



**Stuttgart
Community
Spouses'
Club**

CONSTITUTION

2021 - 2022

STUTTGART COMMUNITY SPOUSES' CLUB CONSTITUTION

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ARTICLE I NAME, LOCATION AND AUTHORITY

The Stuttgart Community Spouses' Club (SCSC) located in Stuttgart, Germany shall operate under the jurisdiction of the approval authority, which is the Commander, U.S. Army Garrison (USAG) Stuttgart, Unit 30401, APO AE 09107-0401, hereinafter referred to as the approval authority.

ARTICLE II MANDATORY STATEMENTS

Section 1: This organization is established in accordance with Army Reg (AR) 210-22 and Army in Europe Regulation (AER) 210-22, Private Organization and Fundraising Policy, as mandated by IMCOM-Europe. The organization is not an instrumentality of the United States, will be self-sustaining, and may not receive financial assistance from the U.S. Army, appropriated (APF) or non-appropriated funds (NAF).

Section 2: This organization operates and exists on a military installation only with the consent of the approval authority. This consent is contingent upon the SCSC's compliance with the requirements and conditions of AR 210-22 and AER 210-22. Failure to comply with cited policies will result in dissolution of the Private Organization (PO).

Section 3: In no event will the Department of the Army, IMCOM-Europe, or any NAFI assume any responsibility for the organization's actions and/or debts.

Section 4: In accordance with host nation laws, all members may be personally liable to creditors if the assets of the organization are insufficient to discharge liabilities.

Section 5: This organization will not discriminate in membership on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, mental or physical handicap, gender, gender expression, or age, and will not seek to deprive individuals of their civil rights.

Section 6: SCSC will neither propagate extremist activities nor advocate violence against others or the violent overthrow of the U.S. Government.

Section 7: SCSC agrees to reimburse the Army for utility expenses and other expenses incurred by the organization, unless use is incidental (would cost the Army more to bill and collect than it costs to provide the utility).

Section 8: All members are required to read the Constitution and Bylaws upon joining the SCSC. The Constitution and Bylaws will be posted in the Thrift Shop and on the website.

ARTICLE III PURPOSE

Section 1: The purpose of the SCSC will be to promote charitable, educational, social, and recreational activities among its members and the Stuttgart community. This will be achieved through such activities as fundraisers, contributions to charitable organizations, social functions and special interest groups for club members.

Section 2: The SCSC will not engage in activities that compete with those of any appropriated or non-appropriated fund activities.

ARTICLE IV ACTIVITIES AND FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Section 1: The SCSC will sponsor and support activities to foster friendship and community among members, these activities may be educational, recreational or social in nature. These activities are based on the General Membership's interest, with SCSC Governing Board approval. The charitable activities supported by the SCSC may include charitable organizations, private organizations and other special activities.

Section 2: The organization will operate the SCSC Thrift Shop, with USAG Stuttgart support, primarily to raise charitable funds. The organization will also conduct Ways & Means sales.

Section 3: The PO is aware of the USAG Stuttgart Command Policy Letter # 14, Private Organizations, and AER210-22, 13 August 2010, and will conduct all fundraisers accordingly.

Section 4: The SCSC's activities are directed towards supporting quality of life within the community and raising funds for charitable purposes.

Section 5: The SCSC's activities are primarily conducted on-post.

ARTICLE V MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Membership will be restricted to persons located in the USAG Stuttgart Area. At least 51% of the membership of the PO will be members of the U.S. Forces, the DoD civilian component, family members, retirees, and U.S. Forces contract employees or employees of organizations granted status under Article 71, 72 or 73 of the supplementary Agreement to the NATO Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) (collectively referred to as members with

SOFA status).

Section 2: Membership of the Club will consist of Active, Associate and Honorary Members.

a. Active Members will consist of:

(1) Members of the U.S. Forces (active and retired), assigned or living in the USAG Stuttgart area as well as their spouses and dependents over the age of 18 who are ID Card Holders.

(2) Civilians (DoD employees) who are ID Card Holders and employees of the U.S. Forces or the U.S. Department of Defense in the USAG Stuttgart area as well as their spouses and dependents over the age of 18 who are ID Card Holders

(3) Other civilians who are ID Card Holders, and employees of organizations who are under contracts with the U.S. Forces or the DoD in the USAG Stuttgart area as well as their spouses and dependents over the age of 18 who are ID Card Holders.

b. Associate Members will consist of civilians holding U.S. passports who are not ID Card Holders.

c. Honorary Members of the Club will be the spouse of the Commander, United States European Command (hereinafter "EUCOM"); the spouse of the Commander, United States Africa Command (hereinafter AFRICOM); the spouse of the Deputy Commander, EUCOM; the spouse of the Deputy Commander, AFRICOM; and others as determined by the Governing Board.

Section 3: Membership in the SCSC is required for participation in all Member Programs and advertised members-only functions, and to serve on the SCSC Governing Board or any of its committees, to include all committee members.

a. Application for membership will be made by completing the membership form and the payment of dues by Active and Associate Members. Honorary Members must fill out a membership application but are not required to pay dues, although they may choose to do so. Membership fees are due upon application for membership.

b. Withdrawal from the SCSC is voluntary. Membership fees may be refundable upon withdrawal from the Club under the conditions and circumstances listed in the SCSC Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI COMPOSITION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

Section 1: The Governing Board will consist of the Executive Board, Standing Committee Chairs,

Honorary Officers, and Advisors. The complete duties of each officer are listed in the Bylaws.

a. Executive Board - The Executive Board will be the President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Third Vice President, Recording Secretary, Information Management Officer, Operations Treasurer, Welfare Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Honorary President and Honorary Vice Presidents. All Executive Board members must be Active Members of the SCSC and must be ID Card Holders (as defined in Article V, Sections 1 and 3). The Parliamentarian, Honorary President and Honorary Vice Presidents are non-voting members of the Executive Board.

b. Standing Committee Chairs - The Standing Committee Chairs may include but, are not limited to, Community Enhancement, Hospitality, Member Programs, Membership/Reservations, Scholarships, Special Interest Groups, Thrift Shop Chair, Ways and Means, Welfare, and Webmaster. All Standing Committee Chairs must be Active Members and must be ID Card Holders (as defined in Article V, Sections 1 and 3). Co-Chairs for any Standing Committee may be appointed by the President, as necessary.

c. Honorary Officers & Advisors: The spouse of the senior ranking military officer in the Stuttgart military community, will be the Honorary President of the SCSC. The Honorary President serves as an advisor to the President and the Parliamentarian. The Honorary President may appoint a designee in his or her stead. The Honorary President will appoint Honorary Vice Presidents, who are spouses of the next senior ranking military officers, one from AFRICOM and one from EUCOM. The Honorary President may also appoint additional Advisors, to include Advisors-at-Large, and Advisors to committees, which may include the Community Enhancement, Scholarship, Thrift Shop, and Welfare Committees, as he or she deems necessary. Honorary Officers and Advisors are non-voting members of the Governing Board.

Section 2: All General Board members agree not to disparage or denigrate the SCSC or its Board Members orally or in writing, nor publish, post, or otherwise release any such material in written or electronic format.

ARTICLE VII ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1: Election of the Executive Board is held annually at the General Membership Meeting in April.

Section 2: A quorum is equal to the number of members present at the April General Membership meeting.

Section 3: The election of the Executive Board will be decided by a simple majority of fifty-one (51 %) percent of the votes received to include those present. If a single slate of officers is presented, it may be approved by acclamation.

Section 4 The President will fill any Executive Board vacancies with the approval of the Executive Board with the exception of the office of President. The First Vice President will assume the Presidency if it is vacated.

Section 5: Appointment of Advisors and Honorary officers will be in accordance with Article VI, Section 1(c).

Section 6: The progression of authority is President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Third Vice President, Operations Treasurer, Welfare Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Information Management Officer.

ARTICLE VIII DISSOLUTION

Section 1: Dissolution of the SCSC may be accomplished by a majority vote of the General Membership present at a regular or special meeting or by order of the approval authority.

Section 2: Upon dissolution of the organization, all material and real assets remaining after payment of all liabilities will be donated to Army Emergency Relief.

Section 3: The Garrison PO Coordinator will be notified of the dissolution. Notice will include:

- a. A statement of dissolution, dated and signed by the SCSC President.
- b. A copy of the complete terminal audit report.
- c. A copy of the receipt(s) issued by the charitable organizations to which residual assets were transferred.
- d. A copy of the final bank statement(s) showing a zero balance.

ARTICLE IX AMENDMENT

Section 1: Constitution - Proposed amendments to the Constitution made throughout the year will first be presented in writing to the SCSC Governing Board and, if approved, a copy of the proposed amendment(s) will be posted at the SCSC Thrift Shop for a period of not less than fourteen (14) days before the General Membership meeting to be voted upon. Enactment of amendments to this Constitution will be by majority vote of voting members present. The letter reporting amendments will be signed by the President, either First or Second Vice President, the Recording Secretary, and the Parliamentarian and forwarded to USAG Stuttgart. Proposed amendments will not conflict with AR 210-22 or AER Regulation 210-22.

Section 2: Bylaws - Changes and additions to the Bylaws may be made by a majority vote of the SCSC Governing Board and presented at the next General Membership meeting. The letter reporting changes and additions will be signed by the President, the First or Second Vice President, the Recording Secretary and the Parliamentarian and forwarded to the USAG Stuttgart. Proposed changes and additions will not conflict with AR 210-22 or AER 210-22. The approval authority can revoke the Private Organizations operating authority at any time.

Section 3: Biennial Constitution and Bylaws Review Committee. The committee shall be chaired by the Parliamentarian and its membership shall include the Honorary President or designee, two (2) Executive Board members, two (2) Governing Board members and two (2) members at large members and anyone the Parliamentarian deems necessary. The Committee will present suggested Bylaw revisions to the Governing Board and Constitution revisions to the General Membership for approval.

Section 4: In the event that a vote is necessary between General Membership meetings, an electronic vote will be taken. The motion requires a majority of the electronic responses collected within a seven (7) day period to pass.

ARTICLE X RATIFICATION

Pursuant to the Constitution, Article IX, Section 1, this Constitution was approved by the Governing Board on April 6, 2021 and by a majority vote of the General Membership on April 23, 2021.

Changes do not conflict with any pertinent regulations.

Signed and Dated

President

First or Second Vice President

Recording Secretary

Parliamentarian

Submitted by
Parliamentarian _____
Date