

# **By-Laws of Defiance County Fish and Game Association, Inc.**

## ***Article I Designation***

Section 1. This Corporation, organized under the laws of the State of Ohio, shall be known as Defiance County Fish and Game Association, Inc. The principal office and place of transacting business shall be in Defiance County.

## ***Article II Officers***

Section 1. The officers of this corporation shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Board of Director Representatives (two (2) members), and Trustees (three (3) members).

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the corporation, appoint needed committees, and approve projects involving expenditures of Fish and Game funds.

Section 3. It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to perform the duties of President, in case of the president's death, absence, or other incapacity to serve.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a record of all the meetings and proceedings of this corporation, keep an up to date listing of all Fish and Game members, and serve as the record keeper of minutes and notes from prior years.

Section 5. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to have charge of all of the funds of the Fish and Game, give the financial report at the monthly meetings, and any other meetings that are called by the President.

Section 6. It shall be the duty of the Trustees to assist the above-mentioned officers and any committees that might be set up for the Fish and Game. Trustees will serve a three (3) year term of office.

Section 7. It shall be the duty of the Fish and Game Board of Directors Representatives to serve as our representation on the Fish and Game Board of Directors and to report back to the Fish and Game membership at the monthly meetings.

Section 8. The term of office for the offices of: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Board of Director Representatives, shall be for one (1) year starting on January 1, after their election. The members of the board of trustees shall hold office for three (3) years, starting on January 1, after their election. One (1) Trustee will be elected each year so that there is a rotation of Trustees.

Section 9. It shall be the responsibility of all of the above listed officers to attend Fish and Game monthly meetings and, also, officer meetings. When officers know that they will not be able to attend a meeting, they should let the President or Vice-President know. They may, also, send a proxy to represent their office. Absence at three (3) or more meetings per year will be grounds for their being replaced as an officer of the Fish and Game.

### ***Article III Meetings***

Section 1. The members of this corporation shall meet in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month, at other times when called by the President, or upon the written request of ten (10) members. Special session meetings (*at the request of ten (10) members*) must have items for the agenda presented to the officers prior to a meeting date being set by the president.

### ***Article IV Elections***

Section 1. The election of officers shall be conducted by secret ballot at the regular December meeting. The Secretary, Treasurer, one (1) Trustee, and at least one (1) member who is not a current officer will count ballots. After the ballots from the election have been counted and recorded, they shall be sealed and kept by the Secretary for two years. A candidate shall be declared elected after receiving a majority of the votes.

In order for the membership to have knowledge of the candidates, nominations must be made at the regular October meeting. Candidates for office will need a recommendation, have a second to that nomination, and agree to serve in that office the following year to be considered a candidate. Candidates for office will be given time to speak at the regular November meeting.

Section 2. To be eligible to vote, a member must have been an active member for a minimum of six (6) months.

Section 3. No write-in candidates will be considered.

Section 4. A quorum, of not less than twenty-five (25) members, is required for the election of officers.

### ***Article V Membership***

Section 1. Any person over the age of eighteen (18) years may become an Active member of the Fish and Game upon payment of their yearly dues. Upon payment of the dues, that person shall receive a membership certificate for the remainder of the current calendar year. Renewable (Active) dues are payable prior to January 1 and remain active the following

calendar year. Should any member's dues remain in arrears for sixty (60) days, that membership shall be cancelled and the certificate of membership considered void. A member shall be considered "in good standing" as long as their membership is current and they are following all Fish and Game rules while on the property. The Fish and Game officers shall set the amount of dues charged for a Fish and Game membership.

Section 2. Any minor under the age of eighteen (18) years may become a Junior Member of the Fish and Game. The parent, guardian, grandparent, or sponsor of the minor must be an Active or Life member of the Fish and Game and request Junior Membership for the minor. Junior membership is encouraged, but not required, for participation in Fish and Game youth activities. Junior members are not allowed to vote. A junior member shall be considered "in good standing" as long as their parent, guardian, grandparent, or sponsor's membership is current and the junior member is following all Fish and Game rules while on the property. Adult supervision is required when youth members are on Club grounds.

Section 3. Life memberships for a person over the age of eighteen (18) years are available. The Fish and Game officers shall set the amount of dues charged for a Fish and Game Life membership.

### ***Article VI***

Section 1. The President shall appoint all Committees.

### ***Article VII***

Section 1. These by-laws shall be in full effect or amended when they have been approved by a majority of the members present at time of the vote. This vote shall be at a regular meeting after notification has been given at two (2) prior meetings about the vote to make changes.