

BY LAWS OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY FISH & GAME ASSOCIATION, INC.

Revised: March 2022 (8th)
Revised: January 2014 (7th)
Revised: January 2012 (6th)
Revised: May 2009 (5th)
Revised: February 2007 (4th)
Revised: January 2007 (3rd)
Revised: December 1999 (2nd)

ARTICLE 1 – NAME & ADDRESS

The name of this organization shall be Hamilton County Fish & Game Association Inc. (HCFG).
The property address is 1100 Edith Avenue, Noblesville, IN 46060
[The mailing address is Post Office Box 123, Noblesville, IN 46061]

ARTICLE 2 – OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this organization shall be:

2A - CONSERVATION

1. To promote, conserve & protect all wildlife, fish & game.
2. To support wildlife conservation programs and assist wildlife management programs planting of trees, raising of birds, rabbits, fish etc. and any needed volunteer help to Department of Natural Resources, State of Indiana
3. To improve and promote better fishing and hunting in Hamilton County, Indiana and the state of Indiana and assist in the enforcement of all game laws of the state.
4. To conduct and promote all kinds of indoor and outdoor entertainment, amusements, contests, and attractions of whatsoever kind or nature and acquire, lease purchase and convey such person property and real estate as may be necessary or essential, to properly conduct such activities of the association.

2B - FIREARMS

1. To promote firearms safety and education.
2. To instruct persons in this community interested in firearm safety with a view toward a better knowledge on the part of such citizen of the safe handling and proper care and use of firearms, as well as improved marksmanship.

To forward the development of these characteristics of honesty, good fellowship, self-discipline, team play and self-reliance which are the essentials of good sportsmanship and the foundation of true patriotism.

ARTICLE 3 – MEMBERSHIP

Any citizen of the United States over 21 years of age may potentially become a member of Hamilton County Fish & Game Association. All potential members must undergo a criminal background check at their expense. At the board's discretion, a valid and current Indiana License to Carry Handgun (LTCH) may substitute for an Indiana State Police background check. Successful candidates must complete following:

1. Obtaining Sponsorship from existing HCFG member in good standing,
2. Completion of the application for membership,
3. Signing a Release of Liability,
4. Signing the Range Rules & Orientation Form - any violation of these Rules will be subject to a reprimand or dismissal from the Club,
5. Verification of membership in good standing with the National Rifle Association (NRA),
6. Attend three (3) club meetings AND one (1) work detail AND one (1) club sanctioned event AND the HCFG Safety Orientation,

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7. Payment of the usual initiation fees and dues as set by the Board of Directors,
8. Affirmative vote of the Board of Directors,
9. Affirmative vote of the club membership.

Membership Fees:

Membership requirements, fees & dues will be set yearly by the Board of Directors.

Maximum Number of Members:

A maximum of one hundred and fifty (150) members of Active Status will be the Club limit.

3A – MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

All members are entitled to enjoy full benefit of the Club facilities.

Primary Members in good standing are entitled to vote on election of officers.

Primary Members in good standing can hold office in the club.

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3B – MEMBERSHIP TYPES & CONTINUING MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

There are two (2) types of memberships and one (1) type of Benefactor:

1. **Individual Membership** – An individual is defined as one (1) person over 21 years of age. An individual member in good standing will have access to the Club property and will have all voting privileges. An individual member is also referred to as the Primary Member.
2. **Spousal Membership** – The spouse of an Individual Member is ELIGIBLE for a free membership under the following conditions: 1) The primary member must be a member in good standing and must propose the spouse for membership. The Spouse must: 2) Submit an application for membership, 3) Sign a Release of Liability, 4) Sign the Range Rules & Orientation Form, 5) Attend an initial Safety Orientation and all required future Safety Orientations. If the Primary Member ceases to be a member in good standing, the spouse will automatically lose all standing and privileges of membership. On a case by case basis, the Board of Directors will have sole discretion to decide who qualifies to be included as a spouse and can revoke a spousal membership at any time. There will be one (1) vote for each Primary Member & Spouse combination and that vote will be exercised by the Primary Member. On a case by case basis and at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors, the Primary Member may be allowed to designate the spouse to maintain membership in good standing and/or to exercise the one (1) vote.
3. **Benefactor** -Benefactors shall be businesses or individuals who wish to support our club. Benefactors are not entitled to use of the Club facilities and do not have voting privileges.

Continuing Membership Requirements:

1. To remain a member in good standing, the Primary a member is required to pay yearly dues, maintain the status of a member in good standing with the National Rifle Association (NRA), attend four (4) monthly meetings, participate in one (1) quarterly work detail, perform one (1) mowing detail, and complete one (1) HCFG Upkeep job. On a case by case basis, the Board of Directors will have sole discretion to modify the monthly meeting, work detail and HCFG Upkeep requirements.
2. Any member may have membership privileges revoked, temporarily or permanently, for violation of club rules or willful destruction of club property. The Board of Directors shall have sole discretion over member removal.

3C – LAW ENFORCEMENT

Law enforcement officers, judges and active military may be eligible for special membership fees as decreed by Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 4 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A total of seven (7) Directors will make up the Board of Directors. There will be Four (4) officers and three (3) non-officers on the Board of Directors. Four (4) members of Board of Directors shall constitute a Quorum, provided all are in attendance. In the absence of all seven (7) Directors, five (5) Directors affirmative to a vote will be required. The Board of Directors shall have general supervision and control of all activities of the club: the Board of Directors may make decisions, arrangements, and work with organizations and individuals to carry out objectives and needs of the club.

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4A – ELECTED OFFICES

The club will have seven (7) elected offices as follows:

President – 2 year term January 1 to December 31 inclusive, elected to start in odd numbered years, e.g.-2023 thru 2024.

Vice-President – 2 year term January 1 to December 31 inclusive, elected to start in even numbered years, e.g.- 2022 thru 2023.

Secretary – 2 year term January 1 to December 31 inclusive, elected to start in odd numbered years, e.g.- 2023 thru 2024.

Treasurer - 2 year term January 1 to December 31 inclusive, elected to start in even numbered years, e.g.- 2022 thru 2023.

Three non-officer Directors – Elected to a three (3) year term January 1 to December 31 inclusive. The three year terms will be staggered with no more than one Director term expiring in any given year. Elected officers may serve as many times as the membership votes them into office.

Club Directors serving 10 or more consecutive years will have a lifetime \$25.00 a year membership dues.

4B – BOARD MEMBER REMOVAL

Any officer or board member may be removed from office by majority vote of 2/3's of current active members in good standing who cast a vote by the voting deadline, with fifteen (15) day notice for said officer or board member to defend their position.

Conflict of Interest:

No member who is an officer of an organization that is a conflict of interest to the NRA OR HCFG may serve on the Board of Directors. If an HCFG officer or board member is an officer or member of an organization that is deemed a conflict of interest with HCFG, the person will be removed from office by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

4C – BOARD OF DIRECTORS VACANCIES

Resignation of any officer or board member will be presented to the remaining members of the Board of Directors. If one or more vacancies exist, a nomination will be put before the membership and voted on at the next monthly meeting. The party elected will replace and fill term of the parties that resigned.

4D – OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS DUTIES

President – Shall preside at monthly meetings of club. He/she may form regular and special committees, may appoint/remove members, and shall be a member ex-officio of regular and special committees. He/she shall perform all such other duties as usually pertain to the office and be available for special events

Vice-President – Shall perform the duties of president in his/her absence or at his/her request.

Secretary – The Secretary shall conduct all official correspondence pertaining to the proper preparation and forwarding of all reports required of the club, (incorporation papers, not-for-profit to Secretary of State, etc.). He/she shall notify the members of the Board of Directors of all meetings and shall notify members of special meetings via U.S. Mail and/or e-mail. He/she shall issue membership cards, keep a true record of all meetings, including Board of Directors meetings and membership roster, and have custody of the books and papers of the

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club, except the Treasurer's book of accounts. He/she shall be responsible for re-affiliating the club annually with the NRA. Shall submit club accounting to Hamilton County Assessor & State every (2) two years & Complete State form #136 (file even numbered years). Pick up U.S. mail from P.O. Box 123 at Post Office Noblesville IN. in a timely manner & maintain Key Bank lockbox #54 & contents. The Board of Directors may audit the books & records at any time.

Treasurer – The Treasurer shall collect dues, handle all moneys, and have charge of all funds of the club to place in such bank account or banks as approved the Board of Directors. The money of the club shall only be withdrawn by check(s) signed by the Treasurer for the payment of such bills as approved by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall keep accurate account of all his transactions and render a detailed report with vouchers at any meeting of the Board of Directors when requested. Monthly and annual reports shall be presented to the members of the organization at the monthly meetings. Copies of any statements shall be given to the secretary as needed or deemed necessary. Club accounting shall be submitted to the Hamilton County Assessor & State every (2) two years & complete State form #136 (file even numbered years). File entity report to Secretary of State in January each year. Pick up U.S. mail from P.O. Box 123 at Post Office Noblesville IN. in a timely manner & pay all bill's by due date. Maintain Key Bank lockbox #54 & contents. The Board of Directors may audit the books & records at any time.

Non-Officer Directors – Attend Board and membership monthly meetings.

ARTICLE 5 – ELECTIONS

At the regular meeting in October of each year, nominations will be accepted for new Officers and Directors whose terms have expired. At the November meeting, nominations will also be taken and then nominations closed. At the December meeting, membership shall elect officers and board members for the upcoming year. New Officers/Directors will assume office January 1 of the New Year.

5A – ELECTION MEETING QUORM

A majority of the total membership in good standing who cast a vote by the voting deadline establishes the vote.

ARTICLE 6 – CLUB MEETINGS

Club meetings will be held as follows:

6A – MEMBERSHIP MONTHLY MEETINGS

There will be monthly meetings held at the dates set forth by the Board of Directors at which time all proposals of the new business will be reported and brought forth to the membership. On business where a vote is required, a majority of the total membership in good standing who cast a vote by the voting deadline establishes the vote. Completed business will be stated and the Treasurer's report given. If deemed necessary, special meetings of the membership may be called, but requires U.S.P.S mailing of notification of meeting date, time, place, etc. E-mail is acceptable to those who have it- but U.S.P.S. for those who do not, all membership must be notified.

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6B – BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Board of Directors meetings will be held prior to each monthly membership meeting, or as deemed necessary. Such meetings may be called at any time by the club president or by a Quorum of the Board of Directors, provided a minimum of seven (7) days notice communicated via the BOD's email account. Four (4) members of Board of Directors shall constitute a Quorum, provided all are in attendance. In the absence of all seven (7) Directors, five (5) Directors affirmative to a vote will be required. Members may attend the Board of Director meetings if desired.

ARTICLE 7– COMMUNICATIONS & MEMBER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Members should keep aware of news of club activities and decisions. Information may be obtained upon asking a Board Member, the HCFG website or the bulletin boards on premises. Members are expected to use these services to keep abreast of current club activities. Also for information see: "Standard Operating Procedures" available on the sign in desk.

ARTICLE 8 – AMENDING THESE BY LAWS

Any member of the club at any regular meeting may introduce any proposed amendments to these By Laws. This must be submitted in writing to the President of the club with a copy to the club Secretary. A Notice of the Request for Amendment of the By Laws will be made and posted in the building and/or the web site. The amendment(s) must garner an affirmative vote of a minimum of five (5) Board of Directors before proceeding to an entire membership vote. Membership will be presented with any amendments passing BOD vote at the following monthly meeting. A vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the total active members in good standing who cast a vote by the voting deadline is necessary to pass or reject the proposed amendment(s).

ARTICLE 9 – RANGE USE

All members are required to read and adhere to the HCFG Range Rules when using the ranges. Members should re-read them if there are any questions on use of the ranges or contact a Board member with questions on use of the range. All new members are required to read and sign off on the HCFG Range Orientation Guidelines. Once a year, all members are required to read and sign they have read the HCFG Basic Safety Rules.

Alcohol and Illegal Drug Policy:

Illegal Drug possession or use is prohibited at all times. Alcohol use is not allowed on HCFG premises during shooting hours. Limited alcohol use may be permitted after hours on a limited basis with Board of Director approval, e.g.- 'poker night'.

Member Identification Cards:

A member's identification card must be worn on the member's body and be must visible to other members at all times while the member is on HCFG property for any reason. On a case by case basis, this requirement may be modified for club events at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors.

Guest Policy:

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Guest fees will set by the Board of Directors. There is no guest fee for a primary member's family. All guests must sign a Liability Waiver. Guests who are minors must be listed on a Liability Waiver and signed for by the primary member. The maximum number of non-family guests allowed on the ranges is three (3) guests per primary member per visit unless prior approval is obtained from the Board of Directors and the general membership is notified by posting the information on the Calendar located on the club website. All guests must be accompanied by the primary member while on HCFG property. A Spousal member cannot bring guests to the Club. A Spousal member is not considered a guest of the primary member. The guest policy applies to every day of the year.

Target guidelines for all shooting ranges:

1. No personal metal targets allowed, except as provided in the "HCFG Member Steel Target Policy" adopted 10/07/2020 or a club sanctioned event. Only paper or wooden targets are to be used at all other times, unless otherwise stated in the HCFG Range Rules.
2. No Trap or Skeet shooting with any type of firearm. The only exception would be a club sponsored event.

ARTICLE 10 – DISSOLUTION

In the event that it should ever become necessary, and the club membership votes to dissolve the club legally named the Hamilton County Fish & Game Association, Inc., an affirmative vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the current active members in good standing who cast a vote by the voting deadline shall be required. The dissolution procedure will be as follows:

- 1) The real estate property and all assets will be sold and the proceeds will be deposited in an HCFG cash account.
- 2) All HCFG cash will be consolidated into one (1) cash account.
- 3) Any and all outstanding HCFG debts and expenses will be paid in full from the HCFG cash account.
- 4) Any and all excess HCFG funds will be donated to one of the following Pro-Second Amendment Non-Profit Organizations: National Rifle Association, Second Amendment Foundation, Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership, or the National Shooting Sports Foundation. Selection of the chosen organization shall be determined by an affirmative Board of Directors vote consisting of at least five (5) directors in favor.
- 5) All laws and regulations pertaining to the Dissolution will be followed and the then current Treasurer and Secretary will prepare and file all the necessary Dissolution paperwork.
- 6) A *One-Page Summary of the Dissolution* will be prepared by the then current Treasurer and Secretary and will be distributed via email to all club members listed on the then Current Email Distribution list.
The document will list in summary fashion:
 - a) *Cash Inflows* including, but not limited to, asset sales and account consolidations.
 - b) *Cash Outflows* including, but not limited to, debt payments, expense payments and the donation of excess funds.
 - c) *Paperwork Filings:* the Title of each form/letter required for Dissolution and the Date each was filed.

ARTICLE 11 – CLUB VOTES

Email – Email voting is allowed. The Board of Directors will establish the procedures for email voting.

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Majority – When calculating the number of votes required for a majority, the result will always be rounded down.

Example: total membership in good standing is 85 x ¾ majority requirement = 63.75, therefore the number of notes required wiould be 63.

I hereby certify that these By Laws have been adopted by this Club on **February 22, 2022**.

President: _____ Date: _____
 JIM SPOSATO

Vice President: _____ Date: _____
 DAVID LAGOMARCINO

Secretary: _____ Date: _____
 RANDY BOLINGER

Treasurer: _____ Date: _____
 STEVE LOESSL