

Bylaws

§ 1 Name and Location of the Club, Fiscal Year

- (1) The club is named "**Freundschaftskreis des IVW**". It shall be registered in the register of associations and will then carry the suffix "e.V."
- (2) The club is based in Kaiserslautern.
- (3) The fiscal year is the calendar year.

§ 2 Purpose, Non-profit Status of the Club

- (1) The club, based in Kaiserslautern, pursues exclusively and directly charitable purposes within the meaning of the section "Tax-privileged purposes" of the German Fiscal Code.
- (2) The purpose of the club is to promote and support the Leibniz Institute for Composite Materials GmbH (IVW) in its field of activity and in fulfilling its tasks. This includes in particular:
 - Promotion of research and teaching,
 - Awarding of prizes for special achievements,
 - Support for the active and former employees of IVW and their connection with each other and with the public,
 - Public relations,
 - Promotion of socio-cultural integration (welcoming culture),
 - Support of cultural events.
- (3) The club acts selflessly; it does not primarily pursue its own economic purposes.
- (4) The funds of the club may only be used for the statutory purposes. Members do not receive any grants from the funds of the club.
- (5) No person may be favored by expenditures that are foreign to the purpose of the club or by disproportionately high remunerations.

§ 3 Acquisition of Membership

- (1) Any natural or legal person can become a member of the association.
- (2) Admission to the club must be applied for in writing to the board. For minors, the application for admission must be made by the legal representatives. The board decides on the admission application at its discretion. A rejection of the application does not need to be justified to the applicant.
- (3) On the proposal of the board, the general meeting can appoint members or other persons who have rendered outstanding services to the club as honorary members for life.

§ 4 Termination of Membership

- (1) Membership in the club ends by death (for legal entities with their dissolution), withdrawal, or exclusion.
- (2) Withdrawal must be declared in writing to the board. Withdrawal can only be declared with a notice period of three months to the end of the fiscal year.
- (3) A member can be excluded from the club by resolution of the general meeting if it a) culpably harms the reputation or interests of the club in a serious way or b) is more than three months in arrears with the payment of membership fees despite a written reminder under threat of exclusion. The member must be given the opportunity to comment on the reasons for the exclusion at the general meeting. These must be communicated to him at least two weeks in advance.

§ 5 Rights and Duties of Members

- (1) Every member has the right to use the facilities of the club and to participate in its events. Each member has equal voting and election rights in the general meeting.
- (2) Every member has the duty to promote the interests of the club, in particular to regularly pay their membership fees and, as far as it is within their power, to support the club's life through their cooperation.

§ 6 Membership Fees

- (1) Each member must pay an annual membership fee in advance.
- (2) The amount of the membership fees is determined by the general meeting.
- (3) Honorary members are exempt from membership fees.

§ 7 Organs of the Club

The organs of the club are the board and the general meeting.

§ 8 Board

- (1) The board consists of the chairperson, the deputy chairperson, and the treasurer.
- (2) The board members represent the club individually.
- (3) The board can be supported by additional persons elected by the general meeting (associates), who, for example, assist in the areas of culture, contacts, secretary, merchandising, and press.

§ 9 Duties of the Board

The board is responsible for representing the club according to § 26 BGB and managing its affairs. It has the following tasks in particular:

- a) Convening and preparing general meetings, including setting the agenda,
- b) Implementing resolutions of the general meeting,
- c) Managing the club's assets and preparing the annual report,
- d) Admitting new members.

§ 10 Election of the Board

- (1) The board members are elected individually by the general meeting for a term of four years and may be re-elected for one further term.
- (2) Associates are elected for three years. Membership in the association ends with membership on the board. Re-election or early removal of a member by the general meeting is permissible. A member remains in office after the end of the regular term until a successor is elected.
- (3) If a member leaves the board prematurely, the remaining board members are entitled to elect a member of the club to the board until the general meeting elects a successor.

§ 11 Board Meetings and Resolutions

- (1) The board meets as required. Meetings are convened by the chairperson, in their absence by the deputy chairperson. A notice period of one week should be observed. The board is quorate if at least two members are present. Resolutions are passed by a majority of the valid votes cast. In the event of a tie, the chairperson's vote decides, in their absence the deputy chairperson's vote.

- (2) The resolutions of the board must be recorded. The minutes must be signed by the person taking the minutes and the chairperson, in their absence by the deputy chairperson or another board member.

§ 12 Duties of the General Meeting

The general meeting is responsible for decisions on the following matters:

- a) Amendments to the bylaws,
- b) Determination of membership fees,
- c) Appointment of honorary members and exclusion of members from the association,
- d) Election and removal of board members,
- e) Election and removal of associates,
- f) Receipt of the annual report and discharge of the board,
- g) Dissolution of the association.

§ 13 Convening the General Meeting

- (1) At least once a calendar year, the board must convene an ordinary general meeting. The convening must be in writing, observing a notice period of four weeks and specifying the agenda.
- (2) The agenda is set by the board. Any association member can request a supplement to the agenda in writing to the board up to one week before the general meeting. The board decides on the request. The general meeting decides on requests to the agenda that were not included by the board or were first made at the general meeting by a majority of the votes of the members present; this does not apply to requests for amendments to the bylaws, changes in membership fees, or the dissolution of the association.
- (3) The board must convene an extraordinary general meeting if the club's interest requires it or if at least one-tenth of the members request it in writing, stating the purpose and reasons.

§ 14 Resolutions of the General Meeting

- (1) The general meeting is chaired by the chairperson of the board, in their absence by the deputy chairperson, and in their absence by a chairperson elected by the general meeting.
- (2) The general meeting is quorate if all or at least 12 members are present. In the event of non-quorate, the board is obliged to convene a second general meeting with the same agenda within four weeks. This meeting is quorate regardless of the number of members present. This must be indicated in the invitation.
- (3) The general meeting passes resolutions by open vote with the majority of the votes of the members present. If no candidates receive the absolute majority of the votes of the members present in the election, the candidate who receives the majority of the valid votes cast is elected; a runoff vote must be held between multiple candidates. In the event of a tie in the runoff vote, the chairperson's vote decides, in their absence the deputy chairperson's vote, in their absence the meeting chairperson's vote. Resolutions on amendments to the bylaws require a three-quarters majority, resolutions on changes to the purpose or dissolution of the association require the approval of nine-tenths of the members present.
- (4) The proceedings of the general meeting and the resolutions passed must be recorded in minutes, which must be signed by the person taking the minutes and the meeting chairperson.

§ 15 Dissolution of the Association, Termination for Other Reasons, Loss of Tax-privileged Purposes

- (1) In the event of the club's dissolution, the chairperson and their deputy are jointly authorized liquidators, unless the general meeting appoints other persons.
- (2) Upon dissolution or annulment of the club or loss of tax-privileged purposes, the club's assets fall to the Leibniz Institute for Composite Materials GmbH (IVW).
- (3) The above provisions apply accordingly if the club loses its legal capacity.

Kaiserslautern, 15.12.2023

Dr. Andreas Liebetrau (chairperson)

Dr. Robert Lahr (Secretary)