

CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

- I. The name of this organization shall be the National Speleological Society.
- II. The purpose of this Society shall be to promote interest in and to advance in any and all ways the study and science of speleology, the protection of caves and their natural contents, and to promote fellowship among those interested therein.
- III. The government of this Society shall be by a Board of Governors which shall have full power to conduct and supervise all business of the Society, draft and adopt the Bylaws of the Society, make changes therein, appoint officers for the Society, and perform all other functions incident to the proper conduct of the Society.
- IV. The life of the Society shall be perpetual or until terminated by a majority vote of the membership upon recommendation of the Board of Governors.
- V. Membership in this Society shall be open to any persons who are interested in speleology and have complied with conditions of membership set forth in the Bylaws.
- VI. Charter members of this Society shall be all members of the Speleological Society of the District of Columbia as of January 1, 1941, and all members of any other society, whose main purpose is the study of speleology or exploration of caves, which gives notice in writing to the Board of Governors of the Speleological Society of the District of Columbia prior to January 1, 1941, that its membership desires to be included in this organization.
- VII. The first Board of Governors shall be composed of the members of the Board of Governors of the Speleological Society of the District of Columbia, together with the officers of any other organization complying with the provisions of Article VI of this Constitution.
- VIII. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by either the Board of Governors or by petition of five percent of the regular or higher membership of the Society. Proposed amendments will be mailed to all regular or higher members of the Society. Amendments will be adopted by a two-thirds favorable vote of all ballots returned within ninety days of the mailing.
- IX. The organization of this Society shall be under Title 5, Chapter 5, of the Code of the District of Columbia, and shall become effective as of January 1, 1941.

Amended, June 1972