

# ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE WISCONSIN CHEESE MAKERS' ASSOCIATION

Incorporated February 2, 1899

---

## Article I

The undersigned have associated and do hereby associate themselves together for the purpose of forming a corporation under Chapter 86 of the Wisconsin Statutes of 1898 and the acts amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto, the business, purpose and object of which corporation shall be the education of its members for better work in the art of making cheese, the care and management of factories, the sale of their products and the weeding out of incompetency in the business of cheese making; the further object of the corporation is to demand a thorough revision and rigid enforcement of such laws as will protect the manufacture of honest dairy products against undue competition from deceitful and dangerous imitations; and to unite the rank and file of its members in instituting a regular crusade against the unjust practice of pooling milk at cheese factories by weight, without regard to the butter fat which it contains.

A further aim is to unite the 2000 or more cheese makers, and all associations of cheese makers in Wisconsin under a state wide plan for united action, on all state wide problems affecting cheese makers. (Adopted 1931.)

## Article II

This corporation shall be known as the "Wisconsin Cheese Makers' Association," and its principal office and location at Madison, Wisconsin.

## Article III

The association shall be a corporation without capital stock.

*Active Membership.* Any cheese maker, past or present, in Wisconsin, but not a helper, may become an active member in this association, with the right to vote and speak in all association meetings, and to receive legislative bills, annual reports, etc., by paying the annual membership fee of \$2.00 in advance to the secretary of the association, for the current calendar year. (Adopted 1931.)

## Associate Membership

Any other person, not eligible to become an active member may become an associate member of this association, with the right to receive legislative bills, annual reports, etc., and to attend all meet-

ings of the association, but not to vote or speak, by paying in advance the annual membership fee of \$2.00 to the association secretary for the current calendar year. (Adopted 1931.)

#### Subscribing Memberships

Any other person, such as a farmer, or butter maker but not a cheese maker, may become a subscribing member, to receive legislative cheese bills, etc., but not to attend state association meetings, by payment of \$1.00 for the current calendar year, in advance to the association secretary. (Adopted 1931.)

#### Article IV

*Section 1.* The general officers of said association shall consist of a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, and the board of directors shall consist of three members of the association.

*Section 2.* The term of the officers of the association shall be one year, or until their successors are elected at the next annual meeting following their election, and until such successors qualify. At the first meeting of the members of the association there shall be elected a director for the term of one year, a director for the term of two years, and a director for the term of three years, and thereafter there shall be elected at each annual meeting a director for the term of three years, and each director shall hold his office until his successor is elected and qualifies. The election of officers and directors shall be by ballot, except in case of a single nominee, when election by acclamation may be substituted. A majority of all the votes cast shall decide an election.

#### Article V

*Section 1.* The principal duties of the president shall be to preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and of the members of the association during his term of office. He shall appoint special committees and sign all orders drawn on the treasurer. He shall appoint a committee on resolutions and a program committee. He shall also provide for suitable medals at the expense of the association.

*Section 2.* The vice-president shall assume the duties of the president in the latter's absence.

*Section 3.* The principal duties of the secretary of this association shall be to keep a complete and accurate record of the proceedings of the Board of Directors and of the association and to attend all meetings, keep a correct account of the finances received, pay all moneys into the hands of the treasurer and receive his receipt therefor, and to countersign all orders for moneys drawn upon the treasurer. He shall keep a record book and suitable blanks for his office. He shall make a full and complete report at each annual meeting of the correct state of the finances and standing of the association. He shall also procure certificates of membership, and every person joining the association shall receive one signed by the president and countersigned by the secretary.

*Section 4.* The principal duties of the treasurer shall be faithfully to care for all moneys entrusted to his keeping, paying out the same only on receipt of an order signed by the president and countersigned by the secretary. He shall file with the secretary of the association all bonds required by the articles of incorporation or the by-laws. He shall make at the annual meeting a detailed statement of the finances of the corporation. He must keep a regular book account, and his books shall be open to inspection at any time by any member of the association.

*Section 5.* The Board of Directors shall be the executive committee and shall audit the accounts of the secretary and treasurer, and present a report of the same at the annual meeting; executive committee shall procure a place to hold the meeting and make arrangements for reception committees, hotel rates, halls, and all necessary preliminary arrangements for each and every meeting.

*Section 6.* The committee on program shall make all arrangements for the proper working of the conventions, assigning all subjects, arranging for speakers, and make the division of time allowed to the discussion of each topic, to determine upon the time for the election of officers, conducting business meetings, and any other matters that may properly come under this division.

*Section 7.* The committee on resolutions shall draw up such resolutions as the exigencies of the time may require and which shall express the sense of the association.

*Section 8.* The said officers shall perform such additional or different duties as shall from time to time be imposed or required by the members of the corporation in annual meeting, or by the Board of Directors or as may be prescribed from time to time by the by-laws, and any of the duties and powers of the officers may be performed or exercised by such other officers or officer, or such other person or committee as the corporation or Board of Directors may authorize.

#### Article VI

The treasurer of the corporation shall give a bond in the sum of one thousand dollars with two sureties, for the faithful performance of his duties.

#### Article VII

These articles may be altered or amended at any regular session of an annual meeting of the members, provided the proposed alterations or amendments shall have been read before the association at least twenty-four hours previously, and provided also that such alterations or amendments shall receive a two-thirds vote of the members present.

#### Article VIII

The first meeting of this association for the election of officers and directors shall be held on the 3rd day of February, 1901, and such corporation shall hold a meeting of its members annually during each calendar year at such time as may be determined by the Board of Directors.

**Article IX**

(Adopted 1931)

*Section 1.* To promote united action by all cheese makers and associations within the state, any organized association may become a branch of this Wisconsin Cheese Makers' Association, by a two-thirds vote of its paid up membership at any of its regular meetings, and report the vote to the state association secretary. Each such branch shall aid in the state wide work of this association as required by these articles and by-laws, but each branch shall be independent and self-governing in all of its own local affairs and business.

*Section 2.* It shall be the duty of the state association, through its officers and members, to promote and aid in the organization of new branches, local and district in all parts of the state where none exist.

**Amendments Adopted**

(See Annual Reports)

(1) The secretary shall qualify for office by filing with the president a satisfactory bond in the sum of \$4000, at the expense of the Association. (See 1929 Annual Report, page 90.)

(2) The Board of Directors shall consist of five members instead of three. (1925, page 61.)

(3) Persons who in the future are found guilty of repeatedly violating our state laws shall be barred from membership in this Association. (1920, page 98.)

(4) Rule on the financing of new projects. Appropriations of association funds shall not be made by the convention, unless means for raising the necessary funds are also provided at the same time, but new projects requiring expenditures shall be referred to the Board of Directors in the form of recommendations. (1921, page 71.)

(5) New score card to be used. (1921, page 136.)

(6) License numbers of the maker and the factory shall appear upon all entry blanks of exhibits for prizes. (1911, page 104.)

(7) Prizes for cheese exhibits shall be awarded to the makers of the cheese only, and the maker's name must appear on each entry blank. (1907, page 148; 1908, page 232.)

(8) Pro-rata premium fund established. (1907, page 149; 1908, page 231.)

(9) Hereafter, Class 1 of the prize exhibits shall be American cheese made before September 1. Class 2 shall consist of all styles American cheese made during September and October. Class 3 shall consist of all styles American cheese made during November and December of the same year. Class 4 shall consist of Colby type cheese. (1922, page 17; 1923, page 78.)

Further slight changes in the exhibit rules have been made from year to year, as conditions required, at the direction and with the approval of the Board of Directors. (See entry blank used in 1929.)

(10) A half day's session of the convention shall be set apart for discussions by licensed cheese makers only. (1926, page 58.)