

BYLAWS OF
HOCKING VALLEY SPORTSMAN ASSOCIATION, INC.

As revised and adopted 1979

ARTICLE I

Name

Section 1. The name of the organization is the Hocking Valley Sportsman Association, Inc., Hereinafter referred to as the Club.

ARTICLE II

Headquarters

Section 1. The headquarters of the Club shall be on Radford Road in Athens, Ohio.

ARTICLE III

Fiscal Year

Section 1. The fiscal year shall be from July 1 to June 30.

ARTICLE IV

Objectives

Section 1 The protection and preservation of wildlife, and the land from which it comes, and to do all things necessary and incidental thereto.

Section 2 The promotion of restoration and conservation of natural resources and education in conservation in all phases, with particular reference to forest, water, soil and wildlife; to promote good fellowship and good citizenship (and good sportsmanship); to inculcate regard for the rights of others and respect for and obedience to law; to support a sane and effective conservation program for and by the State and to cooperate with the Department of Natural Resources of Ohio, and all other like-minded citizens and groups.

ARTICLE V

Membership

Section 1 Any person over 18 years of age, of good moral character and in good standing in his community shall be eligible for membership, after having been recommended for membership to the general membership of the Club by the Membership Investigating Committee, which has been appointed by the president. Applicant shall agree with the objectives of the Club, as stated in Article IV.

Section 2. Honorary members shall be those residents of the community who have performed outstanding services for it or the Club, and upon whom the Club may desire to confer special distinction. The election of members to this classification shall be subject to the approval of the board of Directors. Honorary members shall enjoy the same privileges as members except that they shall not be eligible to hold office or have voting privileges.

Section 3. Membership shall be acquired by invitation only. Application for membership shall be made on forms provided by the Club, and shall be signed by a member in good standing, who shall act as sponsor. The sponsoring member shall give the club secretary the prospective member's properly filled out application form along with application fee and dues for the current year before the Board of Directors shall act upon the application.

Section 4. Membership shall be granted after a secret ballot vote of the membership at a duly constituted regular meeting, and shall have less than three dissenting votes. All balloting shall not be held until after the recommendation report of the Membership Investigation Committee is received by the general membership. If a new membership is denied, the application fee and dues will be refunded.

Section 5. An application for reinstatement to membership shall be acted upon by the "Board of Directors" in the same manner as that for prospective new member.

Section 6. Any member may be expelled, for just cause, from the Club by a three-fourths vote of the entire "Board of Directors". The complaining member must file a written complaint. Before any member is expelled he shall, at his request have a fair hearing before the "Board of Directors".

Section 7. No prospective member may participate in Club functions until his application has been properly processed.

ARTICLE VI **Fees and Dues**

Section 1. The dues of the club shall be \$36.00 per year for each member. Payable annually on January 1 of each year. Any member that has not paid their dues by February 1st (30 days), can be dropped from the club without notice. Any member dropped may be reinstated for up to one year upon paying reinstatement fee of \$5.00 and delinquent dues. Any member more than 1 year delinquent must reapply as all new members and pay appropriate fees. Any paid up member entering armed services shall have dues suspended until discharge.

Section 2. New members shall pay \$3.00 per month that is remaining in year, including the month the application is to be read to the Board of Directors or Investigating Committee. Plus a \$ 10.00 application fee. No application shall be considered until all appropriate fees and dues are paid.

Section 3. All applicants must be sponsored and signed by a member or members in good standing. No application shall be considered until the sponsoring member or one of the sponsoring members (should there be more than one) attends trustee's meeting and speaks on behalf of the applicant to the Board and/or investigating committee.

Section 4 Upon acceptance to the club, the secretary shall in a timely manner mail the new member their key card, a welcome letter that has been approved by the Board of Directors, a copy of the courtesy rules and an updated schedule of events. Upon attendance to their first meeting they will be offered a copy of the By-Laws

ARTICLE VII
Officers, Their Duties and Qualifications

Section 1 The Officers of this Club shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, treasurer and nine Trustees. These thirteen members shall constitute the "Board of Directors". The immediate past President shall be an ex-officio member of the Board of Directors, voting only in case of a tie.

Section 2 Five members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board.

Section 3 The name of any officer of this Club who shall be absent himself from two consecutive meetings of the Board of Directors, without acceptable cause being given to Secretary, shall be submitted to the Board of Directors, by the Secretary, at the regular Board Meeting next following the second such absence, and the Board of Directors shall decide, at this meeting, whether said officer shall be dropped from the Board of Directors.

Section 4 No elected officer shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

Section 5 a) The President shall be the Executive Head of the Club. He shall preside at all meetings, and shall be Chairman of the Board of Directors. He shall appoint all committees that are required for the proper functioning of the Club. He shall appoint all ex-officio member of each committee.

b) If for any reason the President is unable to perform his duties, the Vice-President shall occupy his position and perform his duties, having the same authority as the President.

c) The Secretary shall keep the general Club records, including minutes of the Club and Board Meeting. He shall be custodian of all membership files and correspondence, and shall perform such other duties as may pertain to his office.

d)The Treasurer shall receive all monies from the Secretary and deposit same in a bank recommended and approved by the Board of Directors, and shall pay out money only on authority of the Board of Directors authorized at a regular or special meeting, if such payment is in excess of \$10.00 current operation expenses excepted.

e)The Board of Directors shall constitute the Executive Board of the Club, and shall be responsible for the operation and execution, through its officers, of the authorized policies of the Club. All new business of the Club shall first be considered and shaped by the Board of Directors for presentation to the Club at the regular meeting, if in the opinion of the Board it is advisable to do so. The Board will authorize all expenditures over \$100.00, shall not create any indebtedness beyond the income of the Club, nor disburse funds for purposes non-essential to the objectives of the Club.

No property, real or otherwise, may either be bought or sold by this Club without the final approval of the Board of Directors at either a regular or special meeting of said Board at

which there is a quorum with a majority vote which shall govern name. The Board shall make final approvals of all aforesaid matters and may override any vote of the Club.

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to overrule or modify the action of any member of this Club. The Board shall approve or reject, after due consideration, all applications for membership or reinstatements. The Board shall have the books and accounts audited annually, or more often at its discretion.

The Board shall hold one regular monthly meeting each month on a night voted upon by a quorum of the Board, except on holidays when the meeting date may be changed to the convenience of the Board, the hour of said meetings to be determined by the Board.

The Board shall hold special meetings when called by the President or by written request of five or more members of the Club who are in good standing.

The Board shall designate a bank for the deposit of the Club's funds.

The Board shall determine the compensation, if any, of the Secretary and Treasurer.

The Board shall receive committee reports and recommendations, and shall submit to the Club in regular meeting, recommendations which it has approved affecting the administrative or activity policies of the Club.

Section 6 No member shall be eligible to hold office in this club, unless he is in good standing and shall have been so at least six months prior to taking office.

Section 7 No officer shall receive any compensation for any service rendered this Club, with possible exception of the Secretary and Treasurer, who compensations, if any, shall be fixed by the Board of Directors.

Section 8 If for any reason any office should become vacant, the Board shall appoint qualified members to fill such vacancies for the unexpired term; appointments to be made only until the next election, at which time a member will be elected to fill the unexpired term. Such appointments shall be made at the first regular meeting after knowledge of vacancy.

Section 9 If for any reason any officer of the Club wishes to resign, he shall give written notice of intention to the Board at least two weeks prior to the resignation date.

ARTICLE VIII

Funds and Expenditures

Section 1 No expenditures for any purpose whatever shall be made until funds therefore are on hand and available, and then only for such purpose as may be authorized and approved by the Board at a regular or special meeting except in the amount of twenty five dollars (\$25.00), when the President and Treasurer shall have such authority. Current operating expenses excepted.

ARTICLE IX

Meetings

Section 1 The Club shall hold one regular meeting each month, the date and time to be determined at a regular meeting of the Club when there is a quorum. When a regular meeting night falls on a holiday, this meeting night may be changed by a vote of the members. These meetings constitute a regular meeting of the Club.

Section 2 Special meetings may be called when considered necessary by the President or the Board. All members shall be notified by the Secretary at least one week in advance of all special Club meetings.

Section 3 The last regular meeting in June shall be the annual meeting, at which time the final reports of the retiring officers shall be read.

ARTICLE X

Elections

Section 1 The officers and Trustees of this Club shall be elected as follows: The first regular meeting in May shall be designated as nomination meeting, and shall be announced to each member by the Secretary by mail at least one week prior to the meeting date.

Section 2 The president shall appoint at least two weeks prior to the meeting date a nominating committee of three members for the purpose of proposing the names of candidates for the Club offices for the presentation to the Club at the nomination meeting. At this meeting nominations for all offices to be filled for the succeeding year may also be made from the floor.

Section 3 If in the interim between nomination meeting and the election meeting some nominee is unable to serve the Club for the office for which he was nominated, whether through death, disability, or refusal to act, and for which office there was no other nominee, the President shall ask for nominations from the floor, for this office only, at the election meeting, prior to the start of voting.

Section 4 The regular meeting in June shall be designated as election meeting, and shall be announced to each member of the Club by the Secretary by mail at least one week prior to meeting date. Said announcement is to include the names of all nominees and the offices to which they were nominated, with a statement that these nominees will be voted upon by those present and eligible to vote at this election meeting.

Section 5 All voting for officers shall be by secret ballot. Absentee balloting will be permitted when received by the President in a sealed envelope prior to the election with the absent member's name thereon.

Section 6 All officers shall be elected annually and shall take office July 1st, and shall hold office for one year or until their successors shall be elected and qualified.

a) The trustees shall be elected for a term of three years. Three shall be elected each year.

b) The Secretary and Treasurer shall be appointed by the President and subject to Board's approval, to serve at their sufferance.

ARTICLE XI **Standing Committees**

Section 1 The President may appoint at this discretion the following committees: (Subject to the Board of Directors approval).

- A. Attendance
- B. Bylaws
- C. Finance
- D. Program
- E. Membership
- F. Publicity and Bulletin Editor
- G. Safety
- H. Rifle and Range
- I. Trap and Still Target
- J. Lake
- K. Grounds and Buildings
- L. Conservation
- M. Auditing
- N. Field Trial

Section 2 Such committees shall consist of not less than three members. They shall be appointed by the President, and their duties shall be the normal work as indicated by the name of the committee, but shall not be inconsistent with the policies and objectives of the Club.

ARTICLE XIII **General Rules**

Section 1 This Club at no time shall endorse or recommend any candidate for political office, nor shall discuss politics or political candidates at the meetings, Except, when a said candidate publicly state political objectives which are in direct conflict with the objectives of this Club, or in the case of a political issue, where said issue is in direct conflict with the objectives of this Club. Also, no religious discussions shall be tolerated at the meetings.

Section 2 No member or officer of this Club shall use it as a means for furthering any personal, political, or other aspirations, nor shall the Club as a whole take part in any movement not in keeping with the real purpose and objectives of the Club.

Section 3 No funds shall be solicited from members of the Club during the meetings by any individual or individuals who are not members of the Club.

ARTICLE XIV

Amendments

Section 1 The Bylaws may be amended at the regular meeting of the Club in December, at which there is a quorum, by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided that the Board of Directors has previously considered and approved the merits of the amendment.

Section 2 No amendment shall be put to a vote, unless written notice shall have been mailed to each member of this Club at least two weeks previous to the meeting at which the amendment is to be voted on, said notice to state the proposed amendment and the name of the member proposing same.

Section 3 All proposed amendments to these bylaws shall be submitted to the Board of Directors at their regular meeting in October. All proposed amendments must be signed by the proposing member.

Section 4 When adopted, any amendment shall be come effective at the next regular or special meeting of the Club or Board of Directors.