

CONSTITUTION

The Winnipeg Model Railroad Club is a
100% National Model Railroad Association organization within the
Thousand Lakes Region and Number One Northern Division



WMRC CONSTITUTION

Revisions accepted January 2026

1. NAME

The name of the Association shall be "WINNIPEG MODEL RAILROAD CLUB INC" here-in-after referred to as "the Club," incorporated April 27, 1998.

2. MISSION STATEMENT

- a) The Club is a non-profit model railroad club that offers fellowship, education and fun to anyone interested in the wonderful hobby of model railroading whether they are a beginner or expert. We strive to promote the hobby through our monthly meetings, our public shows, and other activities throughout the year.
- b) The Purpose of the Club shall be the uniting of its members to promote interest in the hobby of model railroading, to increase the knowledge of its members, and to foster and promote the construction and operation of model railroads. None of the activities shall be carried on for the profit of any individual member.
- c) The function of the Club is to promote fellowship within the hobby of model railroading. Anyone who has an interest in model railroading is welcome. The Club will refrain from publicly criticizing any individuals, groups, organizations or businesses.

3. MEMBERSHIP

There shall be five classes of membership in the Club, as follows. All members in any category must be residents of Canada.

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP - Any adult interested in scale model railroading, and not in one of the categories below.

CHARTER MEMBERSHIP - Any adult who became a regular member in good standing on November 1, 1955 shall be known as a Charter Member

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP - Any person residing in the same household as a regular or charter member who is interested in scale model railroading

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP - Any person who has contributed meritorious service to the hobby of scale model railroading in general or to the Club in particular may be elected as an Honorary Member by vote of the majority of members attending any regular meeting.

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP - Any person under the age of 18 who shows an interest in model railroading may become a Junior Member. Junior members under the age of 15 must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all Club meetings and events.

4. BENEFITS AND OBLIGATIONS

The benefits and obligations of all classes of membership shall be identical as set forth in this constitution with the exceptions that:

- a) Honorary Members shall not be required to pay dues
- b) Junior Members may not hold an elective office

5. CLUB EXECUTIVE

The executive shall consist of five elected members as follows whose term of office shall be one year.

- a) President
- b) Vice President
- c) Secretary
- d) Treasurer
- e) Past President

6. STANDING POSITIONS

Members may be appointed annually, by majority vote of the Executive, to such standing positions as are deemed necessary. Examples: Program Director, *The Lantern* Editor, Club Layout Manager, Canteen Manager, Social Media Director, etc.

7. EXECUTIVE DUTIES

It shall be the responsibility of each member of the Executive to:

- a) Perform the specific duties as set forth in the By-Laws,
- b) Hand over all Club files and any other Club property to the incoming Executive by the end of the fiscal year. This material to be complete and up to date.

8. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE

The procedure for electing the Executive will be as follows:

- a) Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the March and April regular meetings. The nominee must consent to the nomination.
- b) Elections will be held after nominations close in the April meeting.
- c) If Executive positions remain vacant, they may be filled by the newly elected officers, by majority vote, and ratified by the members present at the next regular meeting.
- d) The incoming Executive shall assume office at the start of the next fiscal year (July 1).

9. CLUB LIABILITY

The Club shall have no liability toward its members nor their personal property. Any person accepting membership in the Club waives all liability on the part of the Club toward his person and/or property.

10. MEETINGS

Meetings shall be held as set forth in the By-Laws.

11. QUORUM

One quarter of the members within this Club shall constitute a quorum for the handling of business at any business meeting.

12. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

This constitution may be amended at any time at a regular business meeting of the Club.

Notice of the proposed amendment must be made in the form of a motion and in written form at a regular business meeting.

A notice must be published in *The Lantern* that a change or addition is to be considered at the next meeting. This notice shall include the wording of the proposed amendment.

Voting on the proposed amendment shall be held at the next regular meeting.

A two-thirds majority of the members who are present shall be required to amend this constitution.

By-Laws

1. GENERAL

The purpose of the By-Laws is to lay down rules by which the business of the Club shall be conducted.

2. AMENDING THE BY-LAWS

By-Laws shall be amended in the same way as the Constitution.

3. ELECTION OF MEMBERS

Application for membership must be filled out and turned in to the Treasurer. The Executive may choose to deny membership.

4. MEMBERSHIP FORM

All members are required to fill out a membership form annually to help the Executive keep the

Club records and the handbook up to date. The form must be submitted to the Treasurer, accompanied by payment of the correct dues.

5. VOTING

Any member in good standing may vote.

6. REGULAR MEETINGS

The Club will hold a regular meeting on the second Friday of each month from September through April to conduct Club business, unless the date and/or location has been changed by a motion at a previous meeting or by extenuating circumstances. The date, time, and place of each meeting must be published in *The Lantern*.

7. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting shall be held in May. Prior notice of the date, time, and location shall be published in *The Lantern*.

8. ANNUAL CONTESTS

The Club shall hold annually a model building contest and a photo contest to be held on a day following the April regular meeting and preceding the May annual general meeting. The contest will be governed by the Contest Rules as printed in the current issue of the Club Handbook. Any changes to the rules shall be approved by the membership.

9. CLUB ACCOUNT

The Club monies will be kept on deposit at any bank or credit union convenient to the Treasurer, with the approval of the Executive.

10. CASH ON HAND

The Treasurer shall maintain a reasonable amount of cash suitable for the immediate needs of upcoming Club meetings and events. All excess cash should be deposited in the club account.

11. WITHDRAWALS

- a. Any withdrawals or cheques must be signed by two of the Treasurer, the President, or the Secretary.
- b. Prior to the first Executive meeting of a new Executive, the incoming and outgoing President, Secretary, and Treasurer, are to fill in the appropriate bank forms to authorize full use of the account by the new Executive.

12. ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

- a. The fiscal year shall be July 1st to June 30th.
- b. A final financial report shall be submitted to the Executive prior to the end of the fiscal year. The Executive may request full details of transactions, receipts, and expenses as they see fit.

13. BUDGET

- a. A budget shall be prepared by the Executive for approval at the September regular meeting each year. It shall be printed in *The Lantern* prior to the meeting.
- b. Notice of proposed revisions to the budget shall be printed in *The Lantern* and voted on at the following meeting.
- c. Spending for each expense budget line may be exceed by up to 10% for good reasons. The Executive may approve over-expenditure of up to 20%. Greater over-expenditures must be approved by a vote on the members at a regular meeting.

14. RESERVE FUND

- a. The Club will maintain a Reserve Fund (RF) (formerly known as the Capital Assets Purchase Fund).
- b. Withdrawals from the RF must be approved by a vote of the membership, and withdrawals or cheques must be signed by two of the Treasurer, the President, or the Secretary.

- c. The Executive will be responsible for the prudent investment of the RF monies, in interest bearing instruments and/or the interest bearing accounts of a recognized financial institution, with the total balance of the Fund monies available to the Club within 60 days of a motion by the Club membership for an expenditure of these funds.
- d. Notice of any proposed expenditures from the Fund must be made at a regular business meeting, published in *The Lantern* and a vote taken at the following meeting. A two-thirds majority of the members eligible to vote who are present shall be required to disburse Capital Assets Purchase Fund monies.