

DEVELOPING BYLAWS

A proposed chapter or chapter affiliate must develop bylaws. A sample of PWSA (USA) bylaws has been included in Appendix B. PWSA (USA) encourages chapters to consult with legal council if desired. The articles of PWSA (USA)'s bylaws are briefly summarized below:

Article I contains:

- The official name of the chapter.
PWSA (USA) recommends but does not require the following:
Prader-Willi Syndrome Association of _____, Inc. (fill in the blank with the area, state or region).
- **If the chapter's name begins with PW, it can be easily found in the future when a telephone listing is obtained.

Article II contains but is not limited to:

- The purposes of the chapter, which should include the following statements:
 1. "Further the mission and programs of PWSA (USA)";
 2. "Protect and promote the best interest of persons with PWS";
 3. "Member, public, and professional education and information";
 4. "Develop services for persons with PWS and their families"; and
 5. "This organization does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, nationality or gender."

Article III contains:

- Geographical boundaries of chapter. (Establish the chapter's geographical boundaries name.) You may choose to establish a local, state, or regional chapter.
- Primary mailing address.

Article IV contains:

- Membership requirements and dues.

Article V Contains:

- Officers' duties and responsibilities;
- Terms of office; it is recommended that:
 - Directors and officers should serve for a term of one or two years;
 - The President and Vice President -- no more than two consecutive terms.
- Election and replacement procedures;