

Bylaws

Lisbon Fish & Game Association

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be called the Lisbon Fish & Game Association.

ARTICLE II - STATEMENT OF INCORPORATION

The Lisbon Fish & Game Association shall be a non-profit corporation, incorporated under the laws of the State of Maine and having its principle place of business in Lisbon, Maine.

ARTICLE III – OBJECT

The object of this organization shall be the encouragement and promotion of organized shotgun, rifle, pistol, and archery shooting with a view toward a better knowledge of the safe handling and proper care of firearms, as well as improved marksmanship. It shall be our further object to provide fellowship through mutual interest, and to encourage good sportsmanship among its members.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

(a) The membership of this club shall consist of such persons as may care to associate themselves together for the above purposes.

(b) To become a member, a candidate must be at least 18 years of age, apply directly or indirectly, to the Secretary. New applicants that applied for membership during September or later, shall become members for that year plus the following year. Payment of the current annual dues plus background check fee must accompany the application before the applicant can be considered for membership. The application is forwarded to the next general meeting where the applicant must receive a two-thirds majority vote from the members present before they are added to the membership list, pending a satisfactory criminal background check.

(c) If it is in the best interest of the club, a member may be expelled by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Executive Committee, at a duly called meeting. Any member expelled may demand a hearing before any regular or special meeting of the club. A two-thirds majority vote of the members present at the meeting shall be necessary for final expulsion.

(d) No person who has been convicted of a felony or a firearms violation may become a member of the Lisbon Fish & Game.

(e) Members qualifying for Life membership status after December 31, 2018, will be assessed dues for membership. They must have attained the age of 70 years with the previous 5 years in continuous good standing. The assessed dues will be 50% of the regular renewal cost (rate set by Executive Committee). The Executive Committee can designate “life membership” to any member who displays meritorious service. The “designated” life member will have no dues assessed. Members achieving Life membership status prior to December 31, 2018 are exempt from dues.

ARTICLE V – DUES

(a) Annual dues to the club will be paid not later than the last day of the March. The membership year runs from January 1st thru December 31st.

(b) No member of the club in arrears shall be eligible to vote or enjoy the privileges or benefits offered by the club.

(c) Immediate families of the members in good standing will be considered non-voting members of the Lisbon Fish & Game Association. “Family” is defined as a member’s husband/wife or significant other, and children under 18 years of age who are permanently domiciled in that household.

(d) Membership dues shall be set by majority vote of the club members and only those members over the age of eighteen (18) years are entitled to vote.

(e) Military members in good standing, who are deployed outside the state of Maine, shall have their

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membership remain active and no dues assessed until they return to Maine. At the beginning of the next year, they will be charged the annual dues as regular renewal members. It is the responsibility of the member to notify the secretary and provide proof of such deployments.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

(a) ANNUAL MEETING. The annual meeting for yearly election of officials for the club, shall be held at the regular January meeting. If the annual meeting does not take place at the time fixed, it shall be held within a reasonable time thereafter not to exceed sixty days, and the officers shall hold their respective positions until their successors have been elected.

(b) REGULAR MEETINGS. The regular meetings of the club for the transaction of ordinary business shall be held on the third Wednesday of each month except December.

(c) SPECIAL MEETINGS. A special meeting of the club may be held at any time upon the call of the President or upon call of the Executive Committee, or upon demand in writing, stating the object of the proposed meeting, and signed by not less than a QUORUM of the members entitled to vote. Notice of the time, place and object of any special meeting, shall be given to all officers and members in good standing in writing by the United States mail not less than seven days prior to the special meeting. The place of the special meeting shall be fixed by the Executive Committee.

(d) QUORUM. A minimum of ten (10) members of the club entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum.

(e) MANAGEMENT. During a declared state of emergency, or when the membership is unable to hold general meetings due to weather, safety or other unforeseen circumstances; the executive committee will vote in new member applications and conduct club business. No unnecessary new projects should be undertaken until such time as the membership is able to resume meetings.

ARTICLE VII – OFFICERS

(a) The officers of the club shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and six (6) Directors of the Board who, acting together shall constitute, the Executive committee. They shall be elected by a majority vote by ballot of the members in good standing, constituting a quorum, at the annual meeting of the club. The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected to office at the annual meeting for a period of one year. Each Board of Director member is elected to a three-year term. There are no term limit restrictions. No member under the age of twenty-one (21) years of age shall be eligible for election to the Executive Committee.

(b) The Executive Committee shall have general supervision and control of all the activities of the club. The executive committee may make agreements with other organizations and individuals to carry out the objectives of the club.

(c) Meetings of the executive committee shall be held regularly at such time and place as the committee may determine. Special meetings may be held at any time on the call of the President or on demand, in writing to the secretary, by three members of the Executive Committee.

(d) Five (5) members of the executive committee constitute a quorum.

(e) Designation of any officer of the Executive Committee may be accepted by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Executive Committee.

(f) A vacancy in the Executive Committee may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Executive Committee. However, if more than one vacancy exists, a special meeting of the club shall be called and new officers shall be elected to fill the vacancies until the date of the next annual meeting as provided in Article VI, paragraph (a) above.

(g) If any member of the Executive Committee shall miss two consecutive meetings (including regular, special or executive) his/her office shall be declared vacant and the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with these by-laws. Nothing in this section shall prevent the re-appointment of this person.

ARTICLE VIII - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- (a) **PRESIDENT.** The president shall preside at all meetings of the club and Executive Committee. The President shall be a member ex-officio of all regular and special committees, and shall perform all other duties as usually pertain to the office.
- (b) **VICE-PRESIDENT.** The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in their absences or at their request.
- (c) **SECRETARY.** The Secretary shall conduct all official correspondence pertaining to the proper preparation and forwarding of all reports required of the club. The Secretary shall notify the members of the Executive Committee of all meetings and shall notify the members of the special and annual meetings, as required by Article VI. The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings and have the custody of the books and papers of the club, except the Treasures books of account. All applications for membership in the club shall be made to the Secretary. The Secretary shall be responsible for the collection of all fees and dues and shall remit the same to the Treasurer, taking proper receipt, therefore.
- (d) **TREASURER.** The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds of the club and place the same in such bank or banks as may be approved by the Executive Committee. Such money may only be withdrawn by check signed by the Treasurer or other designated officer for the payment of such bills. The Treasurer will have the authority to pay all routine operating expenses of the club and spend up to \$500.00 for the benefit of the club without the permission of the Executive Committee, to cover any unforeseen or necessary housekeeping requirements. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate account of all transactions and render a detailed report with vouchers at any meeting of the Executive Committee when requested and an annual report to the organization at its' annual meeting.
- (e) **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.** The Executive Committee shall be responsible for establishing policies which govern the activities of the club. Except for expenditures providing an adequate supply of targets for club sponsored shoots, they shall approve all expenditures amounting up to \$1,000.00 per month. The Committee shall meet when called by the President or any three (3) of its' members. A majority vote shall govern the action of the committee. The Executive Committee shall give a report of activities at each meeting. The Executive Committee meetings are open to any of the general membership unless a closed session is called for, in which case, non-committee members will be asked to leave for the period of the closed session. Non-committee members do not have a vote in committee matters.
- (f) **BOARD OF DIRECTORS.** A Board of Directors shall consist of six (6) members in good standing of which one (1) will be an appointed member of the Slovak Catholic Association (SCA), when the SCA's membership is current. The directors shall be part of the Executive Committee. Each director shall be assigned duties by the President or Executive Committee

ARTICLE IX – SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION

- (a) Any officer may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the members in good standing present at any special meeting called for this purpose. No vote on suspension or removal may be taken, unless, at least fifteen (15) days' notice *in writing*, shall have been given to the officer of the reasons of their removal, and the time and place of the special meeting. At the time of the special meeting a ballot will be taken only after the officer has had a full hearing.
- (b) Any member may be suspended or expelled from the club for any cause deemed sufficient by the Executive Committee by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members of the committee, present at any regular or special meeting. The same guidelines apply as in Article IX, paragraph (a) above.
- (c) Charges against any officer or member of the club may be preferred by any member in good standing. They shall be in writing, clearly stating the facts relied upon and accompanied by all affidavits or exhibits, which are to be used in their support. Such charges will be filed with the Secretary, who will immediately notify the President. The President will call a meeting of the Executive Committee to hear the charges. The time rules outlined in Article IX, paragraph (a) will apply.
- (d) Any member suspended or expelled by the Executive committee may appeal to the full membership of the club. Such appeal will be in writing to the Secretary who will notify the President. The President
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shall call a special meeting of the club for the purpose of acting on the appeal. Again, the fifteen (15) days notification *in writing* shall apply. At the meeting of the full club membership, the Secretary will read the original charges, the supporting affidavits, and will read or display the accompanying exhibits, and will read the minutes of the special meeting of the Executive Committee at which the charges were heard and action was taken. A full hearing will be given to the accuser and the accused. A vote, by ballot, of the members in good standing present and a two-thirds majority vote shall be required to reverse the decision of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE X – SLOVAK AGREEMENT (SCA)

(a) The membership of the Slovak Catholic Association (SCA) is granted associate membership status. Also, as associate members they (SCA) shall have no vote except for the disposition of real property owned by the Lisbon Fish & Game Association Inc. The SCA will pay one-dollar (\$1.00) associate membership dues for each member of the SCA. Said dues will be paid by the first quarter of each year. One (1) member appointed by the SCA will become a member of the Board of Directors of the Lisbon Fish & Game Association Inc.

(b) The SCA has the option to use the property upon request. This is interpreted by the Lisbon Fish & Game Association Inc. to allow the SCA to set up shooting events and the LF&GA will open the property and provide guidance and supervision. The LF&GA will control access to their property.

(c) If property is disposed of the Lisbon Fish & Game Association Inc. will return total SCA funds paid in full for associate membership status as of the date of sale, if the SCA decides not to exercise their first refusal right to purchase the property at fair market value.

(d) Any agreements between the SCA and the Lisbon Fish & Game Association Inc. will terminate upon the liquidation of the SCA and are non-transferable to successor organizations of the SCA.

ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENTS

Any proposed amendments to these by-laws may be introduced by any member of the club at any regular meeting or special meeting called for that purpose. Such proposed changes must be submitted in writing at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting, a quorum must be present and two-thirds majority vote of the members present will be necessary to pass said changes.