

BY - LAWS

of the

MASSAPOAG SPORTSMEN'S CLUB, INC.

Sharon, MA

Revised April, 2023

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ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be MASSAPOAG SPORTSMEN'S CLUB, INC.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purpose of this club shall be to promote the interest of legitimate sport with rod and gun; to support and enforce laws for the protection and preservation of fish and game; to stimulate and encourage good fellowship among sportsmen; to participate in conservation projects; to instruct and encourage sportsmanship among younger members of the community; to acquire such land and property and conduct related activities as may be deemed necessary for the fulfillment of the above purpose.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP and DUES

Section 1.

Any person, regardless of sex, race, color, creed or national origin, may apply for membership in the Massapoag Sportsmen's Club, Inc. A written application accompanied by payment of initiation fee and current annual dues, shall be submitted to the membership committee. A two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors is required for membership approval. Voting on new members shall not be taken until the applicant has successfully completed a new member orientation.

Section 2.

Membership shall consist of four classes:

- A. General Membership
- B. Life Membership
- C. Senior Membership
- D. Honorary Membership.

Section 3.

Family privileges; the spouse and children under eighteen (18) years of age of a member may use the facilities of the club and participate in its activities without payment of any dues; except that children under eighteen (18) must be accompanied and properly supervised by a member in good standing.

Section 4.

Any member who has been a member in good standing after January 1 2020, based upon their service to the club or having been served as either a committee member, officer, or Board of Director, may be awarded Life Membership by a positive vote of at least 75% Board of Directors at a regular or special meeting of the Board. Such a Life Member shall enjoy all membership privileges.

Section 5.

Application for Senior Membership can be made by any person's seventy (70) years or more of age and a member in good standing for the preceding (5) years. The member in good standing must make written application to the member-ship committee for approval by the Board of Directors. Said member so approved shall pay no dues or assessments whatsoever. Senior Members shall enjoy all membership privileges.

Section 6.

Nominees for Honorary Membership, by virtue of their deeds and acts commensurate with the objectives of this club, shall be submitted to the membership committee for yearly approval by the Board of Directors. Honorary Members shall not pay dues or assessments, but shall enjoy all membership privileges except the voting privilege. Any member, who's Honorary Membership has expired, may continue on as a member in good standing upon payment of annual dues and assessments.

Section 7.

The initiation fee and general membership annual dues shall be set by the Board of Directors at the November meeting of the Board. The general membership may, by a majority vote, of members present at a general meeting impose an assessment on all members for payment of Special Dues. Membership dues and assessments are due and payable January 1st of each year. A member shall be considered a member "in good standing" if he has paid all dues and assessments owed no later than March 1st of that year.

Section 8.

All general membership and Senior Membership applications approved by the Board of Directors on or after the October Director's meeting shall be accepted as payment for the following years dues.

ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS

Section 1.

The annual meeting shall be held on the first Sunday after January 3rd of each year. Any exceptions or postponements, for whatever reason, will be given to the membership in writing with at least a months' notice of the rescheduled annual meeting date.

Section 2.

Special meetings may be called by the President, Board of Directors or upon written application of fifteen members made to the President. No business may be transacted at the special meeting except that business specified in the notice of such meeting. Notice will be sent at least 15 days prior to the meeting.

Section 3.

Notice of annual meeting shall be given with at least 30 days notice.

Section 4.

A quorum at any Annual or Special meeting shall be twenty (20) members in good standing

Section 5.

All members in good standing shall have one vote at all membership meetings

Section 6.

The meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held on the third Tuesday of each month and such other times, as the President shall direct. The Secretary shall give at least three days' notice of the meeting. A quorum for the Board of Directors meeting shall be a majority of current serving Board members. A director absent from three meetings within any six-month period (without sufficient cause) shall be replaced by action of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V - FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year shall be the calendar year January 1 through December 31.

ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

Section 1.

The officers shall be as follows: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary

Section 2.

There shall be a Board of Directors consisting of the officers and twelve members elected as follows: In January 1963, twelve directors were elected at the annual meeting. Six to serve for a two-year term and six to serve for a one-year term. Hereafter, at each annual meeting, six directors will be elected to serve for a two-year term. No person may be elected if he has not been a member for one full year. The immediate past President shall automatically become a member of the Board of Directors for a one-year term. No member shall hold more than one elected office at any one time.

ARTICLE VII - ELECTION OF OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

Section 1.

The election of officers and directors shall be by majority vote at the annual meeting, and shall be by written ballot.

Section 2.

Officers shall serve for two years or until their successors are elected. Directors shall serve as stated in Article VI, Section 2, or until their successors are elected.

Section 3.

The Nominating Committee shall submit nominations of officers and directors at the regular November meeting. Further nominations may be made from the floor provided such nominations are submitted in writing stating name of nominee, office for which he is being nominated, signature of nominator, and signature of second member. All such nominations shall be submitted to the nominating committee at least four days prior to the regular November meeting. The nominating committee shall post a sample ballot at least 15 days prior to the annual meeting.

Section 4.

A vacancy in any office including a vacancy in the Board of Directors shall be filled by a qualified appointee (as specified in Article VI, Section 2) approved by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors for the unexpired term.

ARTICLE VIII - DUTIES OF OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

Section 1.

The President shall preside at all meetings of the members and of the Board of Directors. He shall also exercise and perform such other powers and duties as may properly belong to his office or as may be assigned to him by this By-Laws.

Section 2.

The Vice-President shall have, exercise, and perform the duties of the President in the absence of or by designation of the President.

Section 3.

The treasurer, who shall be 21 or more years of age, shall receive all monies of the club and deposit them in the name of the club in such depositories as may be appointed from time to time by the Board of Directors. He shall have responsibility for all deeds, financial records, and other important papers of the club. He shall pay all bills when properly audited and approved by the Board of Directors. He shall submit a complete financial report at the annual meeting.

Section 4.

The Assistant Treasurer will so act in the absence of the Treasurer.

Section 5.

The Secretary shall keep accurate minutes of all general and Board of Directors meetings; be responsible for all correspondence; send all notices of meetings as required by these By-Laws.

Section 6.

The Board of Directors shall manage and control the business and property of the club. The Board of Directors shall perform these duties in the manner necessary to fulfill the objectives of the club and this By-Laws, and shall further perform these duties in the best interest of the club members. All business shall require a two-thirds vote of the Board present unless otherwise specified in this By-Laws.

ARTICLE IX - STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1. Conservation Committee

The duty of this committee shall be to work in conjunction with state and federal authorities to improve hunting and fishing; prepare and improve the habitat for fish and game; to obtain and distribute fish and game from whatever source possible; and to help and cooperate whenever possible with local, state, and federal conservation programs.

Section 2. Marksmanship Program Committee

Shall consist of the chairman of the following committees: Pistol Range, Trap and Skeet Range and whom else the President may appoint. It shall be the duty of this committee to promote and execute a program in marksmanship, safety, and firearms handling within the club membership. Appropriate badges, medals, and emblems of recognition shall be awarded to members indicating the levels of achievement reached by the individual member. This committee shall be responsible for the making, recording, and posting of rules of safety and firearms handling for all the club ranges.

Section 3. Social Activities Committee

The duty of this committee shall be to plan and organize the social activities calendar of the club.

Section 4. Badge and Emblem Committee

The duty of this committee shall be to make available to the members such items as Pins, Brassards, Decals, Jackets, Sweaters etc., which display the club emblem or name.

Section 5. Membership Committee

The duty of this committee shall be to receive all applications for membership and present them to the Board of Directors for approval. This committee shall be responsible for the notification to members of dues payable and for the issuance of proper credentials to members, and confirmation of completed orientation. An up-to-date roster of members in good standing shall be maintained by this committee.

Section 6. House and Grounds Committee

The duty of this committee shall be to supervise the care and maintenance of the clubhouse and grounds and such other real and personal property of the club. This committee will work in conjunction with the regular committees in those areas assigned to regular committee. The House and Grounds Committee shall have the authority to make all reasonable rules and regulations pertaining to the care of club facilities and grounds.

Section 7. By-Laws Committee

The duty of this committee shall be to recommend legality and wording of any Amendments to the By-Laws.

Section 8. Nominating Committee

The duty of this committee shall be to submit nominations to be balloted upon at the annual meeting.

Section 9.

All committees shall be appointed by the President.

ARTICLE X - EXECUTION OF CONTRACTS

Section 1.

No contract or agreement, to which the club is a party, shall be valid unless approved by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors and signed by both the President and the Treasurer.

Section 2.

No member of the club shall incur or attempt to incur any obligation in his own name for the benefit of the club; and no member shall incur any obligation for the club unless duly authorized by vote of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XI - SIGNING OF CHECKS

All checks, drafts, and order for payment of money by the club shall be signed by the Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer.

ARTICLE XII - SUSPENSION OF MEMBERS

Section 1.

Any member of this club who shall be in arrears on February 1st shall be notified by the Membership Committee to pay his dues; and, if one month after being thus notified he remains in arrears, he is automatically suspended.

Section 2.

Any member of the club convicted of breaking Game Laws of this or any other state may be suspended by action of the Board of Directors.

Section 3.

Any member, who is found by the Board of Directors to have committed a deliberate infraction of club rules, or misuse of club property, or use of club property to the detriment of the general membership or acting in an unsportsman like way, may be suspended by action of the Board of Directors with a 2/3 vote.

Section 4.

Any member who has been suspended may be reinstated by consent of the Board once the suspension period has ended.

Section 5.

The regular members of the club, by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting at a special meeting, may remove from office any officer or director for malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance.

Section 6.

Any member may be expelled from the club for a serious safety violation or other rule violation by a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XIII - AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

These By-Laws may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the members of the club present and voting at any annual, regular, or special meeting, provided that the proposed alteration or amendment shall have been read at the meeting prior to this meeting at which the voting on the proposed change shall be taken. Written notice of the proposed change shall be mailed to all members at least five day prior to the meeting of the first reading.

ARTICLE XIV - DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution of the Massapoag Sportsmen's Club, Inc., all real property belonging to said club shall be deeded to the Town of Sharon Conservation Commission.

Revision made April, 2023

Removal of the Editor from the board of directors.