**Bylaws of Walleye Searchers of Minnesota Last Updated 1/7/2025**

**Nonprofit charter #: X 1B-566**

**Fed. ID #: 41-1518667**

**ARTICLE I Name**

 The name of the Club shall be Walleye Searchers of Minnesota, Inc. and shall be as **“Club.”**

**ARTICLE II Objective**

 The objective of the Club is to bring people together who are interested in learning more about walleye fishing. In addition to club fishing tournaments and monthly meetings; club activities may include family, educational, conservation, youth, veteran and community functions. Walleye Searchers of Minnesota, Inc. is a nonprofit organization.

**ARTICLE III Members**

Section 1. The size of this Club shall be unlimited.

Section 2. Annual dues are payable at or before the January meeting.

1. New member fee shall be $25.00 annually.
2. Member renewal shall be $35.00 annually.

Section 3. Membership allows members to participate in club functions and vote on club business. Anyone fishing or participating in any event held by the Club is doing so of his or her own free will. Members of Walleye Searchers, Inc. are not responsible for any accident or injury that may occur while boating or participating in scheduled monthly events. The Club (Walleye Searchers) is not liable for any personal property damage or injury of another member. Each individual is responsible for their own personal safety, equipment, and gear needed to participate in any Walleye Searchers event.

Section 4. Members under the age of 18 must have a signed permission slip from a parent or guardian stating they are allowed to participate in Club activities. For participation in any Club fishing event, they also must have a valid boating safety certificate.

Section 5. Membership not renewed at the January meeting will result in the member being dropped from the Club roster.

Section 6. New members will not need to be voted into the Club; unless they were a past member and were previously voted out.

Section 7. A member cannot vote to remove someone at the same meeting that they joined.

Section 8. No annual dues will be refunded for any reason.

Section 9. Lifetime membership shall be granted to members who have served two (2) terms as an officer and have been a member in good standing for five (5) years. All officer positions are eligible for lifetime membership.

**ARTICLE IV Officers**

Section 1. The officers of the Club shall be:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Youth Coordinator
6. Conservation Coordinator

Section 2. At the regular meeting held in October, nominations will be accepted for candidates for the offices to be filled at the annual meeting in November. Additional nominations from the floor shall be permitted before the election at the annual meeting in November.

Section 3. Members nominated for office may orally present his/her qualifications, goals and objectives immediately prior to the election at the regular meeting in November.

Section 4. The officers shall be elected according to Roberts Rule of Order (Revised) and serve for one (1) year or until their successors are elected, and their term of office shall begin at the regular meeting in December.

Section 5. No member shall hold more than one office at a time, and no member shall be eligible to serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office.

Section 6. Election ties shall be resolved by a coin toss, in the event of a three way tie the coin toss would be an odd man out.

**ARTICLE V Officer Duties**

Section 1. President

1. Preside over all meetings.
2. Set the agenda for all meetings (suggestions from Club members on agenda items are welcome). A typical agenda may include last month's minutes, a Treasurer's report, old business, new business, educational activity (movie, speaker, etc.)
3. Authorized to sign checks on behalf of the Club in the absence of the treasurer.
4. Rule on any undocumented questions

Section 2. Vice President

1. Assume all the Presidential duties in the absence of the President.
2. Assume all the Secretarial duties in the absence of the Secretary.
3. Tally member tournament standings after each tournament.
4. Coordinate all club tournaments, including start and end time.
5. Start and end time as needed.
6. Pairings and pairing communication.
7. Tally and publish results.
8. Order food when approved.
9. Resolve any tournament disputes or guideline infractions.

Section 3. Treasurer

1. Assume all of the Vice-Presidential duties in the absence of the Vice President.
2. Present at each monthly Club meeting a complete accounting of Club finances, including:
3. The beginning balance of the Club checkbook.
4. A list of all check numbers issued.
5. The amount of each check, who it was issued to and why.
6. The ending balance of the Club checkbook.
7. File state and federal income tax for the Club with the accountant designated by the Club.
8. Ensure that the Club maintains a $$1000.00 minimum balance in the Club checkbook. This reserve will be used in the event of an emergency. The Club will decide what constitutes an emergency.
9. Maintain a list of paid club members.

Section 4. Secretary

1. Keep minutes of monthly meetings.
2. Write or review all correspondence that is issued by the Club.
3. Check the Club P.O. box regularly and pay the fees for the box when necessary.
4. Maintain an "up to date" list of all active members, home addresses, e-mail addresses and phone numbers.
5. Bring a current copy of the Club by-laws to all functions.
6. All club documentation will be kept current with revision dates and will be backed up.

Section 5. Youth Coordinator

1. Coordinate Club approved youth activities with a minimum of one (1) event per year.
2. Organize volunteers for any Club approved youth events.

Section 6. Conservation Coordinator

1. Schedule a conservation presentation for February meeting.
2. Schedule Coast Guard representation at the annual seminar.

Section 7. Other duties of the officers

1. The duties as listed below shall be given to the president, vice-president, treasurer or secretary upon election. These duties may be delegated to a Club member volunteering to help.
2. Handle all Internet inquiries and correspondence for the Club.
3. Respond to all e-mail addressed to club.
4. Pay for domain name and hosting service.
5. Post details about any club speakers on fishing forums or email members.
6. E-mail Rochester Post Bulletin with details about any Club speakers at least 6 days before the Thursday you want it published.
7. Start new message board threads or email for all Club events (except tournaments).
8. Provide documentation to webmaster on how to build and maintain Club website pages, Facebook and all other social media sites.
9. Manage the club's home page and Web site.
10. Keep an ongoing tally of tournament total results for the website.
11. The Officers shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Club between business meetings, fix the hour and place of meetings, make recommendations to the Club, and perform such other duties as are specified in these bylaws. The Officers shall be subject to the orders of the Club, and no officer’s act shall conflict with actions taken by the Club.
12. When new officers are installed, they will review all accounts with the previous officers.

**ARTICLE VI Meetings**

Section 1. The regular meetings of the Club shall be held on the first Monday of each month starting at 7:00 P.M. If the first Monday of the month falls on a holiday, the meeting shall be moved to the following Monday unless modified by the club.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the President or by the Officers and shall be called upon the request of fifty-one percent of the members of the Club. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the call. At least three days’ notice shall be given to all Club members.

Section 3 Twenty percent or more members in good standing of the Club shall constitute a quorum.

**ARTICLE VII General rules**

Section 1. The Club must approve all raffles, drawings, and any other contest.

Section 2. The Club must approve any literature intended for the general public.

Section 3. No Club member shall be paid for their labor or work unless specifically approved by the Club.

Section 4. No Club member shall provide a non-Club member with a list of club members without prior approval by the club.

Section 5. Expenditures exceeding $500.00 shall be proposed at a regular Club meeting and shall be voted on for approval at the following regular Club meeting.

Section 6. All donations solicited and received by Club members on behalf of Walleye Searchers shall be presented to the Club officers at a regular monthly meeting.

Section 7. Requests of donations from Walleye Searchers shall be by a club member at any regular monthly meeting. Should the donation be for a third-party recipient, said third party shall be present at a monthly meeting before donation is to be considered for vote by the Club.

**ARTICLE VIII Committees**

Section 1. Any Special Events may be suggested at any regular club meeting. Some of these may include a site and date for Family Day, Annual Banquet, speakers, movies or other items of interest. These suggestions will be discussed at the meeting and if required a vote may be taken for approval.

Section 4. Tournament Committee

1. A committee shall be formed at the November meeting to create a tournament schedule for the following year. The committee shall present the proposed schedule to the Club at the December. meeting.
2. The proposed schedule shall be documented in the club minutes for communication to Club members.
3. Final discussion and acceptance of the schedule will take place at the January meeting.

**ARTICLE IX Parliamentary Authority**

 The rules in the current edition of ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER, NEWLY REVISED shall govern the Club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order of the Club may adopt.

**ARTICLE X Tournament Rules**

Section 1. Refer to the Tournament Guidelines which are in effect for all tournaments, unless modified and approved prior to the tournament.

Section 2. Refer to Sponsored Tournament Events when Walleye Searchers Members are asked to participate in any tournament that is not scheduled by Walleye Searchers.

Section 3. In the event of unpredictable river conditions resulting in cancellation, the event will be postponed until seven days later the following weekend. In the event of having to cancel the event a second time that months event will be canceled for that year.

Section 4. In any scheduled monthly event, you must have 3 boats and 5 participants in order to have a tournament. For the safety of Club members 1 public landing must be open to launch boats the day of the tournament.

Section 5. If any scheduled tournament is cancelled for any reason the prizes will be returned to the Club’s inventory.

**ARTICLE XI Amendment of Bylaws**

Section 1. Any proposed change(s) to the bylaws shall be in writing and be signed by 12 members in good standing for consideration by the membership.

Section 2. After signing, the proposed change(s) will be presented to the club at a regularly scheduled meeting and published in the minutes of that meeting.

Section 3. The proposal will be re-read and voted on at the subsequent regularly scheduled meeting.

Section 4. A quorum must be present to vote on the proposed change(s) and a majority of that quorum is required for approval and adoption of the change(s).

**ARTICLE XII Fair Law**

 All rules have "Loopholes." It is the intention of the Club to provide an honest sportsman like Club. In the interest of good sportsmanship, members are reminded that the "Spirit of the Rule" will prevail in all judgment cases.