

BYLAWS

Copy Date March 1989
Amended 1/11/1993
Amended 12/12/2011



20 Boynton Road
North Brookfield, MA 01535

FOREWORD

These rules and regulations are not expected to nor can they provide for every question or problem which may arise in our Club. Much must be left to the conscientious loyalty and integrity of the members as well as to their intelligence and discretion.

In matters of general conduct not within the scope of any rules, members should be true to the best instincts of law-abiding, self-respecting citizens, always mindful and jealous of the good name of the Club with which they are connected and in the upholding of the reputation of which each should feel himself an important part.

All former laws, Rules and Regulations and Amendments of this Club are hereby repealed.

Rules and Regulations cannot be made in advance that will cover every case, and from time to time Amendments necessary to govern same will be issued.

Club members are to familiarize themselves with these Rules and Regulations and keep themselves abreast of new Amendments which will be issued from time to time. Ignorance of these Rules will be no excuse in the event of any infraction and of any Punishment issued by the Board of Directors.

All Violations of these Laws, Rules and Regulations and future Amendments issued shall be subject to such admonishment as may be imposed by the Board of Directors after a hearing.

The following Laws, Rules and Regulations for the good of the order and proper functioning of the Club are hereby adopted and shall apply to all Club members except as otherwise provided.

DEFINITIONS

The word "Club" shall mean the North Brookfield Sportsmen's Clubhouse and Grounds. The words "Laws, Rules and Regulations" shall mean the Laws, Rules and Regulations issued in writing by the North Brookfield Sportsmen's Club, Inc, or Bylaws Committee.

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the North Brookfield Sportsmen's Club, Inc., in order to provide for our common interest, promote good will, good sportsmanship, show interest in legitimate sports, encourage obedience of the laws, assist in the restoration, maintenance, protection and propagation of fish and game in the Commonwealth, promote or oppose such legislation which may effect our mutual interest, promote respect for the rights of farmers and property owners, instill in the minds of all sportsmen the benefits to be derived from membership in a Sportsmen's Club that is a member of a statewide organization, do hereby adopt these Bylaws, Rules and Regulations.

The North Brookfield Sportsmen’s Club, Inc.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I.

NAME

The name of this corporation shall be The North Brookfield Sportsmen’s Club, Inc. Herein referred to as the Club.

PLACE OF BUSINESS

The principal place of business of the corporation shall be in the town of North Brookfield, Worcester County, Massachusetts.

CLUB COLORS

The Club colors shall be gold and green. A predominant field of gold with green lettering and figures.

ARTICLE II.

PURPOSE

- Section 1. To assist in restoring our fish and game resources.
- Section 2. To promote the interests of legitimate sports.
- Section 3. To promote good will and true sportsmanship
- Section 4. To encourage obedience of the law for the protection and propagation of fish and game within this state.
- Section 5. To assist in promoting or opposing such legislation as may affect our mutual interest.
- Section 6. To promote respect for the rights of farmers and property owners.
- Section 7. To instill into the minds of all sportsmen the benefits derived from membership in a sportsmen’s strong statewide organization.
- Section 8. To earn and enjoy the respect and friendship of the community.
- Section 9. To support the right of all law abiding citizens to own and use firearms for hunting, sporting, defense of self and family, and for all other purposes not inconsistent with law, including educational, training and recreational.

ARTICLE III.

OFFICERS AND HOW ELECTED

- Section 1. Officers to be elected at the ANNUAL MEETING shall be:
- a) President
 - b) Vice President
 - c) ~~Second Vice President~~ – *eliminated 1/11/1993*
 - d) Secretary (assistant to be appointed by the Secretary)
 - e) Treasurer (assistant to be appointed by the Treasurer)
 - f) Board of Directors - three or four members*

*Note Section 7.

Section 2. At the September meeting the President shall appoint five (5) members to act as a Nomination Committee, a majority of whom shall not at that time be Officers of the Club. It shall be the duty of this Committee to choose at least two (2) candidates for each office to be filled at the Annual Election and to present said nominations to the Body at the Annual Meeting, at which time nominations shall be open to the floor. Nominations shall be closed at the Annual Meeting. Nominees must be present or signify in writing at the Annual Meeting their willingness to accept the nomination and serve in this office.

Section 3. The Annual Election shall be held under Old Business at the Annual Meeting by ballot. The ballots shall be prepared by the Secretary and only members in good standing, with current dues paid prior to the Annual Meeting being called to order, shall be allowed to vote, and must show their membership card to cast a ballot. The Nomination Committee and the Club Secretary shall control the election and each member voting shall have his name checked off the roster when casting his ballot. A majority of votes is necessary to elect.

Section 4. The retiring President, providing he has served one (1) full year or more, shall serve one (1) year as a consultant to the Board of Directors without the privilege of casting a vote.

Section 5. The term of office for the President, Vice President, ~~Second Vice President~~, Secretary and Treasurer shall be for one (1) year from the Annual Meeting at which they are elected and/or until their successor has been duly elected and shall have qualified.

Section 6. The five (~~5~~) (4) officers elected at the Annual Meeting and serving for their one (1) year tenure only, together with the seven (7) elected members, shall constitute the twelve (~~12~~) (11) man board of Directors of the Club.

Section 7. The five ~~(5)~~ (4) officers being provided for, the remaining seven (7) members of the Board of Directors shall be elected each for a term of two (2) years. Tenure of office shall be so arranged that 3 or 4 members shall be elected at each Annual Meeting, to succeed the 3 or 4 members whose terms are expiring.

ARTICLE IV.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. PRESIDENT

- a) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and enforce observance of the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of the Club.
- b) The President shall not be allowed to make a motion. However, he may clarify a motion. He will not be permitted to cast a vote in any matter before the Board of Directors unless it becomes necessary to break a tie vote.
- c) The President, with the Treasurer, shall sign all contracts, notes, bonds, and certificates of indebtedness, bills of sale, deeds, mortgages and leases approved by the Club.
- d) The President shall appoint the standing committee within thirty (30) days after the Annual Meeting.
- e) The President shall appoint such other Committees as are necessary for the proper operation of the Club.
- f) The President shall appoint a Chief Range Officer who will be responsible for range safety and enforcement of range rules.

Section 2. VICE PRESIDENT

- a) Shall assist the President in the discharge of his duties and in the absence or inability (said absence or inability to be determined by the Board of Directors) of the President to perform his duties the Vice President shall assume the duties and be vested with all the powers of the Presidency.
- b) The Vice President shall take charge (after their appointment) of all committees, except membership, and be responsible to the Board of Directors for their operations and responsibilities.
- c) He shall make a quarterly report to the Board of Directors on all activities of the committees.

Section 3. **SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**

Shall assume the duties of the Vice President in the absence of the Vice President.

Section 4. **SECRETARY**

- a) Shall keep a record of the proceedings of all club Meetings and Board of Directors Meetings.
- b) ~~Shall keep a record roll of all members and post same.~~ Moved 12/12/2011
- c) Shall file all records, documents, reports and any communications connected with Club business.
- d) Shall give due notice to the members of all assessments levied for any expense over the regular dues.
- e) Shall give notice of all meetings of the Club and Board of Directors and any Special Meetings called when so instructed by the President.
- f) He shall conduct correspondence of the Club.
- g) He shall keep all books and records in such a place as directed by the Board of Directors.
- h) His books are open during regular and Board of Directors meetings.
- i) A letter of appreciation shall be sent to all members and citizens making a contribution or donation (other than chance book sales) to the club.
- j) He shall send flowers or a note of condolence in the name of the Club upon the death of any active Club member.
- k) Deposit to the Treasurer monthly all moneys collected and take a receipt thereof.
- l) In case of inability to attend any meetings, he shall cause the necessary papers and books to be conveyed to the place of the meetings.
- m) He shall oversee the Membership Committee.
- n) He shall cause to be published and posted a list Officers and Board of Directors elected at the Annual Meeting.
- o) In the absence of the President, Vice President and Second Vice President, he shall call the meeting to order and preside until a President pro tem is chosen.

- p) He shall cause to be published a “MONTHLY BULLETIN” which is to be mailed to all members before the regular monthly meetings.

Section 5. **TREASURER**

- a) He shall receive and receipt and keep account of all monies received and paid out in the name of the Club.
- b) He shall deposit all monies in the name of the Club in such bank, as the Board of Directors shall designate.
- c) At each meeting he shall make a complete and itemized report of all receipts and expenditures of the previous month.
- d) At the Annual Meeting he shall make a complete report of his books and the financial standing of the Club as of that date.
- e) Pay all bills that have been approved by the Board of Directors, except those bills under the supervision of the House and Entertainment Committee.
- f) Bills shall be referred to the Board of Directors and no bill shall be paid until signed by two (2) members thereof except maintenance and operation, which may be paid by the Treasurer without the authorization of the Board of Directors. He shall have on behalf of the Club the authority to endorse all checks, drafts, notes, warrants and money orders for the purpose only to deposit therein to the benefit of the Club.
- g) His books are open to the membership during regular and Board of Directors Meetings.
- h) Bills for merchandise for resale and for general maintenance and operation may be paid by the Treasurer without the authorization of the Board of Directors.
- i) He may be bonded, at the expense of the Club, in an amount set forth by the Board of Directors, the minimum being the total of all Club cash accounts.

ARTICLE V.

DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The board of Directors shall:

- a) Have general supervision, charge and management of all property, real estate and personal belongings of the Club, and sign all documents, papers, etc., relating to the same, not specifically mentioned in ARTICLE IV. Section 1. c.
- b) Make rules and regulations governing the use of the Club properties.
- c) Receive and hear all complaints of members of the Club and submit their recommendations therein to the Club.
- d) Appoint Officers to fill vacancies that may occur from death, resignations or otherwise. Any appointment so made shall be valid until a successor is chosen under ARTICLE III. Section 3.
- e) Appoint a Bar Manager and set forth his duties in writing.
- f) Any Board Member who is absent from more than three (3) Meetings of the Board in a calendar year shall be deemed to have resigned unless he offers a satisfactory explanation.
- g) All Board of Directors members present at Directors Meetings will sign the minutes of those meetings.
- h) The Board of Directors shall enforce the Article and Section dealing with the Auditing Committee and assume the responsibility themselves should the need arise. (ARTICLE VI. Section 6)
- i) In the event that a vacancy or vacancies occur on the Board of Directors, the Board shall elect a member to serve until the Annual Meeting next following, at which time the vacancy shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term by regular procedure.
- j) The Board of Directors will take under advisement the case of a delinquent member and determine whether or not to apply ARTICLE X. Section 2. The findings of the Board of Directors will be final.
- k) All business transacted at a Board of Directors meeting must be approved by a majority of the Directors present.

- l) The Board of Directors shall regulate the prices of food, refreshments and merchandise and charges of all kinds at the Club House, whenever the Club shall, by vote authorize such sales.

ARTICLE VI.

COMMITTEES

Section 1. The following standing committees shall be appointed under ARTICLE IV. Section 1.d.

- a) Auditing
- b) Grounds and Building Maintenance
- c) Fish and Game Conservation
- d) Nomination
- e) Publicity
- f) Membership
- g) Special Committees as required to be appointed under ARTICLE IV. Section 1.e.

Section 2. The duties of all Committees shall be directed by the Vice President, such duties to be printed from time to time for the convenience of said committees, but not having been published shall not relieve said committees of their obligations.

All bills against the Club shall be certified by the Chairman and one member of any Committee contracting such bills.

Section 3. Duties of the standing committees.

- a) Auditing
 - 1) Shall audit the accounts of the Treasurer, Secretary, Bar Manager and all other accounts semi-annually and make a written report and deliver it to the Board of Directors.
- b) Grounds and Building Maintenance
 - 1) Shall enforce such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the proper operation and maintenance of and improvements to the grounds and pavilion.

- 2) Shall make periodic inspections of all Club buildings and equipment.
 - 3) Shall recommend improvements to the Board of Directors.
 - 4) Shall inspect any and all work that may be authorized.
 - 5) Shall make any emergency repairs.
 - 6) Shall keep an up to date inventory of all Club belongings.
- c) **Fish and Game Conservation**
- 1) Shall have full charge of the preparation and distribution of all fish and game pertaining to the Club.
- d) **Nomination**
- 1) Shall choose at least two (2) candidates for each office to be filled at the Annual Election and to present said nominations to the Body at the Annual Meeting. (Article III. Section 2.).
- e) **Publicity**
- 1) Shall handle all publicity pertaining to the Club.
- f) **Membership**
- 1) Shall render to those members subject to dues a notice for dues due before the first of January for the coming year.
 - 2) Shall keep a true list of all members in good standing and at the Annual Meeting state the names of all members that have died during the year.
 - 3) Shall try to acquire new members that will be an asset to the Club.
 - 4) Shall keep a record roll of all members and post same. 12/12/2011
- g) Special Committees as required to be appointed under ARTICLE IV. Section 1.e.

ARTICLE VII.

QUORUM

Section 1.

- a) A quorum at any meeting, regular, annual or special shall consist of five (5) % of the members in good standing.

- b) A Quorum at a meeting of the Board of Directors shall be five members of the Board.

Section 2. The fiscal year shall end on the last day of September of each year.

MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular Meetings shall be held at seven thirty p.m. on the second Monday of each month.

Section 2. The Annual Meeting of the Club shall be held at seven thirty p.m. on the second Monday in January.

Section 3. A special meeting of the Club may be called by the President or upon written request of ten (10) members in good standing.

Section 4. A meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held at the Club on the second Monday of each month as required.

Section 5. A Special Meeting of the Board of Directors may be called by the President or by a majority of the Board of Directors as necessary.

Section 6. A Special Meeting of the Chairmen of all Committees may be called upon the request of the President.

Section 7. Due notice of all Special Meetings must be given at least seven (7) days prior to said meeting.

ARTICLE VIII.

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. There shall be five (5) classes of membership.
Life – Honorary – Family – Senior – Junior.

Class 1 Life a) A member having reached the age of 65 or older, with at least three (3) consecutive years in good standing directly prior to age qualification shall be granted a life membership at one half cost of Senior Membership. 12/12/2011

b) Life membership shall be accorded one vote.

c) Not eligible for family membership.

Class 2 Honorary – Special membership awarded to someone for outstanding service to the Club.

This type of membership shall disallow the privilege of casting a vote.
No fee.

Class 3 Family – This class of membership shall include husband, wife and any children under age 18. This type of membership shall be accorded 2 votes (husband and wife).

Class 4 Senior – Individual membership for those 18 to 64. This type of membership shall be accorded one vote.

Class 5 Junior – Any person under age 18 may be voted in as a Junior member with no initial entrance fee. Junior membership shall terminate at the eighteenth (18) birthday, at which time membership will be continued with payment of dues at the Senior member rate, no entrance fee required. A Junior member shall have no vote.

Section 2. Any member who has not renewed his membership within thirty days after the annual meeting shall be subject to action by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Any member on active duty in the armed forces shall have their membership continued through year of discharge at no cost.

Section 4. A screening committee shall be appointed by the President. Application for membership must first be approved by the Screening Committee before a vote can be taken.

Section 5. If an applicant is elected to membership at the November or December meeting of any year, the dues of the member shall be considered as paid for the following year.

Section 6. Each application for membership shall be accompanied by the admission fee, together with dues for the current year and submitted to the Membership Committee.

Section 7. Membership acceptance shall be left to the discretion of the body by majority vote.

Section 8. The burden of proof in regard to age is the responsibility of the applicant and shall be approved by the Secretary.

Section 9. Perspective new member shall be present at the meeting wherein his application will be voted on.

ARTICLE IX.

ASSESSMENTS

- Section 1. No assessment or fine shall be levied upon a member in an amount greater than ten (10) dollars above the cost of replacement or repair.
- Section 2. All assessments received shall be applied to the respective account.

ARTICLE X.

EXPULSIONS – REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

- Section 1. The members of the Club shall have the power by a two-thirds vote of all members present at a meeting called for the purpose, to remove from office any officer for misconduct in office or for conviction of a felony. The post to be filled by the Board of Directors under ARTICLE V.d.
- Section 2. Any member who shall be found guilty, in the determination of the Board of Directors, of conduct endangering the safety, welfare, good order or good character of the Club, Shall be liable to expulsion or suspension, or fine, such member to be notified not later than ten days prior to the meeting at which time such matter is to be acted upon.
- Section 3. Any member may be present and speak in his behalf, or have any other member represent him at a meeting when a matter concerning his relations with the Club is due to be considered.
- Section 4. If said member is found guilty of charges brought against him, he may be expelled as a Club member by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.
- Section 5. No member should misconstrue Section 3 in regard to his presence or representation, for a member may be voted expelled even in his absence provided that he shall have been notified ten (10) days prior to such meeting and offered a hearing. He must be notified by Registered Mail, Return Receipt Requested.
- Section 6. Any person expelled from the Club shall not be allowed to apply for an application at any future date. Period of review to be determined by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XI.

EXPENSES OF OFFICERS

- Section 1. Club Officers or any member of the Club, attending special meetings outside of the Club on committee work, shall be paid five dollars (\$5). Any claims for compensation for either attending special meetings or for committee work shall be submitted to the Board of Directors who shall vote on the validity of all such claims and instruct the Treasurer to make payment.

ARTICLE XII.

SALARIES

- Section 1. The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be eligible for remuneration for their services to the Club, such remunerations to be determined by the Board of Directors.
- Section 2. The Bar Manager shall be paid as determined by the Board of Directors.
- Section 3. The salaries of all paid personnel of the Club will be determined by the board of Directors.

ARTICLE XIII.

RULES AND REGULATIONS, BYLAW AMENDMENTS

- Section 1. The Board of Directors may from time to time, in its discretion, adopt and enforce such other rules and regulations as deemed necessary for the good of the order and proper functioning of the Club.
- Section 2. Amendments hereto may be made at the annual meeting, or at any meeting, provided that written notice of the proposed amendment or amendments shall be submitted to the Board of Directors and approved by a majority vote of the Board and provided that written notice of the proposed amendment or amendments shall be given to each member of the Club and provided that a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at such meeting shall put the new amendments into effect.

ARTICLE XIV.

BEHAVIOR

- Section 1. No member shall enter or remain in the rooms of the Club in an intoxicated condition or at any gathering of the Club. Nor shall he disturb the peace of the Club by engaging in fistcuffs or resorting to violence in any manner.
- Section 2. Any member found guilty of violating Article XIV. Section 1. may be reprimanded, suspended or expelled, as determined by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XV.

GUESTS/VISITORS

- Section 1. A guest shall be any person on the Club property in the presence of and at the invitation of a Club member in good standing.
- Section 2. A visitor shall be any person on the Club property without the invitation of a Club member.
- Section 3. All persons admitted to Club property and permitted to utilize Club facilities shall be subject to all Club rules, regulations and bylaws. Any member, guest or visitor found abusing Club privileges shall be subject to action by the Board of Directors.

History Page

Three Lifetime Memberships Awarded at New Boiler Raffle

Amended 1/11/1993

Amendments 12/12/2011

Article 8 Section 1 Class 1 Life a) Life members at one half cost of Senior Membership.

Article 4 Section 4 – b – Moved to Article 6 Section 3 – f .