

# **INLAND NORTHWEST FREETHOUGHT SOCIETY**

**Bylaws.** Adopted January, 2003 and amended June 12, 2011

## **Article I. Name**

The name of this chapter is the Inland Northwest Freethought Society, hereinafter referred to as INFS.

## **Article II. Purpose**

INFS operates as a local chapter of the Freedom From Religion Foundation (FFRF), and is supportive of FFRF's two primary objectives; promote the principle of separation of church and state and, promote nontheistic views. INFS provides regular settings where area FFRF members and associate nontheist can meet, socialize, etc.

## **Article III. Membership**

Section 1. Membership in the Freedom From Religion Foundation is a prerequisite to membership in the INFS along with an explicit, stated desire to be considered a member of the INFS.

Section 2. An INFS member will be regarded as being "in good standing", with full voting rights and membership privileges, as long as he/she is also current on dues AND a member in good standing with FFRF on or about each December 31<sup>st</sup>. Such status will be confirmed with the INFS chapter's annual report and associated correspondence with FFRF staff (Madison, WI).

Section 3. No member of the INFS shall initiate any activity in the name of the INFS not clearly consistent with its aims and purposes. In cases in which the nature of the activity is not clearly in accordance with the aims and purposes of the INFS, determination as to the activity's suitability will be made by the membership.

Section 4. To protect confidentiality, the INFS membership list with complete contact information will be maintained exclusively for use by AND amongst INFS members and, if necessary, FFRF.

## **Article IV. Officers and Terms**

Section 1. INFS officers shall be elected for a term of two (2) years in accordance with the procedures set forth in Article V.

Section 2. The three offices within the INFS are: President, Vice President, and Secretary Treasurer.

Section 3. If the president is unable to complete his/her term, then the vice president shall assume the office and duties for the remainder of the term. If the vice president or secretary-treasurer is unable to complete his/her term, then the president shall appoint an interim vice president or secretary-treasurer for the balance of the term.

#### **Article V. Election and Voting Procedures**

Section 1. Nominations for INFS offices will take place in odd numbered years at the January meeting. Members must be present to nominate and/or second the nomination of a candidate. A list of nominees will be emailed (or mailed) to all members before February 1<sup>st</sup>.

Section 2. Elections for INFS officers will be held at the February meeting. Voting will be by secret ballot. Members unable to attend the February meeting may vote by mail (mailed ballots must be received by the designated election coordinator prior to the February meeting). This provision may be waived if all three offices are uncontested.

Section 3. Officers-elect will assume their official duties effective March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Section 4. For all INFS matters requiring a vote by the membership at any given meeting, a quorum must be present. Thirteen (13) INFS members in good standing shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5. There shall be one vote per individual member.