

# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

## WASHINGTON STATE SPORTSMEN'S COUNCIL, Inc.

*Adopted at Wenatchee, Washington, June 19, 1938*

*Revised and Adopted at Chelan, Washington, June 14, 1953*

### CONSTITUTION

#### ARTICLE I — NAME

This organization shall be known as the Washington State Sportsmen's Council, Inc.

#### ARTICLE II — OFFICE

Its principal office shall be at Seattle, King County, Washington.

#### ARTICLE III — TERRITORY

The territory to which its principal operations are to be confined shall be: State of Washington.

#### ARTICLE IV — OBJECTS

The objects of the Council are hereby defined and declared to be as follows:

1. To protect, propagate and increase fish and game and the natural foods thereof, and to improve the habitat of all wildlife, except predators.
  - a. To acquire and develop wildlife habitat in the name of the state, consistent with conservation requirements.
2. To procure the enactment of laws for the protection and restoration of fish and game and other wildlife, except predators, and natural foods, forests, marshes, stream and lakes; and to promote the observance and enforcement of such laws.
  - a. To prevent pollution of all waters of the state by requiring new industries and communities to provide adequate treatment by proper installations and planning before discharging wastes into the public waters and to bring about eradication of existing pollution as rapidly as possible.
  - b. To prevent the destruction and obstruction of stream beds and flows inconsistent with fishery and recreation requirements to the end that this region will experience an orderly development of its water resources without destroying one resource to exploit another.
  - c. To oppose federal encroachment upon control of our wildlife resources and on the resources upon which they depend.
  - d. To insist on the laws affecting control of the state's wildlife resources and the resources upon which they depend being subject to the usual recourse through legislative and judicial procedure at the state level.
3. To create and foster public sentiment in favor of the protection and restoration of fish and game and their natural foods and of woods, waters and wildlife other than predatory.
4. To promote sportsmanlike methods in hunting and fishing and proper respect for the rights of landowners.
  - a. To acquire and develop public hunting and fishing areas in the name of the state, consistent with the public demand.
5. To keep partisan politics out of State Game and Food Fish Departments.
6. To foster the education of the youth of our state in matters of conservation, good sportsmanship and safety practices.
  - a. To provide conservation education as a requirement in our public schools.
7. To cooperate with all associations or agencies having similar objectives.

#### ARTICLE V — VOTING MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Voting Membership in this Council is limited to duly organized and active sportsmen's clubs, leagues and other associations within the State of Washington having at least seven members and having objectives similar to this Council.

Section 2. Each Voting Member shall be represented in the Council by not more than three delegates appointed by its President from among its members for that purpose.

Section 3. The delegates from each Voting Member shall be certified to the Council and shall hold office at the pleasure of the respective Voting Member.

Section 4. Each Voting Member shall have one vote in the Council to be determined by the majority of its delegates present and be cast by one of its delegates designated by them and properly identified for that purpose.

Section 5. No Voting Member, including County or District Councils of organized clubs already affiliated with this Council, shall be accepted in this Council except by majority vote of the Board of Directors.

#### ARTICLE VI — FEES AND DUES OF VOTING MEMBERS

Section 1. The initiation fee for each member shall be \$10.00 or 25 cents per capita for the membership of each member, whichever is greater, which fee shall be in full payment for all dues for the current year following its admission to membership.

Section 2. The annual dues for each member shall be \$10.00 or 25 cents per capita for the membership of each member, whichever is greater, and shall be payable annually on the same day of the month of each year corresponding to the date of admission to membership. The treasurer shall notify each member in writing each year at least five days prior thereto of the date its annual dues are payable.

Section 3. Any member failing to pay its dues to the Council within sixty days after the expiration date, shall cease to be a member of the Council, and its name shall be dropped from the rolls and a record thereof entered in the books of the Council by the Secretary.

#### ARTICLE VII — OTHER MEMBERS AND DUES

Section 1. Armed Services Sportsmen's Clubs whose membership is confined to employees or residents of military posts or reservations, may be accepted by the Board of Directors at a flat fee basis of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) per year regardless of the number of members in said club, and said Armed Services Sportsmen's Clubs shall have full privileges in common with Voting Members.

Section 2. Sustaining Members may be admitted into the Council by the Board of Directors at a fee basis of \$1.00 per calendar year, said membership being open to any person, entitling the holder thereof to attend all meetings of the Council but without voting privileges.

Section 3. Cooperative Members may be admitted into the Council by the Board of Directors at a fee basis of \$4.75 per year, said membership being open to any person, entitling the holder thereof to certain insurance benefits and to attend all meetings of the Council but without voting privileges; PROVIDED that members in good standing of member clubs may obtain Cooperative Memberships from their respective club secretaries at a cost of \$3.75 per year.

Section 4. Honorary individual members may be elected at any meeting of the Board of Directors by unanimous vote of those present. Said Honorary Members shall not be required to pay initiation fees or dues and are not entitled to vote as such.

Section 5. Other forms of Membership and the conditions thereof, may be created by a majority vote of the Council at any regular meeting.



## ARTICLE VIII — SUSPENSION

The Council may suspend or expel any member and/or delegate by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the Council, or at special meeting called for that purpose, on receiving evidence of his having committed acts inconsistent with the objects of the Council, after due notice of the charge and an opportunity for defense has been given to the accused.

## ARTICLE IX — OFFICERS

The officers of the Council shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, and a Third Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The President of the Board of Directors shall be the President of the Council. The Secretary and Treasurer of the Board of Directors shall be the Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, of the Council. The offices of the Secretary and Treasurer may be conferred upon the same individual. All officers shall be elected from among the duly accredited delegates to the Council.

## ARTICLE X — MANAGEMENT

Section 1. For the purpose of selecting the managing Board of Directors, the State of Washington shall be divided into fourteen districts as follows:

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| District 1.  | Clallam, Jefferson, Grays Harbor and Pacific Counties. |
| District 2.  | Wahkiakum, Cowlitz, Clark and Skamania Counties.       |
| District 3.  | Kitsap, Mason, Thurston and Lewis Counties.            |
| District 4.  | Pierce County.   |
| District 5.  | King County.   |
| District 6.  | Snohomish and Island Counties.                         |
| District 7.  | Skagit, Whatcom and San Juan Counties.                 |
| District 8.  | Okanogan, Chelan and Douglas Counties.                 |
| District 9.  | Kittitas, Yakima and Klickitat Counties.               |
| District 10. | Walla Walla, Franklin and Benton Counties.             |
| District 11. | Grant, Adams and Lincoln Counties.                     |
| District 12. | Ferry, Stevens and Pend Oreille Counties.              |
| District 13. | Spokane County.  |
| District 14. | Whitman, Columbia, Garfield and Asotin Counties.       |

Section 2. The management of the Council and its affairs shall be entrusted to a Board of fourteen Directors to be elected by the delegates of the Voting Members of the Council located in their respective districts, said election to be held at the annual meeting of the Council, or at a special meeting of the Council called for that purpose. One Director shall be chosen from each of the fourteen districts named in Section 1 of this Article. They shall be at all times the duly qualified members in good standing of a member in the respective districts from which they are chosen; provided that if the delegates from any such district shall fail from any cause to elect a Director at such meetings, then such Director may be appointed by the Chairman of the Council upon the advice and consent of a majority of the Directors duly elected at such meeting.

Section 3. No Director or officer shall be permitted to hold any political office, either appointive or elective, except with the specific approval of a majority of the Board duly passed and entered in the record.

Section 4. Vacancies in the office of Directors shall be filled by the remaining members of the Board at a regular meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose.

Section 5. If any Director shall not be present at any general or special meeting of the Council, the President shall appoint a delegate in attendance to act as Director in place of the absentee, provided it is necessary so to do to make a quorum.

Section 6. The newly-elected Board of Directors shall elect the officers at the annual meeting. Officers chosen who are not Directors shall have no vote at Board meetings except that in case of a tie the presiding officer may vote.

Section 7. The Council shall be incorporated under the laws of the State of Washington providing for the incorporation of Educational, etc., Associations.

## ARTICLE XI — DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. PRESIDENT. The President, or in his absence, the Vice-President first in number present, shall preside at all regular meetings or special meetings of the Board of Directors and of the Council, casting the deciding vote in case of a tie, and perform such

other duties as are usually incident to the office and as may be provided by the Council.

The President shall have power to appoint a Corresponding Secretary who shall perform duties hereinafter mentioned and shall serve during the pleasure of the President. The President and Vice-President shall serve without salary.

Section 2. VICE-PRESIDENTS. The Vice-President in the absence of the President, or in his absence, the Second Vice-President, or in his absence, the Third Vice-President, shall preside at all regular or special meetings of the Board of Directors and of the Council, casting the deciding vote in case of a tie, and perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.

In the absence of the President and all of the Vice-Presidents at any meeting of the Council or Board of Directors, any delegate or Board member may be selected to preside by a majority vote of those present, and shall have the same powers of the President for that meeting.

Section 3. SECRETARY. The Secretary shall keep a full and complete record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Council and of the meetings of the Board of Directors, and shall preserve all records in proper books furnished by, and which shall remain the property of the Council, and shall hand such books and records over to his successor in office within ten days after the election of such successor. The Secretary shall serve without salary unless otherwise ordered by a majority of the Board of Directors.

He shall send a copy of each numbered resolution submitted to the Council in the manner provided by Section 3 of Article III of the By-Laws to each member of the Council on the first day of the month preceding the month of the meeting at which it is to be considered, with instructions to the member to act upon each of said resolutions and to instruct its delegates to the meeting how to vote thereon and after each regular meeting he shall advise each member what action was taken by the Council upon each resolution by number. He shall perform such other duties as may be provided in the transaction of the business of the Council and the Board of Directors.

Section 4. TREASURER. The Treasurer shall keep a roll of all members, collect all dues and initiation fees, mail to all members their membership cards, shall have in custody all moneys of the Council, and shall pay all bills, claims or rewards but only on warrant approved by the Board of Directors unless otherwise authorized and entered in the record. He shall keep an accurate account of all receipts and disbursements and shall exhibit a full statement of the financial affairs of the Council at each annual meeting or to the Board of Directors at its request. The same person may hold both the office of Secretary and Treasurer.

The Board of Directors may at its discretion require the Treasurer to furnish a bond as security for the faithful performance of his duties. The expense of such bond shall be paid by the Council. The Board of Directors may also require an audit of the books at any time.

The Treasurer shall hand over to his successor in office within ten days after the election of his successor a complete and accurate financial statement together with all funds, books and records pertaining to his office, and he shall perform such other duties as herein provided.

Section 5. CORRESPONDING SECRETARY. The Corresponding Secretary, if one is appointed, shall issue calls for all meetings, keep a roster of the officers and members, notify officers and committees of their election or appointment, carry on and have charge of all correspondence of the Council, shall make such report to the annual meetings as may be directed by the Board of Directors; otherwise the regular Secretary shall perform such duties.

## ARTICLE XII — MANNER OF ELECTION

Section 1. In case of the failure to elect Officers and Directors at any regular meeting on account of the lack of a quorum or for any other reason, the officers and Directors then in office shall hold over until their successors are elected.

Section 2. In case of failure to elect Directors at any annual meeting, the President and Secretary shall, upon the written request of five members of the Council, call a special meeting of the Council to be held within thirty days from date of such call for the purpose of electing Directors, and for such other business as may be specified in the call, and the Directors elected at such special meeting shall immediately assume their respective offices.

Section 3. The President and Secretary shall, in their call, give notice of the time and place of holding of such special meeting.

Section 4. No President of the Council or of the Board, shall be elected for two consecutive terms, except by a two-thirds majority of the Board.

Section 5. No Director's District as herein above defined, shall be entitled to the Presidency for two consecutive terms except by a two-thirds majority of the Board.

## ARTICLE XIII — MEETINGS

Section 1. The annual meetings of the Council shall be held at such place as the Board of Directors shall designate on the second Sunday in June of each year for the purpose of the election of Directors for the ensuing year and for the transaction of other business. Regular Quarterly social and/or business meetings shall be held each year at such place or places and at such time as the Board of Directors shall designate from time to time until otherwise ordered.

Section 2. Special meetings of the Council may be called by the President upon the request of five members of the Board when they deem such meeting for the interest of the Council. Notice of such special meeting shall state the purpose for which it is called and the business to be transacted at any such meeting.

Section 3. On the second Sunday of June of each year and immediately following election of Directors at the Annual Meeting, the new Board of Directors shall meet to elect the officers for the ensuing year. The Board shall also meet in conjunction with each quarterly meeting of the Council, but not during the same hours; PROVIDED they may meet during the same hours on the day of the Annual Meeting.

Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called at any time by the President or shall be called upon the request of three members of the Board.

## ARTICLE XIV — STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1. The President shall, immediately upon his election, appoint a Chairman for each of the following Standing Committees: Legislative, Education, Land, Farmer-Sportsman Relations, Safety, Predators, Migratory Birds, Upland Birds, Big Game, Steelhead, Spiny Ray Fish, Trout, Salmon, Resolutions and Credentials. Each Chairman shall name at least four other members to said committees; PROVIDED that no member of the Board of Directors shall serve as a Chairman of any committee except Legislative; PROVIDED FURTHER that the Credentials Committee shall consist of three members named by the President.

Section 2. The Chairman of each committee shall follow through to its conclusion the action called for in any resolution adopted by the Council and assigned to his committee to the end that object and purpose of each said resolution shall be attained, and he shall make a report in writing of his progress thereon and the result thereof of the Council at each regular meeting, which said reports shall be filed with the Secretary.

Section 3. The duties of said committees shall be similar to those usually performed by such committees in other like organizations, provided that special duties may be assigned to said committees by

the Board of Directors, and each committee shall report in writing quarterly to the Council.

## ARTICLE XV — BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall have control and management of the property and affairs of the Council.

Section 2. A majority of the Board shall have full power to suspend or expel any member of the Council or member of the Board of Directors upon receiving evidence of the unfaithful discharge of his duties after due notice of the charges and an opportunity for the defense has been given the accused. Said Board shall have the power to fill any vacancy occasioned by such suspension or expulsion until the next annual election.

Section 3. They shall also prescribe the rules regulating the affairs and conduct of the Council not inconsistent with this Constitution for the approval of the Council at its next regular meeting.

## ARTICLE XVI — QUORUM

Section 1. One-fifth of the total voting membership of the Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting of the Council, provided that at least eight of the fourteen districts as hereinabove described in Section 1 of Article X shall be represented.

Section 2. A majority of the Directors accredited to the Council shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board except at annual meetings when a majority of those present shall constitute a quorum.

## ARTICLE XVII — VACANCIES

The Board of Directors shall have full power to fill any vacancies which shall occur from time to time, by resignations or otherwise, and any such appointment shall be valid until the next annual election.

## ARTICLE XVIII — RESIGNATIONS

Resignations of officers or members in good standing may be accepted by the Board of Directors at any meeting after notice in writing has been given to the Secretary.

## ARTICLE XIX — CONSTRUCTION

Any question as to the meaning or construction of this Constitution or the By-Laws shall be decided by the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE XX — MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

All matters not particularly provided for in this Constitution and the By-Laws shall be controlled by the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE XXI — AMENDMENTS

Section 1. This Constitution shall not be amended except by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular meeting of the Council or at a special meeting called for that purpose.

Section 2. A general outline of any proposed substitution, change or amendment shall be mailed by the Secretary to the last known address of the presiding officer or Secretary of each member at least seven days prior to the date of the meeting at which the proposed substitution, change or amendment is to be acted upon.

# BY-LAWS

## ARTICLE I — ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Order of Business at any annual or quarterly meeting of the Council shall be:

### First Day

1. Call meeting to order.
2. Read Emergency Resolutions.
3. Speakers.
4. Committee Reports, except Resolutions.
5. Officers' Reports.

### Second Day

1. Registration of Delegates.

2. Roll Call of Officers and Directors.

3. Recite Conservation Pledge.

4. Reading and approval of minutes of previous meeting, and reading of minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held in conjunction with the previous quarterly meeting or subsequent thereto.

5. Report of Committee on Resolutions and action thereon.

6. Unfinished Business.

7. New Business.

8. Adjournment.



## ARTICLE II

The Board of Directors shall have power to make and amend rules governing its own procedure.

## ARTICLE III — RESOLUTIONS

Section 1. All matters pertaining to enactment of, amendments to or changes of laws concerning the objects of this corporation or pertaining to the policies of the Council shall be by resolution submitted only by Member Clubs, Committee Chairmen, Officers and the Board of Directors of the Council.

Section 2. Any matter which is related only to specific localities and shall not pertain generally to the State shall not be submitted to the Council until the members of the locality involved have taken the matter up with the proper authorities and have been unable to get any results thereon.

Section 3. All resolutions shall be typewritten and shall be substantially in the following form:

"WHEREAS.....

"NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Washington State Sportsmen's Council in Convention Assembled at....., Washington, on the.....day of....., 19.....; That (objects or purpose of resolution be set forth briefly and concisely).

Submitted by.....(Name of Club).....

Each member or delegate submitting a resolution shall accompany it with enough "Whereas" clauses in the preamble to clearly indicate the reasons for the passage thereof, which resolutions shall be in the office of the Secretary of the Council by the last day of the next month following the last quarterly meeting; PROVIDED, however, that any resolution presented subsequent to the date hereinbefore stated shall be referred to the Board of Directors, who may, by two-thirds majority approval, declare same to be an emergency resolution for consideration at the current general council session, or by majority vote may pass said resolution to the general session for action thereon, in which event a two-thirds majority consent of the members present shall be required to bring the resolution on the floor for consideration on its merits. Any such resolution having failed to be declared an emergency, either by the Board of Directors or by the members in session, shall be submitted in the usual form at the next general meeting of the Council.

All regular resolutions submitted shall be numbered seriatim, and

shall be referred to the committees to which they relate by the Secretary of the Council for their consideration and report.

Section 4. The Resolutions Committee shall meet on the first day of each quarterly meeting of the Council, and shall consider, act upon and report its action upon those resolutions relating to the good and welfare of the Council. All other regular resolutions shall be referred to the Committees to which their subject matters may relate. In the report of the respective committees on the several resolutions, the respective Committee Chairmen shall either recommend to the Council that the resolution be passed or rejected or it may recommend that the resolution be deferred for further study, or referred to the Board of Directors for further consideration and action. At any committee meeting at which a resolution is being considered, any member or delegate submitting a resolution for consideration or any other member of the Council or delegate may appear before the committee and present any reason for the passage or rejection or other action upon the resolution that will assist the committee in its consideration of the resolution. All resolutions reported to the Council by the respective committees shall be passed, rejected, referred or deferred for any further action and consideration, withdrawn, or may be amended if amendments are presented in writing.

Section 5. The adoption or rejection of any resolution submitted to the Council shall be final for a period of one year and no resolution on any subject passed upon shall be submitted or considered during said time.

## ARTICLE IV — METHOD OF VOTING

Votes upon any resolution or matter coming before the Council shall be cast by Voting Delegates of Voting Members of the Council in good standing by voice vote. In the event, however, that any member shall so request, vote shall be taken by show of hands or by requiring the voting delegates of members to stand. Should ten members in good standing so request, vote shall be had upon roll call of members present and in good standing.

## ARTICLE V — AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the Board of Directors by a two-thirds majority vote of the Directors present, provided that at least five days notice in writing of the proposed amendment shall be given to each member of the Board.

This Constitution and these By-Laws adopted originally at Wenatchee, Washington, June 19, 1938, are hereby re-adopted as amended at Chelan, Washington, June 14, 1953.