

Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists



On the Front Lines - So you can be in the woods, on the water or at the range!

Membership & Policy Manual

Revised 4/2024

PFSC's Vision:

To be recognized as the premier voice for conservation and our outdoor heritage in Pennsylvania.

PFSC's Mission:

To protect and conserve Pennsylvania's natural resources, outdoor heritage and 2nd Amendment Rights.

PFSC is a 501 c 4 non-profit organization

Donations are not tax-deductable

The Pennsylvania Wildlife Federation (PWF) is the Educational Arm of the PFSC

PWF is a 501 c 3 non-profit organization

Donations are tax-deductable

The PFSC Foundation is a 501 c 3 non-profit organization

Donations are tax-deductable

CONSERVATION PLEDGE

I give my pledge as an American, to save and faithfully defend from waste, the natural resources of my country.
Its air, soil, minerals, forests, waters and wildlife.

In all assemblies of Americans, let this pledge ring out!

DATES TO REMEMBER

ANNUAL CONFERENCE / MEMBERSHIP MEETING: SPRING - March

PFSC BOARD MEETINGS: January, March, June and September

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION (THE CONSERVATION LANTERN) PRINTING: Quarterly - January, April, July, October

NEWSLETTERS: Sent monthly via email.

HOW DO I JOIN THE PFSC?

Individual membership forms are available on the website and on the back page of this manual. Club and Statewide Organization membership forms (Affiliation Sheets) are available for download on the website, or contact the state office for a form and/or instructions.

Questions, need more information, want a PFSC representative to attend a meeting or event: Contact the state office. The PFSC staff will see that you or your club is contacted by a PFSC representative.

Contact us at: PFSC
2426 North Second St.
Harrisburg, PA 17110-1104
Phone: (717) 232-3480
E-mail: info@pfsc.org
Website: pfsc.org

Individual Members: will receive confirmation and a membership card in the mail and receive the quarterly magazine. Those who provide an email address will receive the monthly newsletter and e-alerts.

Clubs and Organizations: will receive a membership certificate. The club/organization president, secretary and delegate (club appointed representative to the PFSC) will receive the quarterly magazine. The monthly newsletter and e-alerts will be sent to all email addresses provided on the affiliation forms.

To help PFSC keep you abreast of current and urgent news, please provide at least one email contact address to receive the monthly newsletter, e-news blasts and alerts.

Join the largest sportsmen's organization in Pennsylvania

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Table of Contents

PFSC Goals & Ojections	Page 3	Types of Membership	Page 11
PFSC History	Page 4	Dues Structure & Rate Chart	Page 12
Why PFSC?	Page 5	PFSC Legislative Affairs	Page 13
Organizational Chart	Page 6	Standards for Affiliation	Page 14
Delegate Duties & Responsibilities	Page 7	How to Write a Resolution	Page 16
PFSC at Work for You	Page 9	Resolution Form	Page 17
Why Join PFSC?	Page 10	Policies	Page 18
Benefits of Membership	Page 11	Membership Application	Back Cover

PFSC'S GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: Protect and promote hunting, fishing, trapping and related sportsmen's rights and privileges

Strategic Objectives

- Support outdoor youth events and wildlife education at all types of venues
- Build partnerships with other organizations to foster our outdoor heritage
- Monitor legislative activities related to outdoor activities.
- Represent the sportsmen's concerns and interests with the resource agencies
- Foster programs to introduce a more diverse group to the outdoors

Goal 2: Secure and defend our 2nd Amendment Rights as guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States of America

Strategic Objectives

- Promote programs that enhance the public's understanding of the 2nd Amendment
- Ensure the hunting public is aware of the challenges to the right to own firearms
- Coordinate with the National Rifle Association and other pro 2nd Amendment organizations on national and state policy issues
- Monitor State and Federal legislation that could infringe on gun ownership by law-abiding citizens

Goal 3: Cooperate and partner with other organizations and entities to further advance conservation and natural resources, habitat and outdoor heritage issues.

Strategic Objectives

- Build education programs to enhance knowledge of fish and wild-

life habitat needs

- Establish relationships with nontraditional/non-consumptive outdoor advocates where interests coincide
- Work and coordinate with a wide variety of organizations on common issues
- Create methods of communication to foster new relationships
- Ensure member sportsmen's clubs and organizations know the PFSC will represent their issues and concerns

Goal 4: Establish recognition of PFSC by the citizens and government officials of Pennsylvania as the premier advocate for sportsmen and outdoor issues

Strategic Objectives

- Be the voice of sportsmen and sportswomen on legislative and policy issues
- Ensure productive presence with the members of the Pennsylvania House and Senate
- Construct a communication system that provides information to the general public on outdoor policy and regulatory issues
- Build information programs for members to use to promote the PFSC
- Ensure productive presence with our state and federal resource agencies (PGC, PFBC, DCNR, DEP, USFWS, USFS)
- Increase number of legislative contacts from members, clubs and partners

Goal 5: Streamline organizational decision-making process

Strategic Objectives

- Improve participation of members, clubs and partners in decision making

- Build a database of members who want to participate in decision making on policy issues
- Use modern survey techniques to speed up the process
- Ensure members without technology have a method to participate
- Reorganize the Board to promote Board Governance

Goal 6: Improve communications to both internal and external stakeholders

Strategic Objectives

- Build an information system that reaches members in a timely manner
- Produce a periodical in print and online on significant events and issues
- Use technology to be more inclusive with information
- Increase media awareness of outdoor policy issues

Goal 7: Ensure future financial stability for the PFSC

Strategic Objectives

- Expand and build a more extensive membership base as one means of support
- Apply for grants to support wildlife education and youth activities
- Promote events that are cost-effective to raise funds.
- Look for members and others to provide legacy grants through estate planning
- Evaluate more cost-effective means of operations
- Eliminate programs that are no longer functional or relevant in today's world
- Provide an easy means of donating through the website
- Increase donation opportunities through annual appeals

The History of PFSC - Protecting Sportsmen's Interests Since 1932

The Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc. (PFSC), one of the oldest and the largest sportsmen's organization in Pennsylvania, was established on February 11, 1932, with a meeting of five Pennsylvania conservationists, Ross L. Leffler, John M. Phillips, Judge Grover C. Ladner, Colin Reed and John Youngman. This meeting, oddly enough, took place at the Pennsylvania Hotel in New York City. The meeting ended with Ross Leffler serving as temporary chairman until the organization could be formally established. Judge Ladner was elected as the first PFSC President in March of 1932 and served in this capacity until 1939.

From the beginning, the Federation was concerned with conservation issues in Pennsylvania. In the early days, there were few, if any, regulations to protect the environment. The Federation focused on how sportsmen could address this problem. The Federation was the driving force behind the passage of Pennsylvania's Clean Streams Act in 1937. Due to their efforts, significant steps were also taken in fish and game laws, and greater emphasis was placed on Game Land acquisition. The organization continued to grow and make a difference.

It was after World War II that sportsmen's interest in conservation bloomed. As they returned home and found many of their favorite hunting and fishing areas devastated by the heavy strip mining necessary to support the war effort, sportsmen went into action.

The strong coal lobby blocked numerous attempts to pass laws requiring back-filling and protection of the streams. It wasn't until after the sportsmen successfully campaigned against the legislators who opposed strip mine reforms that progress was made. It was a long hard road with some victories. The passage of the Bituminous Open Pit Mining Act in 1963 opened the door for other significant achievements: the Anthracite Open Pit Mining Act,

Anti-subsidence Act, Amendments to strengthen the Pennsylvania Clean Streams Act, Reorganization of State Agencies under DER, and the All Surface Mining Act.

PFSC continued on this course, being instrumental in enacting the nation's first Surface Mining Act, establishing Soil and Conservation Districts, and founding the National Wildlife Federation. PFSC also helped pass Pennsylvania's Wild Resource Conservation income tax check-off program, a solid waste bill including mandatory recycling, opposed large-scale commercial development of our state parks, and much more.

The Federation opposed the dredging of the Delaware River and lobbied for the Conservation and Reinvestment Act; became co-plaintiffs in a lawsuit over the proposed route of I-99 and against the Department of Environmental Protection, the Office of Surface Mining, and U.S. Department of the Interior for inadequate and failing mine bonding; worked with the National Wildlife Federation on State Wetlands permits, and more.

While PFSC has a long history of victories that have protected the environment and wildlife, the Federation has also tackled issues directly affecting Pennsylvania's sportsmen and women.

PFSC played a significant role in repealing the Philadelphia Firearms Act, protecting all existing clubs in Pennsylvania from having their ranges closed due to noise complaints by enacting legislation (Senate Bill 56, 1997), testing this legislation in court, and preventing local governments from prohibiting hunting in their jurisdictions through a successful court case in the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania (Duff decision 1987).

PFSC diverted attempts to use game lands as sites for waste disposal and storage and opposed legislation like HB 2181 in 2001. The legislation would have taken control of game

land uses away from the Pennsylvania Game Commission and put it under the legislatively controlled Independent Regulatory Review Commission.

The Federation continues to focus on protecting our outdoor heritage, resources, and Second Amendment Rights and recruiting and retaining our youth. Federation clubs host hundreds of youth field days each year, allowing thousands of youth to explore our sports. We sponsor a statewide youth poster and photo contest with conservation themes and award cash prizes each year. We never cease to be amazed by the talent and effort these kids show each year.

Federation clubs host conservation schools each summer. Students spend from a weekend to a week learning about conservation, the environment, and themselves, and PFSC supports the Wildlife Leadership Academy through scholarships.

PFSC was instrumental in establishing hunter education requirements and actively supports these classes. We believe it is imperative to encourage new hunters to be stewards of our outdoor heritage. We must take safety, ethics, and conservation seriously if the next generation is to have the same opportunities.

The Federation worked tirelessly to help pass legislation that allowed the PGC to create a Mentored Youth Hunting Program within Pennsylvania to allow children under the age of 12 to experience the joys of hunting while accompanied by a mentor. PFSC also supported and helped pass an Adult Mentoring program and a similar program for youth aged 12-18. These programs open the door to a whole new segment of hunters, trappers, anglers and conservationists.

In 2018, the Federation changed its name to the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists.

View a more extensive list of PFSC accomplishments on page 8.

Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists

New Name - Same Core Values

Representing sportsmen's issues with "boots on the ground" on Capitol Hill

WHY PFSC?

Why do we need a statewide sportsmen's/conservation organization when there are so many "special interest" sportsmen's organizations?

The "special interest" groups are focused solely on their specific issues and advocate on behalf of their particular issues - usually a particular species, a specific season, or a specific method of harvesting game. National organizations focus primarily on national issues, not Pennsylvania-specific issues. Most organizations rely on part-time volunteers to carry out their local advocacy work.

PFSC focuses on the larger picture. If your special interest is turkey hunting, PFSC's role is to ensure you can hunt turkeys and have the appropriate tools and opportunities available from the regulatory and legislative levels. PFSC does not focus on what specific species you should pursue or what methods or tools you choose; we work to ensure the appropriate tools and opportunities are available to fulfill your passions.

The Federation looks out for all sportsmen and conservationists' interests by providing a constant presence on Capitol Hill and with our resource agencies. PFSC advocates on your behalf! PFSC is on the front lines, representing your interests and passions so you can be in the woods, on the water, or at the range!

Why does the Federation need full-time staff?

One of the most compelling reasons to support the Federation is because PFSC is the only statewide sportsmen's organization with staff looking out for your interests 24/7. Most other statewide sportsmen's organizations in Pennsylvania rely on volunteers charged with running the organization. However capable, a volunteer's first concern is making a living for themselves and their family. They work on sportsmen's issues in their spare time. In today's political climate, part-time volunteers are essential, but they aren't enough. Protecting the future of hunting, fishing, trapping, our natural resources and our Second Amendment Rights is no longer a part-time side job. It requires the attention and efforts of professional staff who are tasked with doing one thing: looking out for the interests of our sportsmen, women, conservationists, and our outdoor heritage and Second Amendment Rights!

Why does it cost so much to run the PFSC?

Be assured that there are no fat expense accounts in PFSC's annual budget. The Federation operates on a budget of under \$200,000 per year. (Most Nonprofits operate on multimillion-dollar budgets, paying exuberant salaries and high overhead.)

Because our primary function is advocacy on behalf of sportsmen, a majority of the budget covers the salaries of our professional staff, who serve and represent our members' interests. (Our employees could be making much bigger salaries working for other companies, but they believe in our cause and are willing to accept the sacrifice.) The rest of the budget covers outreach, office expenses, insurance, printing the publication, travel, etc.

Professional Staff:

Director of Government Affairs: Provides a constant presence on Capitol Hill and with our Resource Agencies; meets face-to-face with legislators and agency staff; attends and testifies at legislative and resource agency hearings and meetings; conducts annual legislative and general educational advocacy. (Full-time)

Business Admin: Handles day-to-day administrative operations - bookkeeping/accounting, HR, etc. (Part-time)

Communication Admin: Handles communications & correspondence, tracks and monitors legislation and regulations that affect our interests and passions, prepares and sends monthly newsletters and quarterly publications -the Conservation Lantern, advises the board on parliamentary guidelines, protocols and historical perspectives. (Part-time)

Director of Marketing, Fundraising & Outreach: Handles PFSC's marketing, fundraising, recruitment and outreach endeavors to help grow the organization. (Part-time)

Office Assistant: Handles the daily mail runs, membership database management and other office procedures and responsibilities. (Part-time)

PFSC ORGANIZATIONAL CHART / STRUCTURE

Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists, Inc. Board of Directors

President*
Vice President East*
Vice President West*
Secretary*
Treasurer*
Past President*
Representative from each divisions
Representative from member Statewide Organizations
(*Member of the Executive Committee)

Eight Divisions

County & Club Affiliates within the region
PFSC Individual Members within the region

(Elect a "Director" to represent them on the PFSC Board, and other officers necessary to conduct business)

NORTHWEST

Butler, Clarion, Crawford, Erie,
Forest, Lawrence, Mercer, Venango,
Warren

NORTHCENTRAL

Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Elk,
Jefferson, McKean, Potter

NORTHEAST

Carbon, Lackawanna, Luzerne,
Monroe, Pike, Susquehanna,
Wayne, Wyoming,

CENTRAL

Bradford, Columbia, Lycoming, Montour,
Northumberland, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga, Union

SOUTHCENTRAL

Bedford, Blair, Fulton, Huntington, Juniata,
Mifflin

SOUTHWEST

Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver,
Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Indiana,
Somerset, Washington,
Westmoreland

SOUTHERN

Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin,
Lancaster, Lebanon, Perry, York

SOUTHEAST

Berks, Bucks, Chester, Delaware,
Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton,
Philadelphia, Schuylkill

COUNTY FEDERATIONS

PFSC Affiliated Clubs within the county
PFSC Individual & Club Members within the county
(Elect a County Delegate and other officers necessary
to conduct business.)

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Individual, Life,
Next Generation, E-Members

AFFILIATED CLUBS & STATE ORGANIZATIONS

****All Board, County & Division Officers must be
PFSC Individual Members in Good Standing****

It's important to note, that PFSC's Board of Directors are all volunteers and do not receive any reimbursement for travel or meeting expenses. When speaking on behalf of the PFSC at meetings and events, they are doing so on their own dime. These dedicated people use personal days and vacation time to represent PFSC at these functions.



AFFILIATED CLUB, COUNTY, DIVISION & STATE ORGANIZATION RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Provide PFSC with an email address for direct communications from PFSC.
2. Stay informed about PFSC, its activities, member services, fundraisers, and positions on conservation issues.
3. Keep your members informed of PFSC county, division and state activities, member services, fundraisers, and positions on conservation issues.
4. Communicate membership concerns/questions to the state office.
5. Maintain correct contact information for officers and delegates and notify the state office of any changes.
6. Understand the process for submitting resolutions.
7. Make and maintain contact with local legislators.
8. Respond to “calls to action” from the PFSC State Office and encourage fellow members to do the same.
9. Make and maintain contact with local media and promote and publicize Federation issues and activities on a regional basis.
10. Ensure membership dues and forms are filled out correctly and submitted to the state office by February 15.
11. Attend Federation meetings and other events to represent your members’ interests.

Additional Duties:

County Delegates:

1. Work with PFSC-affiliated clubs to ensure the county’s clubs’ affiliation dues and forms are filled out correctly and submitted to the state office by February 15.
2. Participate in the annual conference in March and other board meetings to represent the county’s affiliated clubs and keep them updated on issues and positions taken.

Clubs & State Orgs:

1. Participate in the annual conference in March and other board meetings. Provide feedback on behalf of your club/organization on resolutions and surveys. Keep your members updated on issues and positions.

2. Divisions:

1. Elect a representative to serve as a Director on the PFSC Board to represent the interests of the Division.



PFSC - At Work for You

PFSC keeps a constant presence on Capitol Hill and with our Resource Agencies with
“Boots on the Ground.”

We Represent PFSC Members’ Interests 24/7!

The PFSC:

- Opposes legislation and regulations detrimental to our outdoor heritage, natural resources and Second Amendment Rights.
- Supports science-based and led wildlife management, with the subject matter experts making decisions, not politicians.
- Adamantly oppose restrictive Second Amendment Rights legislation that infringes on the rights of law-abiding citizens.
- Track approximately 500+ bills each legislative session pertinent (often detrimental) to the interests of sportsmen & conservationists.

A Few Past Accomplishments & Supported Issues

- Fought for sportsmen’s rights to access fishing in the Lehigh River, a state-navigable waterway
- Passed a law that protects shooting ranges from closure due to noise complaints. Due to rapid urban development, this problem affected up to 60 percent of PFSC-affiliated clubs and could affect up to 95 percent of shooting ranges in Pennsylvania.
- Joined an affiliated club in a lawsuit that tested the “shooting range noise protection law” in the courts and won, keeping the club’s ranges from being closed due to noise complaints. This precedent-setting case was won in July 1992.
- Won another precedent-setting lawsuit (Duff Decision) preventing local governments from prohibiting legal hunting during open seasons. This lawsuit reiterated once and for all that the Pennsylvania Game Commission and the Wildlife Code cannot be preempted by local laws where legal hunting can be carried out.
- Stopped commercial development in state parks by polling citizens door-to-door and presenting those results to the legislature. PFSC was a significant force in the passage of “Key ‘93” legislation by generating over 1,200 letters in one week to one legislator, asking him to report the bill out of committee. This was accomplished by club activity coupled with a door-to-door field canvass.
- Helped pass SB 181, which will guarantee that conservation education is taught to the public in our schools and state parks’ natural history programs.
- Worked to prevent the construction of the Dock Street Dam, which the Fish & Boat Commission, EPA and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service all agreed would destroy one of the finest natural small-mouth bass fisheries on the Susquehanna River.
- Support and Sponsor Youth Field Days through Club/County Federation affiliates.
- Amended the Small Games of Chance Law, which threatened to close off all fundraising efforts involving raffles in every club across Pennsylvania. Worked to increase the prize limits for payouts.
- PFSC uses the collective power of almost 70,000 members to address issues that directly affect outdoor enthusiasts, ensuring that hunting, fishing, trapping, and the natural resources that support these activities will be available for future generations.
- Diverted attempts to consider state game lands and other public lands as potential waste storage and disposal sites.
- Won the fight (as intervenors) to restore the American shad’s passageway to its natal waters in the Susquehanna River. PFSC’s president was the only non-government representative who signed the fish passageway agreement with the Philadelphia Electric Company and the Governors of the two states.
- CAP and Habitat 2000 programs—A program brought about by PFSC that enabled

 Continued


hunters and anglers to contribute additional monies to the Fish & Boat and Game commissions for stream access and game land acquisition. Supported programs like Growing Greener with funding for our resource agencies.

- Helped pass legislation that allowed the creation of a Youth Hunter and Angler License Plate to provide funding for youth outdoor education programs.
- Supported legislation to expand the Recreation Use of Land and Water Act, enacted in 1966, to encourage landowners to make their properties available for public recreation. Worked to strengthen the Act in 2018 to ensure landowners are protected from liability from recreational users' acts on their property.
- Support reclassifying sections of High-Quality Waters to Exceptional-Value waters when appropriate to preserve the ecological and recreational significance they provide to the Commonwealth.
- Supported passage of Pennsylvania's solid waste and mandatory recycling bill.
- Successfully opposed "takings" legislation that would weaken wetlands protection.
- Stopped HB 2181 (2001), legislation that would have taken away control of our game lands from the PGC & placed them under the politically controlled Independent Regulatory Review Committee and the legislature.
- Support adequate funding for our resource agencies.



Additional Successful Legislation

- Mentored Youth Hunting Bill & Regulations - allows mentors to take youth under 12 for a one-on-one hunting experience.
- Mentored Youth Transfer Legislation – allows a mentored youth hunter to harvest one antlerless deer per season when the mentor transfers their antlerless tag to the youth — giving our youth more opportunities than they've ever had! Good luck to our youngest hunters!
- Adult & Youth Mentored Hunting Programs.
- Increased penalties for wildlife violators - includes jail time for chronic violators.
- Interstate Wildlife Violators Compact - allows the Game and Fish and Boat Commissions to join the Interstate Wildlife Violators Compact, allowing states to share information to prevent wildlife abusers from hopping from state to state.
- Castle Doctrine legislation - allows the use of force to protect yourself and loved ones in any place you are lawfully permitted to be, including your vehicle.
- Inferred & Thermal Scopes for night-time predator hunting.
- Sunday Hunting on 3 Sundays during big game seasons.
- Support the continuing efforts to turn the regulation of all season and bag issues to the purview of the PGC, including the days we hunt (including Sundays).
- Oppose all legislative efforts to mandate wildlife and aquatic management via politics.
- Doe Licenses Point of Sale - supported efforts to bring the process into the 21st Century.



**Promoting, Protecting and Conserving
Our Outdoor Heritage,
Second Amendment Rights and
Our Resources since 1932**

Hunters, Trappers, Anglers, Shooters - Your Voice For Your Sport and Our Natural Resources Needs to be Heard!

If you believe in protecting, promoting, and preserving our outdoor heritage, our resources and our Second Amendment Rights, then we need you!

Your membership helps us send a strong message to our legislators and resource agencies because there is strength in numbers!

Why Join PFSC?

It's simple.

Do you enjoy the many opportunities our outdoor heritage and resources provide? If so, you should belong to the #1 organization fighting full-time to preserve, promote, and protect your rights and privileges to do so.

However, the only way we can continue our proud mission is with your support. We need to be able to count you as a member. There's strength in numbers! But keeping boots on the ground isn't cheap, so we need your financial support, too.

Each year, those seeking to limit our rights and privileges raise billions of dollars to spread their messages and lobby for their causes and against ours. The only way to counter these attacks is to have our representative walk the Capitol's halls and knock on doors, educating our legislators on those issues impacting the hunting, trapping, fishing and shooting communities. Whether it be ballot box biology, legislative attempts to micro-manage wildlife management, threats of mergers of the Fish and Boat Commission with the Game Commission, the constant threat of infringement of our Second Amendment Rights, anti-hunting, trapping or fishing proposals, deer management, the protected status for native brook trout streams, or access to areas to hunt and fish - the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists is committed to listening to and representing its grassroots members, and looking out for their best interests, our resources, our outdoor heritage and our Second Amendment Rights.

We are continually bombarded by serious threats to the future of hunting, trapping, angling, gun ownership, and the environment in Pennsylvania. PFSC has fought and won many battles since 1932. Many issues were critical to our heritage and the resources that provide for our outdoor recreation.

PFSC was successful because sportsmen & women across the state stood up, voiced their opinions, paid their dues, and remained firm in their commitment to protecting and promoting our hunting, fishing, trapping and many other wildlife-related activities. As today's outdoor participants, it is now our turn to stand up & be counted.

Too many ask, "What's in it for me?" But it is not just about you and me. It is about our children and our children's children, the kids growing up today and those yet unborn. They deserve the same opportunities, privileges, and rights we are passionate about. Our responsibility is to make every possible effort to ensure these opportunities and resources are there for current and future generations.

If those before us had not accepted and acted on that responsibility, we would not have the opportunities to participate and enjoy the many outdoor-related activities we cherish today.

As a sportsman/sportswoman, you have a powerful voice. Are you willing to stand up and be counted and help PFSC continue to fight for you and our future generations?

If not you, who? If not now, when?



BENEFITS AND ACTIVITIES OF PFSC MEMBERSHIP

- Become an active participant in developing PFSC policies on fishing, hunting, trapping, shooting and conservation issues.
- Have input into seasons, bag limits, sizes and creel limits through PFSC representation at PA Game Commission and PA Fish & Boat Commission meetings.
- Attend conferences and board meetings where individual members, affiliated clubs, counties, and state organizations help determine PFSC policies, positions and legislative priorities.
- Your voice matters! Vote on resolutions and surveys to help set policy and positions on the issues. Clubs & Orgs - your vote is based on 10% of your clubs membership. (100 members = 10 votes. 1,000 members = 100 votes.)
- Receive copies of our official quarterly publication (The Conservation Lantern) and receive our e-mail news alerts and monthly newsletters.
- Through the PFSC resolution process, you can gain statewide support for those issues most important to you by submitting a resolution for consideration. (See resolution process on page 16.)
- Become a part of the oldest, largest and most effective sportsmen's organization in Pennsylvania -- dedicated to protecting our outdoor heritage, the natural resources of Pennsylvania and our Second Amendment Rights for generations to come!



TYPES OF PFSC MEMBERSHIP

AFFILIATED CLUB -- A bona fide conservation/sportsmen group with a membership of 10 or more individuals that pay the required dues to the PFSC.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER -- Individuals who pay the required dues to the PFSC. Includes Individual, Life, Next Generation, and E-Members.

STATEWIDE ORGANIZATIONS -- Statewide organizations with like-minded conservation values that pay the required dues to the PFSC.

CORPORATE / BUSINESS PARTNERS- Corporations or businesses with like-minded conservation values that make the required donations to the PFSC.



PFSC Recruitment Videos

PFSC

<https://youtu.be/S330LajZkpk>

Why Join PFSC

<https://youtu.be/1EOAe2OAYjs>

PFSC - Who We Are

<https://youtu.be/kXqIDdQuwE0>

PFSC Members Only Face Book Page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/pfscmember>



Dues Structure & Rates Chart

Club Affiliation Dues

<u>Number of Members</u>	<u>Rate</u>
10-19	\$50
20-29	\$80
30-39	\$110
40-49	\$140
50-59	\$170
60-69	\$200
70-79	\$230
80-89	\$260
90-149	\$290
150+	\$290 + \$1 for each member over 149
609+	\$750 cap!

Examples:

- If your club has 200 members, you pay \$341
 - 200-149=51
 - 51x\$1=\$51
 - \$290+\$51=\$341
- If your club has 500 members, you pay \$641
- If your club has 609+ members, you pay \$750

Individual Memberships

Individual Member	\$ 35
E-Member*	\$ 20
(*All correspondence via e-mail, including publication.)	
Next Generation Member (Under 21)	\$ 10
Life Member	\$500
Life Member Upgrade (Current Life Members)	\$200

Individual Membership Rebate Program for Clubs, Counties, Divisions & Statewide Orgs:

For each Individual membership your group collects for PFSC, you may keep \$5 and forward the balance (\$30 for regular IM and \$15 for EM) to the state.

Note: Any payments made directly to PFSC will not result in a payment back to a club or group, so you must physically collect the payment and take the rebate out before submitting the balance to the state.

Privacy Statement

The PFSC respects the personal information of our members and will at no time, sell, trade or giveaway your contact information. We may if requested by a paying sponsor, administer the mailing of special offers or discounts to our members that we deem would be beneficial to our members!

Statewide Organizations

Statewide organizations shall be any bona fide statewide conservation organization whose mission is consistent with that of the Federation. Statewide organizations in good standing may elect a Delegate to represent them on the PFSC Board & at General Sessions based on their level of affiliation.

Board Seat with board voting privileges and general club voting privileges: \$1,000

Board Seat with No board voting privileges, general club voting privileges only: \$ 850

No Board Seat -general club voting privileges only: Dues based on club affiliation rates with a \$750 cap

PFSC – On the Front Lines for Sportsmen Since 1932!

Providing leadership and advocacy for the enhancement of our fish and wildlife resources with a constant presence on Capitol Hill!

PFSC maintains active “boots on the ground” in the halls of the Capitol, representing sportsmen and conservationists’ interests. PFSC has 92+ years of experience working to support the issues we are passionate about!

Having a sportsmen’s advocate representing our interest at the Capitol is a costly but necessary endeavor. PFSC must continue to sustain the needed funds required to maintain that constant presence!

Along with your membership and recruitment of other like-minded individuals, please check out our website for a list of our current fundraisers and membership drives so you can help support and promote the Federation.

Increasing our membership will help ensure the continuation of promoting and protecting our Outdoor Heritage, natural resources, and Second Amendment Rights for today, tomorrow, and future generations!

Legislative alerts and monthly newsletters are sent via our email and shared on our Members Only Face Book Page. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/pfscmember>.
Follow us on Instagram: @pfsc_pwf
Facebook: @pfscorg



PFSC Board of Directors & Staff

<https://pfsc.org/our-team-2>

Or contact us
717-232-3480
info@pfsc.org

PFSC Affiliated Clubs & State Organizations

<https://pfsc.org/affiliated-clubs-%26-orgs>

PFSC Legislative Center:

Complete list of the legislation being tracked by the PFSC, Committee reports, testimony, etc.

<https://pfsc.org/legislative-news>



STANDARDS FOR AFFILIATION

The Articles of Incorporation of the PFSC state: The corporation shall be formed for the purpose of protecting and conserving our outdoor heritage and the natural resources of Pennsylvania and the United States: to provide adequate laws to prevent the exploitation of natural resources, forests, waters, lands, wildlife, fish, and songbirds; to combine and coordinate the conservation activities of sportsmen/sportswomen and conservation groups into one state federation; and to adopt and practice a code of ethics in sportsmanship acceptable to the citizens of Pennsylvania and the United States, to sponsor educational programs designed to inform our citizens in methods of gaining the health-restoring advantages offered by participation in outdoor recreation - primarily hunting, trapping, fishing and boating; secure and defend our Second Amendment Rights as guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States of America; and to teach safe methods to pursue these activities to prevent accidents and to preserve human life.

To Be Affiliated with the PFSC - You Must:

BE PRIMARILY DEVOTED TO the wise use and conservation of wildlife and natural resources, promoting, protecting and conserving our outdoor heritage and 2nd Amendment Rights.

SUPPORT PFSC's MISSION:

To protect and conserve Pennsylvania's natural resources, outdoor heritage and Second Amendment Rights.

SUPPORT PFSC's PURPOSES:

Wildlife & Natural Resource Conservation:

Encourage, conduct and support scientific and technical studies in the field of fish and wildlife conservation, to assist in the design and development of scientifically sound fish and wildlife programs for the management of wildlife and hunting/fishing/trapping, and to demonstrate the constructive role that sportsmen play in the conservation of fish and wildlife and our natural resources. Promote hunting, fishing and trapping as necessary & ethical tools utilized in wildlife management.

Conservation Education:

Encourage, conduct, and support educational programs on fish and wildlife conservation, ecology, and natural resource management that demonstrate the constructive role that hunting, fishing, and trapping play in natural resource conservation and land and water management.

Second Amendment Rights Protection:

Promote and protect the rights to keep and bear arms as called for in the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; promote gun safety and responsible gun ownership and use; promote the shooting sports.

Cooperation and Support Assistance:

Provide support and cooperation to other organizations, individuals, and agencies pursuing the same or similar goals of the PFSC. Provide leadership and advocacy for the enhancement of fish and wildlife resources for the benefit of all hunters, anglers and conservationists by working directly with our resource agencies and legislature.

SUPPORT PFSC'S GOALS & OBJECTIVES:

See page 3

PROJECT A GOOD PUBLIC IMAGE AND REPUTATION:

Positions, programs and activities should ensure that the affiliate is perceived as effective and credible on conservation matters by the club/organization's membership, state resource agencies, the press, legislators, other conservation organizations and the public.

HAVE GOOD LEADERSHIP POLICIES

Established policies, job descriptions and procedures for volunteer leaders that take appropriate ac-

tions to ensure the conscientious pursuit of duties by officers, directors, and members.

HAVE A BROAD MEMBERSHIP BASE:

Allow recruiting of individual and organizational members from a broad spectrum reflecting ethnic and cultural diversity. Member privileges open to any individual or groups reflecting diverse interests and points of view, provided that those groups and individuals be dedicated to resource conservation, environmental protection, the wise use of our natural resources and the promotion and protection of our outdoor heritage and Second Amendment Rights.

HAVE SOUND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT PRACTICES:

Maintain compliance with the Internal Revenue Code, state agencies, nonprofit corporation, charitable solicitation, environmental laws, State and Federal employment laws, Postal Regulations, Civil Rights Act, and other applicable laws.

BE ACTIVE ON STATE AND NATIONAL CONSERVATION ISSUES:

Implement a timely and effective system of gathering, considering and disseminating information on national and state conservation issues.

PFSC's Bylaws can be viewed and/or downloaded from the website

STANDARDS FOR AFFILIATION

CLUBS

The club must be a bona fide sportsmen's and/or conservation organization dedicated to the wise use and management of our natural resources.

- The club must support the mission of the PFSC.
- State dues, based on the club's size, must be paid annually to be eligible to vote on Federation business.
- Clubs may designate a delegate to represent the club at county, division and state meetings and be the contact for all official state business and communications. The club president will be the official contact if no delegate is specified.
- Clubs must provide at least one e-mail contact to receive e-alerts, updates and newsletters from the state, share the information with the club, and respond to issues in a timely manner.
- Clubs will receive three complimentary copies of the official quarterly publication, The Conservation Lantern. Unless specified, the copies will be mailed to the club's president, secretary and delegate.
- Clubs in good standing are entitled to send a delegate to PFSC meetings, submit resolutions, and vote on resolutions, polls, and surveys.
- Your voice matters! The club's vote is based on 10% of its membership. (100 members = 10 votes. 1,000 members = 100 votes. Maximum votes=500)
- Clubs will receive a certificate of membership from the State Office.
- Club members are eligible to receive PFSC News alerts and monthly newsletters.
- A club desiring to affiliate with PFSC and located in a county without an existing county affiliate may become the official county federation for their county.

COUNTY FEDERATIONS

County Federations are made up of the PFSC-affiliated clubs and individual members in the county.

- Counties may elect officers necessary to conduct business.
- All officers must be PFSC individual members in good standing.
- Counties must submit an annual "County Credential Sheet" to the state office and report any change in county officers or delegates.
- Counties may designate a delegate to represent the county at division and state meetings and be the contact for all official state business and communications. The county president will be the official contact if no delegate is specified.
- Counties must provide at least one e-mail contact to receive e-alerts, updates and newsletters from the state, share the information with the county, and respond to issues in a timely manner.
- Counties should notify the affiliated clubs about meetings and county sponsored events, follow up on delinquent clubs and solicit new clubs.
- Counties may implement their own policies and procedures for imposing and collecting county dues.

DIVISIONS

Divisions are made up of the PFSC-affiliated counties, clubs and individual members in the corresponding region.

- The Division may elect a Chair and other officers necessary to conduct business.
- All officers must be PFSC Individual members in good standing.
- To be eligible for a seat on the PFSC Board, you must submit an annual "Division Credential Sheet" to the state office.
- Elect a representative to serve on the PFSC Board as a Director to vote on state Federation policies and governance. (This representative must be a PFSC Individual member)
- Divisions may implement their own policies and procedures for imposing and collecting division dues.
- Divisions must provide at least one e-mail contact to receive alerts and updates from the state, share information with the division and respond to issues in a timely manner.



RESOLUTIONS

Types of Resolutions:

1. Affiliated Club & State Organization Resolution

All club & organization resolutions relating to a policy or position of the Federation shall originate in an affiliated club or state organization and may be submitted to the PFSC board for technical review. All submissions require two officers' signatures. (Interactive forms available on the [PFSC website](#).)

2. Individual Members Resolution

Individual members may submit a resolution to the board after acquiring the signatures of at least five (5) individual members on the resolution form. (Interactive forms available on the [PFSC website](#).)

3. Unpublished Resolution

An unpublished resolution may be brought directly to the floor upon an affirmative two-thirds vote of the seated delegates present during the annual membership meeting.

Compliance and Due Diligence

- The PFSC board may review and vote on the technical content and compliance with the bylaws of properly submitted resolution proposals via electronic communications.
- The PA Game Commission, the PA Fish and Boat Commission, and/or DCNR or other appropriate entities may be asked to provide their comments. Their input is not an attempt to influence voting on the proposed resolution but rather to provide as much additional information as possible on which to consider before voting.
- The PFSC Board has the discretion to make an exception to these rules, as dictated by the PFSC bylaws.

Review & Voting Process:

Upon review by the board and approval of technical content and compliance with the bylaws:

1. Comments should be sought from the agency or entity that may be impacted by the resolution.
2. The resolution and comments shall be printed in the next available official publication.
3. The resolution and comments may also be sent electronically to clubs, organizations and individuals with valid email contacts.
4. An online survey/poll shall be prepared.
5. Links to the survey/poll shall be provided in the official publication notification and electronic communications. Information on submitting votes in a non-electronic format may also be provided.
6. The membership shall be given at least 30 days to review and respond to the survey/poll after the information has been printed in the official publication or mailed before the survey/poll closes and votes are tallied.
7. All communication efforts shall include notice of when and how the votes will be tallied and announced. A special virtual board meeting may be held to announce the voting results.

HOW TO WRITE A RESOLUTION:

The Title: Subject of the Resolution

1st "Whereas": 1st Statement of Fact

2nd "Whereas": 2nd Statement of Fact

3rd "Whereas": 3rd Statement of Fact (Use as many "Whereas" as necessary to make your point.)

"Now be it resolved": Should contain the name of the organization taking action, the action(s) to be taken, and instructions for distributing the resolution if approved.

HOW TO SUBMIT A RESOLUTION:

- The resolution must be submitted on an official form and include the required signatures.
- A copy should be sent electronically to info@pfsc.org (Scanned or interactive copies are acceptable.)
- Signed hard copy should be mailed to the PFSC office:
PFSC, 2426 North Second Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110



**PENNSYLVANIA FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN & CONSERVATIONISTS, INC.
CLUB & STATE ORGANIZATION CONSERVATION RESOLUTION FORM**

Name of Submitting Club/Organization:

Officer Name: _____ **Phone #:** _____

SIGNATURE: _____ **Date:** _____

Officer Name: _____ **Phone #:** _____

SIGNATURE: _____ **Date:** _____

RESOLUTION TITLE:

WHEREAS:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

(Additional text document may be attached)

(Do not write below this line)

Acted upon by the PFSC on _____ and disposed of in the following manner:
(date)

_____, _____, _____, Results: _____
Yeas Nays Abstained Approved, Rejected, Tabled Signature of State Secretary

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION

Please Type, Save and Return an electronic Copy via Email to info@pfsc.org * Mail Signed Copy to:
PFSC, 2426 N. Second St., Harrisburg, PA 17110-1104.

Signed Copies Must be Received Before Review by the PFSC Board

Policies

Dues Policy

Section 1. Setting of Dues

- Each year, the Board of Directors shall determine the dues necessary to operate the Federation efficiently.
- Proposed dues increases shall be communicated to the membership to allow for at least a 60-day comment period before final approval. Approved dues increases become effective the following January.

Section 2. Procedure

- Individual membership dues are valid for one year from the time of payment received.
- Club and State Organization affiliation dues are valid for one year based on a February 15 renewal date. Dues may be prorated after July 1 for new clubs or clubs expired for more than 3 years.

See Page 12 for current dues rates

Committee Assignment Policy

Section 1: Standing Committees

Standing Committees may include (but not be limited to):

- Awards – Hall of Fame / Poster
- Conservation
- Firearms / Second Amendment
- Fish/Boat
- Game/Trapping
- Legislative
- Membership Development

Section 2: Appointment of Committee Chairs and Committee Members

- The President shall appoint a chair for each active Standing or Special Committee, who shall serve at the President's discretion. All Committee Chairs must be an individual member in good standing and must remain an individual member in good standing during his/her tenure.
- Any board member, statewide organization delegate, club delegate, county delegate or an individual member in good standing may participate on the committees.

Section 3. Committee Advisory to Board

- All PFSC Committees shall be advisory to the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Limitation on Powers of Committees

- No Standing or Special Committee of the PFSC shall have any powers to direct the PFSC or its activities.

Section 5. Committee Meetings

- The Committee Chairs are to prepare meeting agendas and preside over all meetings of their assigned committee and provide a written report for the official minutes. The Chair may also be asked to give a verbal report.

Elections of Officers Policy

Revised 3/2022



PFSC Bylaws Article VI: Elections Section 1: Officers

- A. *The officers shall be elected biennially (every 2 years during even-numbered years with the term to commence immediately upon the adjournment of the spring meeting where the election results are certified.*
- B. *The officers' election eligibility and process policies shall be defined and approved by the PFSC Board.*
- C. *The President may not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.*

PFSC Officers' Job Descriptions:

1. **President** - The President shall provide leadership and management direction to PFSC, performing all duties usually associated with the office and shall perform such other duties as may properly be assigned by the Board of Directors.
2. **Vice Presidents (East & West)** - It shall be the duty of the Vice Presidents to assist the President in the performance of duties when called upon to do so. In the absence of the President, the Vice President with the longest tenure shall preside at the meetings of the Federation and the Board. They shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to them by the President or Board.
3. **Treasurer** - It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to supervise the collection and dispersal of all monies by working closely with staff assigned to financial duties. The Treasurer will disclose the financial status of the Federation to the Board Secretary
4. **Secretary** - It shall be the duty of the Secretary to supervise the recording of all meetings of the Board and the Executive Committee. The Secretary shall make a transcribed, permanent copy of the recordings, keep one copy in their possession and deliver one copy to be maintained where other official records are kept, as a permanent record. The Secretary shall have such powers and shall perform such other duties as the Board may direct.

Job Requirements and Eligibility for Office: Anyone wishing to run for an officer's board seat must:

- Have been an individual member for the last three consecutive years or have been actively involved with the PFSC for at least three years at the county, division or state level. The 3-year requirement may be waived by a two-thirds vote of all board members.
- Must be a current individual member in good standing and must remain an individual member in good standing during his/her tenure.
- Officers will be responsible for fulfilling the duties of the office they are elected to.

Officer Election Procedure:

- Details of the election process shall be printed in the official publication and via electronic format in time to allow candidates adequate time to comply with the published application procedures:
- Interested candidates must submit a letter of interest and resume describing their conservation background to the state office by November 15 of the year prior to the spring election
- Membership status of the applicant shall be confirmed for eligibility for office
- Names of all eligible candidates and brief resumes shall be printed in the official January/Winter publication, with full resumes posted to the website
- All eligible applicants shall be added to the official ballot

Ballots:

- Ballots will be printed and mailed to all eligible members (individuals, clubs, organizations) in February of the election year.
- Ballots may either be returned to the state office via US mail by the Monday before the Spring meeting or hand-carried to the meeting and deposited in the ballot box.
- All individual members shall have the right to cast one ballot for their choice of candidate.
- All affiliated clubs and state organizations shall have the right to cast three ballots for their choice of candidates.
- If there is only one candidate for each open seat, no ballots will be mailed.
- The PFSC Secretary shall announce the voting results or cast the vote if no mailed ballot was required and certify the election during the spring meeting.

Membership Categories Policy

4/2024

A. Individuals

Includes Individual, E-member (correspondence via email), Life, Next Generation and any other future individual category designated by the board. Voting policies shall be defined by the PFSC Board. (See Voting Policy)

B. Clubs

An affiliated club shall be any group or local organization with a membership of ten (10) or more individuals whose mission is consistent with the Federation's. Affiliation shall be granted upon receipt of a completed affiliation form and proper dues payment by the state office.

- Clubs may elect a delegate to represent the club's members to the County, Division and State Federation. Each affiliated club in good standing shall have voting privileges on issues and policies. Voting policies shall be defined by the PFSC Board. (See Voting Policy)

C. Statewide Organizations

Statewide Organizations shall be any statewide conservation organization that meets the criteria established by the PFSC Board and whose mission is consistent with that of the Federation. Acceptance as a member will be contingent upon a majority vote of the PFSC board.

- Statewide organizations in good standing may elect a Delegate to represent them on the Federation Board. Board voting privileges are based on membership levels. Membership levels and voting policies shall be defined by the PFSC Board. (See Voting Policy & Dues Policy)

D. Businesses and Corporations

Any business or corporation with like-minded goals as the PFSC and which supports the PFSC's mission and objectives.

- Businesses and Corporations do not have voting privileges but may be listed as partners and sponsors. Membership/sponsorship levels shall be defined and approved by the PFSC board. (See Business Membership/ Partner Policy)

Voting Policy

General Issues, Surveys, Polls, Etc.

9/2020

Individual Members:

All individual members in good standing shall have the privilege of voting and responding to surveys and questions on general issues and resolutions

Affiliated Clubs and State Orgs:

All affiliated clubs and state organizations in good standing shall have the privileges of voting and responding to surveys and questions on general issues and resolutions

- The number of votes shall be based on 10% of the club's registered membership
 - 50 members = 5 votes
 - 500 members = 50 votes
 - 1,000 members = 100 votes
- Maximum votes = 500



The Sportsmen's Advocate

Sportsmen don't have time to deal with anti-hunters & politicians.
They are too busy doing what they love to do!

PFSC understands your passions!

Supporting PFSC allows us to be the eyes and ears of sportsmen/women and conservationists with full-time "boots on the ground" in the halls of the State Capitol!

We do the political stuff, so you don't have to...

A photograph of a grand, ornate hallway with high ceilings and classical columns, serving as a background for the text. The hallway is long and narrow, with a polished floor that reflects the light. The walls are white, and the columns are dark and highly detailed. The ceiling is high and features several large, ornate light fixtures. The overall atmosphere is one of a formal, historical building.

PFSC IS ON THE FRONT LINES
SO YOU CAN BE
IN THE WOODS, ON THE WATER OR AT THE RANGE.

With Your Support PFSC Can Be an Insuppressible Force!
Join, Renew & Recruit New Members Today!

WE NEED YOU



Let Your Voice Be Heard

**Don't Delay
Join Today!**

<https://pfsc.org/join>

**Protecting Our Outdoor Heritage
for the Next Generation**



Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists

www.pfsc.org Sportsmen Working for Sportsmen

The Sportsmen's Advocate in Harrisburg

With full-time "boots on the ground" in Harrisburg, looking out for your interests and the interests of our outdoor heritage – Successfully defending and protecting hunting, fishing, trapping, conservation of our natural resources and 2nd Amendment Rights since 1932!

Our members are hunters, trappers, archers, anglers, gun owners, dog owners, and conservationists.

On the Front Lines - So you can be in the woods, on the water or at the range!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip/County: _____

Phone # _____

Add me to the email news list E-mail: _____

Check appropriate membership level

Individual: 1 Year - \$35 2 Years - \$65 3Years - \$90 \$10 Next Generation (Under 21) \$500 Life

\$20 E-Membership (All correspondence via e-mail, including magazine. Valid email address required.)

Additional Donation \$ _____ Total Enclosed _____

Payment by Credit Card (Charges processed through PayPal): Credit Card Type Visa MC

Name on Card: _____

Address: (If different from above): _____

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Security #: _____


Signature: _____

Please make all checks payable to PFSC. Send Payment and Application to: PFSC, 2426 N 2nd Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110

**For as little as \$20 a year
you can help protect
Pennsylvania's
outdoor heritage.**

**Sign up online at
www.pfsc.org**

Representing PA Sportsmen Since 1932



**Individual
Memberships include:**

- E-mail "news" updates
- PFSC's Quarterly Magazine - The Conservation Lantern

**Club, Chapter & State
Org memberships are also
encouraged. The more
voices we have, the louder
we speak.**

Call for more details.
717-232-3480

MM