

 

**By-laws**

**For**

**NIPMUC ROD and GUN CLUB**

**INCORPORATED**

**As amended and restated as of September 18, 2018**

**ARTICLE I**

**-Name-**

**Section No. 1  - Name.**

The name of this corporation shall be **NIPMUC ROD and GUN CLUB, INCORPORATED.**

**ARTICLE II**

**-Purpose-**

**Section No. 1. – Purpose.**

           This corporation is organized under Chapter #180 of General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the purpose of encouraging athletic exercises and establishing and maintaining places for social gatherings or activities and recreation, including without limitation the following:

(a)    Improving hunting and fishing conditions by all lawful means

(b)   Cooperating in all worthy and lawful conservation measures.

(c)    Aiding in the enforcement of all laws pertaining to the propagation, protection and preservation of fish and game.

(d)   Doing all other lawful things incidental to or in furtherance of the foregoing.

**ARTICLE III**

**- Members -**

**Section No. 1 – Eligibility.**

            All persons, regardless of race, creed or color, are eligible for membership application.

**Section No. 2 – Memberships.**

(a)    **Senior or Regular Membership.**

All members eighteen (18) years of age or older shall be classed as Senior members with full voting power at all meetings of the club.

(b)   **Junior Membership.**

All members under age eighteen (18) years of age shall be classed as Junior Members with no voting powers at meetings or interest in the property of the club.

(c)    **Family Membership.**

A Family Membership may include a Senior Member and spouse or partner and/or any of their children under age 18.  The spouse (if any) or partner (if any) will have Senior or Regular Membership privileges and the children (if any) will have Junior Membership privileges as provided in (a) or (b) of this section.

(d)  **Free Membership for Elders.**

Upon reaching sixty-five (65) years of age, a member, who has been for the five (5) immediately preceding years, a member of the club, may apply to the Financial Secretary for free membership in the club. Upon verification of the above previous membership, the Financial Secretary shall bring the application before the next meeting of the Board of Directors. If approved by a majority of the members present and voting thereon, the applicant shall receive a free Senior membership without qualification.

**Section No. 3  - Applications.**

(a)    Applicants for membership shall make written application on forms supplied by the club and accompanied by the initiation fee and one year's dues.

(b)   The application shall provide the full name and complete address of the applicant, and such other information as may be decided by the club.

(c)   The application shall be submitted to the next Club meeting.  Approval of the application shall be indicated by endorsement by a majority vote, a quorum being present, at said meeting of the Club.

(d)     Provided that the application is not approved by the Club members as hereinafter provided, the applicant shall be so notified and his membership fee refunded by the Financial Secretary.

**Section No. 4 - Election.**

(a)   Successful applicants shall be so notified and membership cards issued to them by the Financial Secretary as soon as conveniently possible but in no case later than the next regular Club meeting provided that it is at least thirty (30) days after the election.

(b)   Families of Club members in good standing will be admitted to Membership in the Club under the Family Membership by notifying the Financial Secretary of the persons to be included and the payment of the proper dues therefore.

**Section No. 5 – Resignation.**

A member may resign from the club at any time by submitting his resignation in writing to the Financial Secretary.

**Section No. 6. - Loss of Membership**.

(a)    A member convicted of the violation of any fish or game law shall there by immediately lose his membership in the Club and shall not be eligible for reelection to membership, for a period of at least one year and as much longer as determined by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at their next meeting following the time of his conviction. He shall be notified of such loss of membership at his last known address by the Financial Secretary. He shall not be entitled to any refund of dues.

(b)    The present years memberships expire on October 1st of each year. If dues are paid by October 31st there will be no late fees. Any membership paid after November 1st and before December 31st will carry a Late Fee of $20.00. After December 31st, Membership Club privileges are suspended and subject to New Membership application rules.

(c) A member may lose his membership as provided in any house or ground rules of the club.

(d)  A member may be expelled by a majority vote, with a quorum being present, at any meeting of the Club. The member must be allowed to know the preferred charges and must be given an opportunity to be heard thereon either before the Club members in meeting or a Committee appointed by the Club President for the purpose as the Directors shall determine.

**ARTICLE IV**

**-Meetings-**

**Section No. 1. - Annual Meeting.**

There shall be an annual meeting held on the third Tuesday in September for the Election of Officers and the transaction of such other business as may be proper before the meeting.

**Section No. 2. - Regular Meetings.**

Regular meetings for the transaction of business shall be held on the third Tuesday of each month.

**Section No. 3. - Special Meetings**.

Special Meetings may be held at the call of the President, but notice of them and the purpose of the meeting must be communicated by appropriate means at least three days before the meeting.

**Section No. 4. - Quorum.**

(a)   Thirty (30) members shall constitute a quorum for the Election of Officers and transaction of business at an annual meeting; or any meeting for the purpose of amending the By-laws.

(b)   Fifteen (15) members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at anyregular meeting of the Club, except as provided in paragraph (a) of this Section No. 4 of Article IV.

ARTICLE V

-**Officers-**

**Section No. 1. - Officers.**

The officers of the Club shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Recording Secretary, a Financial Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Board of Directors consisting of the above officers and (12) other members. All officers and directors shall be members of the Club in good standing.

**Section No. 2. – Election of Officers.**

(a)    The Officers and Directors shall be elected by majority vote, a quorum being present at the annual meeting.

(b)   Each office must be voted on separately.

(c)    Members must be present to cast their vote; there shall be no absentee or proxy ballots.

(d)    Applicants on the ballot must be present at the annual meeting to qualify for election, unless excused by the Board of Directors.

**Section No. 3. - Term of Office.**

(a)    The President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected for a term of one (1) year.

(b)    At the First election following the adoption of this By-law, there shall be four (4) Directors elected for terms of three (3) years, four (4) Directors elected for terms of two (2) years and four (4) Directors elected for terms of One (1) year. Thereafter, there shall be elected annually (3) Directors for terms of three (3) years.

(c)   The Officers and Directors shall assume their duties immediately upon completion of the election and their qualification and shall serve until the completion of their respective term of office or until their successors have been elected and qualified.

**Section No. 4. - Vacancies.**

(a)    Vacancies arising in office during the term shall be filled for the balance of the term by an election.

(b)    Vacancies shall be posted in a timely manner as determined by the Board of Directors.

(c) Any Officer or Director absent for three consecutive meetings without cause may be replaced by actions of the Board of Directors as needed.

## ARTICLE VI

**- Duties of Officers -**

**Section No.** **1.****- President.**

The President shall be the executive head of the Club, shall preside at all meetings of the Club and exercise the usual functions of such an office, except as noted in Section No. 6(a) of this Article VI.

**Section No. 2. - Vice President.**

In the absence or incapacity of the President, the Vice-President shall have and exercise all the powers and duties of the President.

#### Section No. 3. – Treasurer.

(a)  The Treasurer shall collect all monies from the Financial Secretary of the Corporation and give him/her a receipt therefore and shall pay all duly approved obligations of the Corporation.

(b)   All funds shall be held in the name of the Corporation and deposited to its credit in a financial institution approved by the Board of Directors.

(c)    The Treasurer shall be bonded by an amount authorized by the Board of Directors and approved by the President.  The amount of the bond should be equal to, or greater than, the current or forecasted cash balance in all accounts held by the Club.

(d)   The Treasurer shall keep and have charge of the accounts of the Corporation, the vouchers therefore, the monies and the valuable papers of the Corporation.

(e)    The Treasurer shall, when it is required, certify that the execution of any document is the free act and deed of the Corporation.

(f)    The Treasurer shall submit a complete report of the Club's financial standing to the annual meeting or to the Board of Directors on demand.

(g)   The Treasurer shall pay normal operating bills of the Club and any unusual bills over $500 must be approved by the Board of Directors.

**Section No. 4. - Recording Secretary.**

(a)   The Recording Secretary shall be sworn to the faithful and impartial discharge of the duties of the office.

(b)   The Recording Secretary shall keep a true record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Club and Board of Directors.

(c)    The Recording Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Club and Board of Directors and shall keep a true record of such correspondence.

(d)   The Recording Secretary shall perform such other duties as would be normally classified as secretarial duties of the Club except those assigned to the Financial Secretary.

(e)   The Recording Secretary shall submit a report summarizing all matters of interest for the year at the Annual Meeting.

**Section No. 5. - Financial Secretary.**

(a)   The Financial secretary shall collect and keep a true record of dues and all other monies received.

(b)   The Financial Secretary shall receive all applications for membership in the Club and shall process them as provided under Article III, Sections #3 and #4.

(c)    The Financial Secretary shall turn the monies of the Club over to the Treasurer as soon as conveniently possible and take the Treasurer's receipt for them.

(d)   The Financial Secretary shall send a notice to each member of the Annual Dues approximately fourteen (14) days before they are payable.

(e)   The Financial Secretary shall keep a true record of all members.

(f)   The Financial Secretary shall keep a true record of all applicants denied admission to the Club.

(g)    The Financial Secretary shall submit a complete report of the Club's receipts to the Annual Meeting or to the Board of Directors on demand.

(h)   The Financial Secretary shall be bonded by an amount authorized by the Board of Directors and approved by the President.  The amount of the bond should be equal to, or greater than, the current or forecasted cash balance in all accounts held by the Club.

**Section No. 6. - Board of Directors**.

(a)   The Board of Directors shall, at an organization meeting held promptly after the annual meeting, elect a Chairman to preside at their meetings. The Chairman shall serve for a term of one year or until the next election of a Board of Directors.

(b)   In the absence or incapacity of the Chairman, the Vice-President of the Club shall exercise the duties of the Chairman of the Board of Directors.

(c)    The Board of Directors shall meet monthly, or at the call of the Chairman of the Board or the President of the Club.

(d)   The Board of Directors shall determine that the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer are bonded in a proper amount for the protection of the club property.

(e)    The Board of Directors may cause the books of the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer to be audited at any time that they deem necessary.

(f)     Expenditures for any unusual bills over $500 shall be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, a quorum being present.

(g)    The Board of Directors shall, by their votes, direct the Officers in the management of the affairs of the Corporation.

(h)   The Board of Directors or their duly appointed agent shall have the power to make leases or contracts in the transaction of the business of the Club. Approval of such transactions shall be by majority vote, a quorum being present.

(i)     The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the enforcement of all Rules and shall enlist and appoint whatever additional help is necessary to assure that the rules are properly and adequately enforced.

(j)     Nine (9) members shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board of Directors.

**Section No. 7. - Duties not defined.**

Duties of any officer of the Club or of any Committee not defined by the By-Laws shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

##### **ARTICLE VII**

**-Committees-**

**Section No. 1.**

The President shall, at the Annual Meeting or at the next regular meeting, appoint the following committees from the members of the Club; to serve until the next annual Meeting or until their successors have been appointed and qualified.

(a)   A Fishing Committee of 3 Members or more.

(b)   A Game Committee of 3 Members or more.

(c)    A Range Committee of 3 Members or more.

(d) An Archery Committee of 3 Members or more.

(e) An Entertainment committee of 3 Members or more.

(f)    A Membership Committee of 3 Members or more.

(g) A Beverage Committee of 3 Members or more.

(h) A By-laws Committee of 3 Members or more.

Section No. 2

The President shall, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, appoint a Nominating Committee of 3 Members at the regular meeting two months prior to the Annual Meeting.

**Section No. 3**

The President shall, with the approval of the Board of Directors at any time, appoint such other committees, as he deems necessary for the well being of the Club, and shall appoint as many members to the committee as the President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall deem appropriate for the functions of the committees.

## ARTICLE VIII

-**Duties of Committees-**

**Section No. 1. - Fishing Committee.**

(a)    The Fishing Committee shall make application for, receive, distribute and feed all fish authorized by the Club.

(b)    The Chairman shall notify the other members of the Committee of the time and place of the arrival of all fish received by the Club.

(c)    The Fishing Committee shall recommend to the members such rules, as it deems necessary for the proper control of any fishing activities, which are within the Club's property.

(d)   The Committee may select additional helpers if necessary.

**Section No. 2. - Game Committee.**

(a)    The Game Committee shall make application for, receive, distribute and feed all bird and game authorized by the Club.

(b)   The Chairman shall notify the other members of the Committee of the time and place of the arrival of all birds and game received by the Club.

(c)    The Game Committee shall recommend to the members such rules as it deems necessary for the proper control of any birds and game, which are within the Club's property.

(d)    The committee may select additional helpers if necessary.

**Section No. 3 - Range Committee.**

(a)    The Range Committee shall supervise the range and related activities of the Club subject to the approval of the Club members.

(b)   They shall be responsible for all property of the Club used in such activities.

(c)    The Committee may select additional helpers if necessary.

**Section No. 4. - Archery Committee.**

(a)    The Archery Committee shall supervise the archery facilities and related activities of the Club members.

(b)   They shall be responsible for all property of the Club used in such activities.

(c)    The Committee may select additional helpers if necessary.

**Section No. 5. - Entertainment Committee.**

The Entertainment Committee shall propose and have charge of all programs for the entertainment of the Club unless otherwise ordered by vote of the Club members.

**Section No. 6. - Nominating Committee.**

The Nominating Committee shall submit a list of nominations for Officers and Directors of the Club to the Annual Meeting.

**Section No. 7. - Beverage Committee.**

The Beverage Committee shall oversee the operations of the Bar, which includes, but is not limited to, setting Bar prices, managing bartenders and staff, and setting Bar rules with Board of Directors approval.

**Section No. 8. – By-laws Committee.**

The By-laws Committee shall review the By-laws yearly and present any updates to the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE IX**

**-Dues and Fees-**

**Section No. 1. - Dues and Fees**.

All dues and fees, including initiation fees, will be determined by the Board of Directors, after consideration of the operating budget of the Club.

**Section No. 2. - Dues Payable.**

Dues shall be payable on October first for the ensuing year. (See Article: III, Section No.6 (b).

**ARTICLE X**

**-Liability-**

**Section No. 1.**

The Club membership limits its liability in that no claims may be made against the total membership in any claim or personal injury out of accident or negligence of any member or body of members.

ARTICLE XI

**-Amendments-**

**Section No. 1. – Filing of Proposal.**

Intended amendments proposed by the By-law Committee to these By-laws must be filed in writing with the Recording Secretary and read in full to the members at the regular meeting previous to the one in which action is to be taken.

**Section No. 2. - Notice.**

Notice of an intended amendment to the By-laws must be contained in the notice calling the meeting at which such action is proposed to be taken.

**Section No. 3. - Vote.**

The By-laws may be amended at any meeting of the Club provided that the other actions of this article have been properly carried out and provided that the amendment receives two-thirds of the votes, a quorum being present as provided in Article IV, Section #4, Paragraph (a). (30 members’ quorum).

ARTICLE XII

**-Rules of Procedure-**

**Section No. 1.**

The rules contained in "**Roberts Rules of Order Revised**" shall govern the meetings of the club in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the By-laws or the **Special Rules of Order of the Club.**

ARTICLE XIII

**-In the Event of Dissolution of the Club-**

(a)    The property of the Club shall include real estate in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, together with all improvements and all other property assets belonging to Nipmuc Rod and Gun Club Incorporated.

(b)   Upon dissolution of the Club all properties of any kind shall be liquidated or assigned a fair market value and after all debts and obligations have been satisfied or otherwise provided for, the resulting monies shall be distributed to non-profit charities, agencies or scholarships as the membership at that time feels proper.

**Attest:**

### Recording Secretary

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**Amendments**

These By-Laws were last updated with the then current amendments on September 18, 2018.