

# **Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc. Constitution**

January 2015 Revision

## **Article 1: Name**

### **Sec. 1:**

The name of the organization shall be the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc."

### **Sec. 2:**

The "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc." shall be affiliated with the Affiliated Conservation Clubs of Madison County, Inc.

## **Article 2: Objectives of the Peterboro Conservation Club**

### **Sec. 1:**

*A.* To encourage the protection and restoration of waters, wildlife, forest and field, safeguard public health by eliminating pollution, discourage unwise drainage and seek wise land water use in the broad public interest, mature and improve live-stock, restore and rehabilitate wildlife environment.

*B.* To seek more intensive education of the whole public, youth and adult, in recognizing resource conservation as vital to our way of life and its preservation to emphasize the parallel between economic prosperity and the maintenance of adequate resources.

*C.* To sponsor and support legislation designed to end methods and activities destructive to natural resources and institute methods seeking to replenish and renew a sound resource economy.

*D.* To cooperate with county, state, federal and private agencies of resource management to improve and strengthen basic resources and in the husbanding of them through wise utilization.

*E.* To promote the highest standard of sportsmanship and to strengthen farmer/sportsman understanding.

*F.* To develop and constantly seek to improve a state-wide long range program to stimulate and encourage greater public interest in natural and wildlife resources.

*G.* To develop greater outdoor opportunity for all, as essential to character building and to the physical and spiritual welfare of the people.

*H.* To promote organizations of the city, county, community, state and regional interests having like aims, giving them aid, counsel and support in resolving problems of local, community, county or state wide importance.

*I.* To promote education in the conservation field through hunter safety, trapping, bow hunting classes, wildlife seminars and like programs.

### **Article 3: Membership**

#### **Sec. 1:**

Any individual expressing an interest in resource conservation and complying with provisions of the constitution shall be eligible for membership in the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc."

#### **Sec. 2:**

Any individual applying for membership in the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc." shall promote and uphold any and all conservation laws.

#### **Sec. 3:**

Each member shall attend at least one-half (1/2) of the regular monthly meetings unless they have been excused by a director. Each meeting attended shall count as one hour toward the requirement in Article 3, Section 3.B.

*A.* Each member holding active status shall have the right to vote on all issues which come before the organization. No member shall be permitted to cast a vote for another member.

*B.* Each member, in good standing, shall accept a just share in all projects and shall contribute no less than 16 hours of labor or the equivalent cumulative time per year in carrying out all projects initiated by the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc."

*C.* The Board of Directors shall have the final decision as to what constitutes equivalent time as laid out in Article 3, Section 3.B.

*D.* An active member is defined as one who meets the requirements of Article 3, Section 3.B. and is granted all rights and privileges. i.e.: Hunting, Fishing and Trapping on club properties. Each active member may bring one (1) guest one (1) time to use the range.

*E.* An inactive member is defined as one that does not meet the requirements of Article 3, Section 3.B. but does pay their dues. These inactive members are eligible to vote on all issues which come before the organization, but are not eligible to hunt, fish, trap or use club facilities and property.

*F.* Honorary members shall be accorded the same privileges as an active member and is exempt from paying dues. An Honorary member cannot hold office.

G. All members shall be required to participate in the annual club raffle by being responsible to sell or purchase at least 10 raffle tickets.

**Sec. 4:**

A. Each applicant shall be at least twelve (12) years of age to be eligible for membership. The Board of Directors shall act as a screening committee prior to prospective member's name being submitted to the general membership to be voted on. Any member having knowledge that a prospective member is not reputable should inform the Board of Directors. The general membership shall vote upon all prospective members submitted by the screening committee. A majority membership vote rules. Voting shall be by hand-held majority vote or if an objection arises by paper ballot.

B. There shall be a \$10.00 membership fee, submitted with all applications for membership. The applicant will be voted on by the general membership at the regular monthly meeting after a recommendation for membership by the Board of Directors. The applicant may be present at the meeting at which they will be being voted on for membership.

C. Each member of the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc." shall pay the Membership Chairman of the organization membership dues of \$10.00 per year. This sum shall fall due at the January meeting.

**Sec. 5:**

A junior member shall be between the ages of twelve (12) and sixteen (16) years of age. Dues for junior members shall be \$5.00 per year. A junior member may become a regular member, upon their 16th birthday, if currently a member in good standing who meets the requirements of Article #3, Section #3 and 1/2 the hours required in Article #3, Section 3.B. The junior member must be accompanied by an adult member, in good standing, whenever on club property.

**Sec. 6:**

Any member may have their membership revoked in the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc." for acts of any nature that reflect poor character. Said member shall be given an open opportunity, in an open hearing, to defend themselves. A member must be given two (2) weeks (fourteen (14) days) advance notice, in writing, of the date of the hearing.

**Sec. 7:**

No member shall erect or place, upon club properties, any device, fixtures, etc. without the permission of the Board of Directors. Any approved device may be used by all club members. No member shall place on or use any tree stand on club properties that does not meet or exceed the Treestand Manufacturers Association (TMA) standards. All safety equipment included with a TMA approved Treestand must be in use while in aforementioned Treestand. All treestands and blinds must be removed from the club property at the end of hunting season, within reason, accounting for weather.

#### **Article 4: Powers of the Board of Directors**

##### **Sec. 1:**

*A:* To direct, manage, supervise and control the business, property and funds of the organization.

*B:* To make surveys, conduct research and supervise hearings on wildlife and other conservation matters.

*C:* To prepare and issue publications relating to projects and work.

##### **Sec. 2:**

*A:* The work of the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc." shall not be for private gain.

#### **Article 5: Meetings**

##### **Sec. 1:**

Regular Meetings of the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc." shall be held at such a time and place as determined by the Board of Directors with approval by a majority vote of the members in good standing.

##### **Sec. 2:**

Active members, in good standing, numbering no less than five (5) and no less than four (4) officers [total of eight (8)] shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any meeting.

#### **Article 6: Management**

##### **Sec. 1:**

Management of the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc." shall be vested in a Board of Directors composed of the officers as here-in-after stated, together with four (4) active members, in good standing, who shall be elected.

##### **Sec. 2:**

Said Board of Directors shall be the Administrative Body of the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc." for meetings of general membership and shall be empowered to manage all activities of the organization.

**Sec. 3:**

Three (3) members, of the Board of Directors, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, provided at least one (1) elected officer is present. These officers are: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary and Membership Secretary.

A. All business transactions discussed at Special Meetings shall be presented at the next regular meeting and voted on at a subsequent regular meeting.

**Sec. 4:**

If any member of the Board of Directors shall be absent from as many as three (3) consecutive duly called meetings of the board, their position may be held vacant at the discretion of the membership and upon recommendation of the majority of the board. In such cases, a special election shall be called to elect a member in good standing who will serve the remainder of the term for the vacated board member. No member may be removed unless they have received two (2) weeks (fourteen (14) days) advance notice, in writing, of the organizations intent to act.

**Sec. 5:**

Directors shall be elected to serve two (2) year terms. The exception to this would be board members elected to fill vacant seats prior to the completion of the term. The outgoing President will fill the most junior director position. Should the president decline this position, an active member will be elected to fill that position.

**Article 7: Amendments****Sec. 1:**

The constitution may be amended at any regular meeting or any special meeting of the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc." by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the active members present at the next monthly meeting.

**Article 8: Officers****Sec. 1:**

The officers of the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc." shall be a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Membership Secretary. All shall serve without pay. These Officers shall be elected from the general membership in good standing.

**Sec. 2:**

The Board of Directors, as the governing body of the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc." shall have general control over all officers, committees, and management of all affairs, projects, and funds. It shall be empowered to appoint any and all officers whose elections are not provided for. It shall, at its discretion, determine the amounts of money to be spent on various projects. The salaries of any employed labor or help and the amounts to allow for current expenses.

**Sec. 3:**

The President shall preside over all meetings of the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc.", Board of Directors meetings, and is automatically a member on all committees. The President shall perform such other duties and have such other powers as normally pertain to the office.

**Sec. 4:**

The Vice President shall preside over all meetings in the absence of the President, having been duly notified by the President of his intent to be absent. In the absence of both, the President, and the Vice President the members may elect a temporary chairman to conduct the meeting. The Vice President shall be particularly charged with developing membership strength for the organization.

**Sec. 5:**

The Recording Secretary shall keep accurate records of the business transacted and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors. The Secretary shall be prepared to deliver at any regular, general, or special meeting a report on actions of past meetings.

**Sec. 6:**

The Membership Secretary shall take the attendance at meetings, furnish prospective members with applications for membership and forward returned applications to the Board of Directors for review. The Membership Secretary shall also collect dues and furnish members with membership cards, mail out over-due notices (one time only) in the month of March, report on the condition of membership during regular meetings, notify all applicants as to their status in the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc." and return any dues collected from rejected applicants, keep an accurate record of all dues paid by members and turn any money collected over to the Treasurer of the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc.".

**Sec. 7:**

The Treasurer shall receive all monies for the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc." and deposit that money in a responsible bank and account for that money at all meetings.

**Sec. 8:**

No elected officers or board members shall receive any fees, salaries, or payment from the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc.". The exception being that certain actual expenses may be reimbursed. Such expenses shall be approved by the Board of Directors or a majority vote of the members present at any meeting, provided that the bill is presented.

**Sec. 9:**

All officers shall serve until their successors have been duly qualified, elected and installed.

**Article 9: Finance**

**Sec. 1:**

All funds of the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc." shall be as stated above, deposited in bank designated by the Board of Directors. All disbursements of funds shall be numbered by check drawn by the Treasurer. No disbursements of funds shall be made without approval by the Board of Directors or a majority vote by the membership present at any meeting. In the event that the Treasurer is unable to perform these duties then a predetermined alternate will take over the duties until the Treasurer can resume them.

**Sec. 2:**

The cost of any bonds, required by the Board of Directors, shall be borne by the organization.

**Article 10: Elections**

**Sec. 1:**

An election every two (2) years shall be held at the regular meeting during the month of April. A nominating committee consisting of no less than three (3) members, in good standing, shall be appointed by the president during the regular meeting in the month of October. Nominations may also be made from the floor during the election meeting, provided such nominations are made by members in good standing in the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc.". The candidate receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected to the office for which he was nominated. Officers and directors elected at such annual meeting shall hold office for two (2) years, except herein stated, and/or until a successor shall have been duly qualified and elected. All directors shall be elected for a period of one (1) -two (2) year term. The outgoing club president shall be installed as the junior member of the board of directors. In the event that the president declines the position, then a member at large would need to be elected to that position.

**Sec. 2:**

No person shall be eligible to hold office or board membership in the "Peterboro Conservation Club, Inc." who is not of good moral character and have a known interest in natural resource conservation.

**Sec. 3:**

Any officer or board member may be removed from their position provided that they are first given an opportunity to defend themselves and provided that they shall be given at least two (2) weeks [fourteen (14) days] advance notice, in writing, of the date of the hearing. A majority vote of at least two thirds (2/3) of the membership present shall be required to remove any officer or director.