

The
Constitution and By-Laws
Of The
Coopersville Sportsman Club
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Table of Contents	Page
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Constitution

Article I	3
Section 1 – Name	
Article II	3
Section 1 – Purpose	
Section 2 – Aims	
Article III	3
Section 1 – Affiliation	

By-Laws

Article I	4
Section 1 – Officers	
Section 2 – Board of Directors	
Section 3 – Vacancy	
Article II	5
Section 1 – Charter Membership	
Section 2 – Membership	
Section 3 – Applications	
Section 4 – Voting	
Section 5 – Active Membership	
Section 6 – Membership Emeritus	
Section 7 – Membership Cap	
Article III	7
Section 1 – Meetings	
Section 2 – Conduct at Meetings	
Article IV	8
Section 1 – Dues	
Section 2 – Bank Account	
Article V	8
Section 1 – General	
Article VI	9
Section 1 – Club Representation	
Article VII	10
Section – Dissolution	

Constitution of the Coopersville Sportsman's Club

Article I Section 1 – Name

This organization shall be known as **The Coopersville Sportsman's Club of Coopersville, Michigan.**

Article II Section 1 – Purpose

- A. The purpose of said corporation is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, including, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Addendum A - Specifically this corporation shall promote education by the distribution (at cost or at no cost) of materials related to conservation, natural resources, hunting, hunting safety, fishing and the Michigan and Federal statutes governing these topics to public and private schools, student organizations, Scouting (Boy, Girl & Cub) and other charitable or educational organizations. This corporation shall co-operate closely with local school districts and shall make available (on request) its real property and improvements for classroom purposes; including but not limited to biology, botany, conservation of natural resources, outdoor education, health and physical education and outdoor safety on a non-profit basis. This corporation shall use its best efforts, facilities and resources to support such programs to the greatest extent possible; especially where such school districts suffer from revenue deficits which have necessitated a cutback or elimination of said activities within the school district. This corporation shall thru either monetary or membership participation release fish and wildlife, plant trees and other botanies in the fields and streams of this state, construct wildlife shelters and create nature trails for the use by the general public at no cost. This corporation shall operate and maintain an approved rifle, pistol and archery ranges which shall be available to the general public thru our Fun shoots, Archery League, Skeet & Trap Shoots; also ranges will be open at no cost to the general public during specific times of the year for the hunting/target practice and hunting/range safety instruction – these times will be posted on the corporation property and web site.

- B. No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall insure to the benefit of or be distributed to its members, trustees, officers, directors or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of purpose as described in Article II Section 1 Paragraph A. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation and the corporation shall not participate or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by (a) a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal revenue Code or corresponding section of any future federal tax code or (b) a corporation contributions of which are deductible under Section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding future federal tax code.

Section 2 – Aims

- A. To eliminate pollution through education and action.
- B. To work for intelligent land use.
- C. To promote enjoyment of outdoor activities.
- D. To promote hunting safety and sportsmanship of youth in our community.
- E. To promote a better quality of outdoor sports available in our community and state.

Article III

Section 1 – Affiliation

This corporation shall be affiliated with the Michigan United Conservation Club and shall be subject to its policies insofar as they affect and prescribe to the activities of this corporation.

By-Laws of the Coopersville Sportsman's Club

Article I

Section 1 – Officers

- A. The officers of this club shall consist of president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and legislative chairman. No member shall be elected to office that has not been a member in good standing of the club for at least two years beginning May 1985. They shall take office immediately after the books are turned over to them upon the completion of the audit of the books at the May meeting, or thereabouts, of the Board of Directors. Voting shall be by ballot and shall be supervised by an election board of two members appointed by the president. Any member may nominate any other member for any office providing acceptance is assured. Nominations are open from the February to April membership meetings. Elections will be held at the May membership meeting. Members must be present to vote.
- B. The president shall be elected annually and shall not hold office more than (3) three consecutive calendar years. The president shall preside at all regular monthly membership meetings and have the general supervision and direction of all officers of the club. The president shall call all regular membership meetings.
- C. The vice president shall perform all the duties of the president in the presidents' absence. The vice president shall be elected annually and not hold office for more than (3) three calendar years.

- D. The secretary shall be elected annually and is not subject to term limits. The secretary shall handle all correspondence of the club, keep the minutes of all meetings; be the club custodian of the club seal, records papers, files, books (except account books and receipts pertaining to the treasurer) or any other club property necessary for the secretary to perform the duties of the office. The secretary shall send notices to members for all meetings and perform any other duties which pertain to the office of secretary.
- E. The treasurer shall be elected annually and is not subject to term limits. The treasurer shall receive payment of all income, including membership dues. After recording the income shall be deposited in the proper account. All bills and expenses of the club shall be paid by the treasurer by check. Checks for capital expenditures will be cosigned by the president. The treasurer shall have on hand at all official meetings an up to date record of members in good standing. The treasurer, or their appointee, shall issue membership cards endorsed by the president to all members when payment of membership dues is received each year.
- F. The legislative chairman shall be elected annually and is not subject to term limits. The legislative chairman whenever possible shall inform the membership of changes and prospective changes in laws or other general information that pertains to the purposes and aims of this club at regularly scheduled meetings.

Section 2 – Board of Directors

- A. The Board of Directors shall consist of the five (5) elected officers of the club and four (4) elected members.
- B. The four (4) elected members shall be elected for a two (2) year term with two (2) being elected in one year and the other two (2) to be elected the following year. Board members do not have to be a member in good standing for two (2) years to hold office.
- C. The Chairman of the Board (COB) will be the president of the club unless; the president declines or a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote by all board members is held to appoint a Chairman. The COB shall preside at all board meetings. The COB has the full authority to call all regular and special meetings of the board when necessary. The COB will not vote on any matter unless there is a tie of votes by the board and the COB vote is needed to break the deadlock.
- D. The Board of Directors shall meet bimonthly or thereabouts each year at a place designated by the COB. It shall be the duty and the responsibility of the Board of Directors to take up at the board meetings all business of the club and to present the business, with recommendations, at the next regularly scheduled membership meeting.
- E. It shall be necessary to have a quorum of at least five (5) board members to conduct business at any Board of Directors meeting.
- F. To the extent permitted by law, no board member shall be personally liable to the corporation or its members for monetary damages for a breach of fiduciary duty.

- G. The corporation assumes all liability to any person other than the corporation or its members for all acts or omissions for a board member occurring after January 1st 1988.

Section 3 – Vacancy

- A. If any officer misses three (3) consecutive meetings without an excuse being presented to the president within this time shall automatically be suspended from office and the office seat declared vacant.
- B. When a vacancy exists in any office, a successor shall be appointed at the next regularly scheduled membership meeting by the president to fulfill the duration of the term.
- C. Any officer, by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote by the Board of Directors, may be declared ineligible to hold office and be discharged for just cause; provided said officer shall first have had an open hearing to defend themselves. An advance notification of two (2) weeks of the open hearing must be completed.

Article II

Section 1 – Charter Membership

The purpose of charter membership is so we are able to keep the club goals the way they were intended. The Coopersville Sportsman's Club does not have one single interest but prides itself on remaining a club dedicated to all conservation efforts and to being a club which welcomes members with varied interests.

- A. All adult members are eligible for charter membership status; upon adoption of charter membership the member must sign the charter membership roll beginning January 1st 1990.
- B. Any member will become eligible for charter membership after two years of club membership in good standing. A vote of two-thirds (2/3) majority of charter members at the charter membership meeting is required to become a charter member.
- C. When a member wishes to become a charter member a fee of \$5.00 will be due and paid at sign up time. Those that have paid Lifetime Dues are not required to pay this fee.
- D. Charter members are required to work a minimum of 20 hours at the club or at club events.
- E. There will be a limit of 55 charter members.

Section 2 – Membership

- A. Membership is defined as the paid member, his spouse and any children through the age of seventeen (17) and bestows all privileges of the club.
- B. Member children reaching the age of eighteen (18) are required to apply for membership of their own (not under a parents membership) within ninety (90) days of their becoming eighteen (18). Failure to apply within the time frame will

result in a forfeiture of these rights. A waiver may be accepted on receipt for military service or other extenuating circumstances.

Section 3 – Application

- A. Any person when duly sponsored by any member of the Coopersville Sportsman's Club will be eligible to become a member of the club.
- B. The application will be presented in turn to the membership by the sponsor and voted on by the entire membership present at the meeting. Voting will a simple majority by ballot.

Section 4 – Voting

- A. Charter Members only may vote on proposed changes to the Constitution or By-Laws of the Coopersville Sportsman's Club (see **Article 5**).
- B. There is only one vote per paid membership (member, spouse and children count as one (1)). Each member may vote on all issues except as outlined in paragraph A of this section. Member must be present at the meeting to cast a vote.

Section 5 – Active Membership

- A. Active membership will be defined as members who work a minimum of ten (10) hours at the club grounds and at a club event for a total of twenty (20) hours yearly. Dues will be at the published rate for active members.
- B. Any member who wishes to relinquish any responsibility for working club events or club ground projects must pay **five hundred dollars (\$500.00)** in lieu of those work hours to retain membership privileges. This is in addition to regular membership dues if they apply to the member. NOTE: If partial hours are worked credit for each hour will be at the rate of **twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per hour**.

Section 6 – Membership Emeritus

Membership Emeritus is a class of members who meet certain criteria and through a vote by the Board of Directors may be assigned to this class. Members in this class are excused from any responsibility of working at the club grounds or at any club event. Membership dues also can be waived by vote of the Board of Directors.

- A. A written request must be presented to the president of a members wish to be placed in Membership Emeritus, this request may come from the member themselves or by another member on their behalf. This must be presented to the Board of Directors at the next scheduled meeting of the board. The Board of Directors may recommend a member to be included without a formal written request.
- B. Reasons to include a member in Membership Emeritus (but not all) are: military service, health reasons, members who have served in the past but may no longer be capable of performing work hours, etc. Economic reasons can contribute to membership dues being waived; although the Board of Directors does not have to rely solely on economic factors when determining payment of dues.

- C. There is no cap on the number of members within Membership Emeritus.
- D. Members can be reinstated to regular active membership if their status that contributed to Member Emeritus has changed. A written request submitted to the Board of Directors or the Board of Directors makes the recommendation shall be necessary.
- E. Members Emeritus retain all rights and privileges of Coopersville Sportsman's Club.
- F. All votes by the Board of Directors in Members Emeritus decisions will be a simple majority by a show of hands.

Section 7 – Membership Cap

Active regular membership shall be limited to one hundred (100) paid memberships. A waiting list will be maintained for new applications on a first come first serve basis. New applicants will be voted on at the June membership meeting.

Article III

Section 1 – Meetings

- A. All membership meetings (except special meetings) shall be held on the first Monday of each month at 7:30pm at the place designated.
- B. Any ten (10) members may call a special meeting provided the secretary has been notified to inform all members of said meeting within 7 days of the request. The business of the meetings shall be stated in the meeting notices.
- C. A motion may be put forth on the floor by any member, provided it pertains to the subject matter being discussed at the time of the proposal. In order to pass a motion must be supported by another member and have a majority vote of the members present.
- D. A quorum of at least one-third (1/3) of regular members must be present at any membership meeting in order to conduct business. If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the scheduled start time of the meeting, at the direction of the presiding officer the meeting may be postponed.
- E. All votes will be a simple majority by voice. A show of hands may be required if the voice vote is not discernable as to the outcome.

Section 2 – Conduct at Meetings

- A. Conduct at all meetings shall be by Roberts Rules of Order in as much as it does not conflict with the by-laws of this club.
- B. No beverages are to be bought or sold during the business time of the regular membership meeting.

Article IV

Section 1 – Dues

- A. Dues of this organization shall be thirty dollars (\$30.00) per year. All dues shall be paid to the treasurer by the membership meeting in April. A late fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) will be charged if dues are paid at the May membership meeting. Failure to pay dues in the time frame allotted will result in member being removed from the rolls of this organization.
- B. New members will be required to pay a one time initiation fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00) along with regular membership dues the first year of their membership.
- C. A Lifetime Dues payment is offered from April 5th 2010 business meeting forward based on the following schedule:

Age/Amount	Age/Amount	Age/Amount	Age/Amount	Age/Amount	Age/Amount	Age/Amount	Age/Amount	Age/Amount	Age/Amount	Age/Amount
18 \$400	25 \$365	32 \$330	39 \$295	46 \$260	53 \$225					
19 \$395	26 \$360	33 \$325	40 \$290	47 \$255	54 \$220					
20 \$390	27 \$355	34 \$320	41 \$285	48 \$250	55 \$215					
21 \$385	28 \$350	35 \$315	42 \$280	49 \$245	56 \$210					
22 \$380	29 \$345	36 \$310	43 \$275	50 \$240	57 \$205					
23 \$375	30 \$340	37 \$305	44 \$270	51 \$235	58 \$200					
24 \$370	31 \$335	38 \$300	45 \$265	52 \$230	59 \$195					

Section 2 – Bank Account

The commercial account of this organization, commonly referred to as the ‘general fund’ or ‘checking account’, shall be used to defray all expenses and funding of projects of the club.

Article V Section 1 – General

- A. This organization shall not at any time or under any circumstances contribute and/or loan club funds or goods purchased by club funds to any organization, group or individual except as authorized by a majority of the membership in attendance of the meeting.
- B. Subject to a decision of the Board of Directors of this organization any member may be dropped from the rolls of active membership if found guilty of violating any law enforced by the Department of Natural resources of Michigan or if member fails to follow the rules and regulations of this organization.
- C. Any amendments, additions or detractions, to the constitution and/or by-laws of this organization must first be referred to the Board of Directors for study. If the Board recommends it must be brought to vote of the Charter members at a meeting where all charter members have been notified by mail of the proposed changes. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the charter members present is required to pass any changes to the constitution and/or by-laws of this organization.
- D. When properly approved by the charter membership every member shall receive a copy of the constitution and by-laws and any changes made thereof.

Article VI
Section 1 – Club Representation

No individual member or group of members other than the president of Coopersville Sportsman’s Club shall state views as being those of the club without prior official authorization by the president or the Board of Directors.

Article VII
Section 1 – Property Fund Notes

- A. The purpose of these notes is to purchase property and/or a building.
- B. All note holders must be eighteen (18) years of age and a member of this organization.
- C. The price of said notes is one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
- D. A member may purchase notes in ten dollar (\$10.00) increments.
- E. Members may purchase any number of notes they wish.

Section 2 – Noteholders Board of Trustees

- A. The Board of Trustees shall consist of three (3) Noteholders.
- B. These monies will not be used for any other purpose than stated in Section 1 paragraph A of this article unless so deemed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of Noteholders at a noteholder meeting.
- C. Noteholders will be notified by mail of a noteholder meeting.
- D. Each noteholder has one vote regardless of the number of notes held.

Section 3 – Redemption

- A. Notes are redeemable at the percentage rate stated on the note.
- B. Coopersville Sportsman’s Club reserves the right to take up to twenty-four (24) months from the date of the request to redeem a note.
- C. Noteholders reserve the right to transfer their note or notes to another qualified member with the knowledge of the Board of Directors.

Article VIII
Section 1 – Dissolution

- A. In the event of the dissolution of this corporation any assets remaining after satisfaction of all liabilities against this organization shall be turned over to an organization having similar objectives.
- B. Upon dissolution of the corporation assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501 © (3) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future federal tax code or shall be distributed to the Federal Government or the State Government or a local government for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be

disposed by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said court shall determine which are organized and operate exclusively for such purposes.