

The Fish House Fish & Game Club, Inc.

Incorporated April 7, 1976

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization is The Fish House Fish & Game Club, Inc. ('The Club')

ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES

- 1.** To promote interest in hunting, trap shooting, skeet shooting, rifle shooting, pistol shooting, archery, fishing, casting, boating, and other lawful outdoor sports.
- 2.** To aid in the protection of fish, birds, and game.
- 3.** To provide shooting matches among its own members and other members of similarly constituted organizations for the benefit, enjoyment, and well-being of its members.
- 4.** To establish & own skeet, trap, archery, and rifle ranges & the necessary equipment for them.
- 5.** To purchase or lease, and to maintain and operate buildings, clubhouses, or other structures incidental to the above purposes, and to sell, lease, mortgage or otherwise dispose of the same.
- 6.** To promote and encourage its members, and the general public, in the principles of safety in the use of firearms.
- 7.** To encourage and promote reforestation and sound principles of conservation.
- 8.** To encourage and promote any other act or thing incidental to or connected with the fore-going purposes, or in advancement thereof, but not for pecuniary profit or financial gain of its members, directors, or officers except as permitted under Article 5 of the Not-For-Profit Corporation Law.
- 9.** Alone, or in cooperation with other persons or organizations, to do any and all lawful acts and things which may be necessary, useful, suitable, or proper for the furtherance, accomplishment or attainment of any or all of the purposes or powers of the corporation.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

1. Eligibility.

- a. Any citizen of the United States, who is at least sixteen years of age, and sponsored by a member who has been in the Club for at least one year, may file a written application on a form provided by the Membership Committee.
- b. Members should sponsor only those whom they believe will follow the rules of the club and always conduct themselves in a responsible and courteous fashion.
- c. A non-refundable application fee proposed by the Board and approved by the membership must accompany each application.
- d. An applicant will become a member upon approval of the Membership Committee, completion of the orientation, payment of the application fee and first year's dues, and a vote by membership.

2. Dues.

- a. Annual dues are proposed by the Board and approved by the membership, to be paid on or before October 1. Payment is the responsibility of the member. Renewal notices are not sent. If not paid by October 1 the member is dropped.
- b. A dropped member may apply for reinstatement by paying the dues and a \$25 late fee. After October 1 of the following year the person must reapply.
- c. Reinstatements are not guaranteed as the Club may be at its member limit and applicants on the waiting list are given priority.

3. Youths aged five to fifteen are eligible for Junior Membership. They must be sponsored by an adult member in good standing who shall assume responsibility for the conduct of such Junior Member. Junior Members are not voting members and do not count toward the member limit. Junior members become full members on their 16th birthday without regard to the member limit and pay dues starting with the October 1 following their 16th birthday. The application fee for Junior Members is each \$5.

4. Military Active Duty. Dues are waived for the time a member is on active military duty, not including meetings and summer camps of Reserve and National Guard units.

5. Honorary Membership for meritorious service may be awarded to any member having at least five years of membership and nominated by the Board and confirmed by a membership vote. No dues shall be required of honorary members.

6. Member Limit. Adult membership (including Honorary and Military) is limited to 350.

7. A Waiver/Release from Liability Form must be signed and kept on file as required by insurance coverage for each member and guest upon entering Club property.

8. Discipline. All members and their guests, using the Club's ranges and other facilities, must adhere to all rules. Failure to follow these rules may result in disciplinary action at the

discretion of the Board and may result in suspension for a period determined by the Board or dismissal from the Club without refund. Restitution for any damage must be made. The action taken will depend upon the severity and consequences of the infraction, and any previous infractions. The accused member will be given the opportunity to appear in person before the Board to speak on their own behalf. A suspended member is a member not in good standing. He/she cannot access the Club or vote during the period of suspension.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

- 1. The Officers** shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer. The Officers and seven (7), separately elected Trustees, collectively are the Board of Directors (The Board). To be eligible for any position one must have been a member for at least one year. The Board may waive this requirement.

- 2. The Board** shall:
 - a. Present a budget at the Annual Meeting for approval of the members.
 - b. Decide on all disciplinary matters.
 - c. Arrange for an audit of the books, no less than annually.
 - d. Make appointments to fill vacancies in elected offices.
 - e. Approve emergency funding in accordance with Article VII, below.
 - f. Approve/disapprove organizations within the Club.
 - g. Approve/disapprove events, fundraising proposals, etc.

- 3. The President:**
 - a. Prepares agendas for and presides at all meetings, appoints all committee chairs, and reviews the work of the other officers and committees.
 - b. Is the executive head of the organization and transacts the business of the organization.
 - c. Is the second signatory on all accounts and investments so he may write checks and authorize transfers in the absence of the Treasurer.

- 4. The Vice President:**
 - a. In the absence of the President, has the same duties and powers of the President.
 - b. If the Presidency becomes vacant, shall become President unless he/she declines.

- 5. The Secretary** chairs meetings in the absence of both the President and the Vice President, takes the minutes of all meetings, and preserves the proceedings (minutes + all reports) of such, and makes them accessible to any member upon request unless they are posted on the website. When chairing a meeting he/she will appoint a secretary for the meeting.

- 6. The Treasurer:**
 - a. Collects and deposits all monies due to the Club, including dues, and keep records of the same, showing the source and type of each receipt.

- b. Pays all bills charged to the Club which are covered by the member approved budget or on approval of the President.
- c. Files tax forms.
- d. Submits a report at each meeting, showing all money collected and & the source thereof, all money paid out and the purpose for which it was paid and the balance on hand at the date of the meeting.
- e. Makes the Club's financial books open to all members.
- f. Drafts a budget for Board approval & referral for vote at the June Meeting.
- g. Preserves the records and makes accessible to the President.

7. Elections.

Nominations for office shall be held during the August and September membership meeting. An individual can only be nominated to a single office. Elections will be held at the October meeting. The term length is two years. Trustees are elected in even years and Officers in odd.

8. Vacancies. Any vacancy on the board of directors (officer or trustee) shall be filled by a majority vote at a regular meeting of the Board as soon as practical after the vacancy occurs. Those so elected shall serve until the next scheduled term election to maintain the normal election of officers in odd and trustees in even years.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

- 1. The monthly meeting of the club shall be held on the first Tuesday of each month.
- 2. Board meetings will be on the third Tuesday of each month.
- 3. In the event of bad weather or National holiday, the meeting will be held on the next Tuesday. Members will be notified by email if bad weather.
- 4. All officers and trustees are expected to regularly attend meetings. At membership meetings, 10% of the members in good standing including at least two (2) officers shall constitute a quorum to conduct the business of the club. At board meetings, three (3) officers and three (3) board members shall constitute a quorum to conduct the business of the club.
- 5. The Chair shall have no vote except to break a tie.
- 6. The President, Vice President, or Secretary must be present throughout any meeting. If the Secretary is absent, the chair will appoint a secretary for the meeting.
- 7. The Board or the President, may call a special meeting of the members or of the Board. Also, ten (10) or more members may make a written request to the President for a special meeting of the members. Such requests must specify the objective of the special meeting and must be

honored. The Secretary will give notice of all special meetings no later than five (5) days prior to the meeting.

8. Order of Business at all meetings.

1. Call to order.
2. Membership chair reports total membership (If a member meeting).
3. Establishment of a Quorum.
4. Reading of the minutes from previous meeting, unless waived by vote.
5. Officers' Reports
6. Reports of standing committees.
7. Reports of special committees.
8. Unfinished (Old) Business
9. New Business
10. Member comments.
11. Adjournment

9. No non-member shall be at any meeting except by invitation of the President.

10. Decisions at all meetings are by majority vote except as herein provided. If a tie cannot be decided by discussion and revote, the President will cast the deciding vote.

ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES

1. The President shall appoint chairs for the following standing committees. He may also create special committees to carry out specific assignments and shall appoint their chairs. All other members shall be appointed by the Chairs.

2. House which shall:

- a. Have charge of everything sold in the club house, and
- b. Keep the club house and all equipment in it clean.

3. Buildings and Grounds which shall:

- a. Maintain the buildings and property not assigned to other committees.
- b. Enforce the rule prohibiting open carry of any firearms other than on designated range areas.

4. Ways and Means develops and implements plans to raise funds to supplement the dues as necessary to maintain and improve the Club.

5. Range shall

- a. Have charge of all rifle and pistol, both indoor and outdoor.
- b. Keep the ranges in a neat, orderly, well-maintained condition.
- c. Be responsible for the supplies and equipment used on the ranges.

d. Enforce all club rules pertaining to rifles and pistols.

6. Skeet and Trap shall:

- a. Have charge of all skeet and trap activities.
- b. Keep the ranges and enclosures in a neat, orderly, and well-maintained condition.
- c. Be responsible for the supplies and equipment.
- d. Enforce all club rules pertaining to skeet and trap.

7. Archery which shall:

- a. Have charge of all archery activities, both indoor and outdoor.
- b. Keep the indoor range, target area, archery storage, and trail in an orderly, safe condition.
- c. Be responsible for the archery supplies and equipment.
- d. Enforce all club rules pertaining to archery.

8. Membership which shall:

- a. Determine whether applicants meet the qualification for membership.
- b. Issue entry “keys” and turn them off and on as necessary.
- c. Collect dues from paying members and keep an accurate, up to date membership list. including ‘phone numbers, street addresses, membership date and email addresses.

9. Publicity shall:

- a. Publicize activities the Club has either planned or held,
- b. The committee will maintain a website.

10. Bylaws will, on request, clarify any section of the bylaws, and from time to time, will make recommendations for changes to the bylaws to make them clearer or address problems, opportunities, or changing circumstances. Proposals shall initially be made to the Board which in turn will make recommendations to the members, in accordance with Article X.

11. Education shall arrange and supervise all programs pertaining to hunting, and members’ safe and legal use of firearms and archery.

12. Finance shall:

- a. Oversee all financial activities in cooperation with the Treasurer.
- b. Perform an annual audit of the club’s finances.

13. Common Responsibilities. Each committee chair shall:

- a. Write, maintain, and adhere to procedures for the daily operation of the Committee.
- b. Report the committee activities at each meeting, a written copy to the Secretary,
- c. Keep an accurate, documented accounting of all amounts received or paid, and submit a complete statement of same at every meeting.
- e. Provide timely input for the preparation of the annual budget.

- f. Deliver to the President annually an up-to-date inventory of club equipment and supplies on hand with his/her committee and, at the end of his/her term, such an inventory and all committee records to his/her successor or the President.
- g. Keep the Publicity Committee advised of the committee's activities.

ARTICLE VII – FINANCES

1. The Club will operate according to an annual budget approved by the members, and covering operations, capital improvements, and reserves.
2. The Treasurer will pay approved budgeted items as they become due.
3. The President may spend, not to exceed \$500.00 in one instance and \$1,000 in any fiscal year, to cover emergencies arising between meetings.
4. If additional emergency funds are necessary, the President can spend them with the written or verbal approval of three (3) additional board members.
5. The Board may approve up to \$1,000 in non-budgeted non-emergency expenses in any one year with no individual item to exceed \$500. Any proposal for a non-budgeted, non-emergency expense in excess of \$500 or \$1,000 in total for a year must be approved at a meeting of the members which occurs at least 25 days after notice to all members.
6. The President and Treasurer must both sign any documentation to obtain financing.

ARTICLE VIII – ORGANIZATIONS

Any organization formed by members within the club is subject to the bylaws and all rules of the club. All such organizations using any club facilities or property must submit a written description of its planned activities and a list of its members to the Secretary. Board approval is required.

ARTICLE IX - GENERAL

1. The Club communicates with its members by email, through its website and the bulletin board in the Clubhouse. For non-computer users, a copy of notices and communications such as the minutes, upcoming events, range closures, special meetings, proposed changes to the Bylaws, etc. can be obtained upon request to the Secretary.
2. All permanent physical additions on or to Club property made by members, organizations within the club or committees become property of the Club.
3. In these bylaws, "member" means member in good standing (not suspended).

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended in whole or in part by a majority of the members present at a regular meeting, provided the proposed changes have been provided to all members in advance of the regular meeting.

Any member or Committee may propose such changes. Approval of the Board is not required.

ARTICLE XI - USE OF CLUB PROPERTY

A refundable \$100 damages deposit and a \$100 donation must be paid by any member who wishes to have an event for over ten (10) people at the club. The Board may waive the deposit. At least one (1) month in advance the member must contact the Board to avoid conflicting engagements and have the Publicity chairperson post the event on the Club Calendar. The member is financially responsible for any damage incurred while using any of the club facilities or grounds over the \$100.00 deposit, apart from normal wear and tear.

ARTICLE XII – SALE OF PROPERTY

A 2/3rds vote of the members is required to sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of any Club real estate or portion thereof. The board must approve the sale, lease, or other disposition of any other Club property.

ARTICLE XIII – DISSOLUTION OF CLUB

In the event of dissolution of the Club, and sale of the buildings, grounds, and properties take place, the net proceeds after all debts have been paid shall be divided among all members in good standing on the date of dissolution, except junior members, weighted for the number of full years they have continuously been a member (less than a full year, no distribution).

Submitted to the membership on August 16, 2023, and approved by a majority vote of the members present at the meeting on September 5, 2023.

President

Secretary