membership 6/16/2009.

Section 2. Special General Meetings of this Society shall be held whenever the Members authorize them or whenever the Trustees shall determine said meeting. Notice of these Meetings shall be given all Members as is given for the annual General Meeting.

Section 3. Any Notice required to be given by these By-Laws may be waived by the person entitled thereto and a failure to protest any lack of notice within ninety (90) days after Notice should have been given shall constitute waiver of required Notice and shall preclude all denials of legality of any nature based on deficiency of Notice.

Section 4. Each Member in good standing of this Society, attending a general meeting, shall be entitled to cast one vote on each matter, unless otherwise provided in these By-Laws under Chapter IX , Elections.

Section 5. A quorum at a General Meeting will be met when a simple majority of the entire membership is present. In the instance that there is no quorum at a General Meeting, new issues may be approved by a majority vote of those present, contingent upon ratification by the full membership. A ratification ballot will be mailed to the full membership no later than 60 days following the General Meeting returnable 45 days from the postmark.  
Ratified by membership 4/1/2017

Section 6. Members are not permitted to vote by proxy.

Section 7 Conferences are open forums for education, research and publicity purposes only. A request to hold a conference must be made in writing and signed by a member in good standing who will sponsor and be responsible for the event. The Trustees must approve or disapprove all requests.

Chapter number incremented up by one 7/30/2007 to allow for new Chapter XI.

### CHAPTER XIII SEAL

Section 1. A Corporate Seal shall be provided by the Trustees of a form and design to be determined by the Trustees.

Section 2. The President shall have custody of the Official Seal of this Corporate Society and shall affix said Seal to any instrument requiring the same.

Section 3. The Secretary shall, by signature, attest the Official Seal of this Corporate Society to any instrument whereon such Seal is properly affixed.

Chapter number incremented up by one 7/30/2007 to allow for new Chapter XI.

### CHAPTER XIV AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These By-Laws may be altered, amended or repealed by two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast by those members in good standing of this Society, as provided by Chapter IX, Section 5.

Section 2. The Trustees, by two-thirds (2/3) vote of all Trustees in office and available, may alter, amend, or repeal these ByLaws at any Meeting of Trustees, provided thirty-five (35) days Notice in writing shall have been given to each of the Trustees of the proposed alteration, amendment, or repeal and provided the changes proposed do not infringe upon the rights of the General Membership of this Society or do not alter the fundamental concepts and purposes of this Society. The required Notice may be served personally upon a Trustee or by mailing it to the last known address of the Trustee. The date of the posting shall be accepted as the date of Notification. Said changes to these By-Laws must be ratified by a majority vote of the membership as provided for in Chapter IX Section 5, however, said changes that do not change the voting process, will be in full force until such ratification by the membership and immediately rescinded upon lack of ratification.

Amended: December 16, 2006; Ratified by Membership 4/1/2007. Chapter number incremented up by one 7/30/2007 to allow for new Chapter XI.

## CHAPTER XV CODE OF ETHICS

### Section 1. Code of Ethics for Members.

- (a) Members shall be guided in all their relationship with the public by the highest standards of personal integrity.
- (b) Members shall uphold before the public at all times the dignity and reputation of the Society.
- (c) Members shall avoid and discourage sensationalism, exaggeration, undignified and unwarranted statements, or misleading advertisements.
- (d) Members shall refuse to undertake work which may be of questionable value or results without first advising as to the probability of success.
- (e) Members shall not willfully use or attempt to use their Membership in this Organization as evidence of their qualifications as a dowser or as a measure of ability or proficiency.
- (f) Members in good standing may mention their membership in their resumes and biographies. With written approval of ASD's Executive Committee, members may exhibit or use the name or logo of this society on any letterhead or stationary, on any personal or business cards, and in any advertising of a personal, business or professional nature.

### Section 2. Disciplinary Process.

Any Member, Trustee or Officer, may be reprimanded, suspended, removed from office or lose their membership by a 2/3 vote of the full BOT if shown to be guilty of misconduct. Examples of misconduct would include: (1) Violating the Code of Ethics. (2) The abuse or misuse of power. (3) Personal activities prejudicial to the best interests of the Society, including placing personal interests ahead of those of the Society. (4) Slanderous remarks against another member affecting their ability to carry out their duties. (5) Any other form of misconduct not listed above.

A grievance or complaint may be filed by either party to the action, or by a third party who has observed the action, and will be taken to their Chapter President. If no resolution can be found, it will then advance, in sequence of appeal, to their Regional Coordinator, the Executive VP and finally to the BOT, who will assemble as the Ethics Committee. From this point on, the BOT and Ethics Committee terms are interchangeable  
Ratified by membership 4/1/17.

- (a) If the grievance or complaint is brought by a member not associated with a chapter, they will start the process with their region's RVP.
- (b) If a party to the grievance chooses not to participate at any level of the process, the process will go forward without their participation.
- (c) Responsibilities of the BOT in such matters:
  - (1) Should a crisis situation arise, the entire Board will be notified. A majority vote of a quorum of the BOT may take any and all actions necessary to contain or address the problem, in the best interests of the Society, until a full board meeting may be held, regardless of any inconsistency between this action and these bylaws. Such actions shall be limited to responding to the immediacy of the crisis, and nothing more.
  - (2) A Trustee who is the subject of charges shall not participate or vote in the BOT decision and the vote will be adjusted accordingly.
  - (3) Charges against a Member, Trustee or Officer and all related evidence will be offered in written statements under oath to the President for review by the Trustees. A written statement submitted to any person or group in this process shall be considered taken under oath. If it is found that a statement is false, the person or persons submitting the false statement will immediately lose their membership in ASD by a majority vote of the BOT. Notification of the dismissal will be made in a timely manner.

(4) After receipt of complete written statements under oath from Complainant and Defendant, the President will distribute said copies to the full BOT (Ethics Committee) for evaluation. The BOT will make and record their decision by a 2/3 vote, including disciplinary actions, within 30 days. That decision will be expeditiously communicated to all parties involved. This decision is final and not subject to further appeal.

(5) Anyone whose membership has been terminated by expulsion may reapply for Membership after two (2) years provided any sum owed to the Society under Chapter IV Section 3 by such applicant be first paid in full. The BOT will then review the application and vote its acceptance or denial. If denied the applicant may reapply again after another two years. Any Member, Trustee or Officer removed from their position due to an ethics violation and wishing to hold office again at any level must first gain approval of the BOT by a majority vote.

Amended: December 16, 2006; Ratified by Membership 4/1/2007. Amended: 7/30/2007 – Ratified by membership 6/16/2009. Chapter number incremented up by one 7/30/2007 to allow for new Chapter XI. Amended 4/14/2010 to add the entire Section 2. Ratified by Membership Ballot 2013.

## CHAPTER XVI STATEMENT OF ADOPTION

By-Laws were first adopted by the Incorporators of The American Society of Dowsers, Inc., in Meeting assembled, in the Town of Brandon, County of Rutland, and State of Vermont on the Twenty-third day of July, in the year One Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty-one, A. D.

Chapter number incremented up by one 7/30/2007 to allow for new Chapter XI.

## REVISIONS, AMENDMENTS, PRINTINGS

Ninth Printing - September 19, 1986

Tenth Printing - September 14, 1989

Eleventh Revision - September 13, 1990

Twelfth Revision - January 19, 1991

Thirteenth Revision - July 3, 1991

Fourteenth Revision - September 17, 1992

Fifteenth Revision - August 2, 1994 (all changes from 1992 - 1994)

Sixteenth Revision - July 27, 1995

Seventeenth Revision - April 28, 1997 (all current changes included)

Eighteenth Revision - April 3, 1998 (with corrections May 4, 1998)

Nineteenth Printing/Amendment - July 30, 1999

Twentieth Revision - August 2, 1999

Twenty-first Revision - June 12, 2000

Twenty-second Revision - September 25, 2000

Twenty-third Revision- April 25, 2001

Twenty-fourth Revision – October 15, 2003 –Chapter I thru Chapter VIII

Twenty-fifth Revision – November 23, 2003 – Chapter IX thru Chapter XV

Twenty-sixth Revision – May 5, 2004 – Officers elect meeting (in Ch.VIII)

Twenty-seventh Revision – September 26, 2004 (clarification of terms)

Twenty-eighth Revision - November 19, 2005

Twenty-ninth Revision – December 16, 2006

Thirtieth Revision – April 1, 2007

Thirty-first Revision – July 30, 2007 Added new Chapter XI ASDTF, amended Chapter XV Code of Ethics, Ratified by membership 6/16/2009

Thirty-second Revision – April 14, 2010 Changes in Chapters III, VIII, and XV. Ratified by Membership Ballot 2013.