

Constitution and Bylaws of the Indiana Bowhunter Association Incorporated

(Proposed Changes 2024)

CONSTITUTION

Article 1

NAME

The name of this association shall be “Indiana Bowhunter Association Incorporated”, commonly known as and doing business as “Indiana Bowhunter Association” and as “IBA”.

Article 2

PURPOSE

The purpose of the IBA shall be:

- a. To foster, expand, perpetuate, and educate the practice of bowhunting and conservation of Natural Resources in the State of Indiana.
- b. To foster and perpetuate a spirit of good fellowship among all bowhunters.
- c. To encourage and educate the use of the bow and arrow in the **Fair Chase** hunting of all legal game, fish and predators; to improve, increase and protect the privileges of bowhunters.

Provides definition of the type of hunting that the IBA condones. This is defined in the SOPs, Vision Statement, Paragraph 3.

- d. To co-operate and assist the state governments and sportsmen in the conservation of game and its natural habitat, the forest and fields, and waterways.
- e. To propose or support legislation which will enhance the sport of bowhunting in the state of Indiana.
- f. To engage in all lawful activities for which organizations may be organized.

Article 3

MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership shall be granted to anyone who, upon acceptance by the IBA of a membership application, pledges to use a self-bow, longbow, recurve bow, or compound bow, in the minimum required draw weights as described in the Indiana Hunting Regulations. Upon acceptance of membership application by the IBA, the new member shall be responsible for payment of annual dues as a condition of membership.
2. The executive committee may suspend or expel any member who, pending review:
 - a. Has been convicted of unlawful acts of fish and game laws.
 - b. Defaces or slanders the actions of the IBA.
 - c. Acts in direct contradiction to the rules and / or spirit of the IBA.

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BYLAWS

Article 1

OFFICERS

1. The elected officers of the IBA shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and at least ten district representatives, to serve as the executive board.
 - a. The most recent (previous full term) President will reside on the executive board in the post of Past President, with full rights associated with an executive board position.
2. The appointed officer positions listed in the “Advisory Council” section of the IBA’s Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) shall comprise the Advisory Council and shall have a vote in all IBA business. If more than one position is held by the same person, that person shall only have one vote.
3. The executive board and the advisory council shall serve as the executive committee, dispensing the business of the IBA as outlined by this constitution and bylaws.
4. These offices shall fulfill the duties that are normally implied by the titles of office, and as they are empowered by this Constitution and Bylaws, and so instructed by this document.
5. Both elected and appointed officers and chairpersons of the IBA are expected to attend scheduled IBA meetings, unscheduled emergency IBA meetings, and to attend IBA functions regularly. Regular and continual disregard for attending meetings and events may result in the officer or chairperson being disciplined by the Executive Board.
6. Failure of any elected or appointed officer or chairperson to carry out their proscribed duties faithfully will result in a committee of six (6) IBA members in good standing being convened by the Executive Committee to review complaint (s) against the officer or chairperson. This committee will decide if the complaint(s) are warranted, and if so, make a recommendation of punitive action against the officer or chairperson. The Executive Committee will then vote to accept, deny, or table the committee’s recommendation, or decide on its own action(s). Punitive actions will range from a vote of censure to be included in the official minutes of the meeting, to a dismissal from the held office.
7. Officers and Chairpersons disciplined by the Executive Committee may appeal their decision. In the event of an appeal, the ordered discipline will be suspended until the appeal is heard. A new committee of six (6) IBA members in good standing will be convened within thirty (30) days of the request of appeal, and will undertake to determine if the appeal holds merit, or if the order of discipline will stand. The IBA officer or chairperson requesting the appeal will remain suspended from office, with all duties and privileges suspended as well. The Executive Committee will appoint an IBA member to assume the duties temporarily until the appeal process is exhausted.

Removal of comma (,) is a grammatical correction

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Article 2

TERMS OF OFFICE

1. The President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and the district representatives shall be elected every two years, with staggered terms as detailed in **Article 2, TERMS OF OFFICE, Paragraph 2 and 3 below**. This allows the executive board to always have experienced members in each year of operation.
 - a. The current Past President's term will be concluded with the election of a new President. There in being replaced by the most recent (previous full term) President. Should the current President be re-elected to additional terms of office, it will require a majority vote by the executive committee for the Past President to remain on the executive board.
2. The President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer to be elected in odd-numbered years for a two-year (2) term, starting with the year 2001.
3. The District Representatives to be elected in even-numbered years for a two-year (2) term, starting with the year 2002.
4. The appointed officer positions listed in the "Advisory Council" section of the IBA's Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) shall serve in tandem with the President's term as described in **Article 2, Paragraph 1**. Upon a change of the President, any newly recommended and all residing members in the appointed officer's positions will be confirmed by a majority vote of the executive board.

Article 3

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DUTIES

1. The executive committee shall consist of the executive board and the advisory council.
2. The executive committee shall discharge such duties that may be assigned it by the IBA, shall act in emergencies, and shall direct the business of the organization.
3. The executive committee shall meet in person at the call of the President as such times and places where attendance can be secured without undue expense or inconvenience to the members. At all other times, all action of the executive committee shall be decided by mail, telephone, or by e-mail when possible.
4. All matters directly affecting the membership of the IBA shall be first reviewed by the executive committee. The executive committee shall then submit the proposals to the membership via the most reasonable, efficient, and timely manner possible. The membership shall have an appropriate response time before final action shall be taken by the executive committee.
5. The final action taken by the executive committee shall be submitted to the membership via the most reasonable, efficient, and timely manner possible.
6. The executive committee shall be governed by the spirit and purpose of the Constitution.

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Article 4

VACANCY

1. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice-President shall assume the duties of the office of the President for the remaining term, in accordance with *Roberts Rules of Order*.
2. In the event of a vacancy in the remaining executive committee positions at any time during the term of office, the remaining executive board members **may** ~~shall~~ by majority vote, select a successor to serve for the remaining term of the office.

Provides the executive board the *option of*, rather than mandating it fills vacant executive committee position(s).

Article 5

ELECTIONS

1. Standard elections for all elected positions will occur every two (2) years, with staggered terms separating the Executive Board, as detailed in **Article 2, TERMS OF OFFICE**.
2. The executive committee will appoint an Election Committee and Chairman.
3. Neither the election committee chairman nor any member of the election committee can be running for an elected office in the IBA.
4. Newly elected executive board members shall take office the day following the **Annual IBA Banquet (holding such banquet is within a +/- 30 day window of the starting term of office election)**, or on April 15, which ever occurs first after the election results have been reported by the election committee.

Provides that there is only one (1) opportunity for an *Annual Banquet* (not multiple). Provides that the length of term of office is not exceedingly cut short by a change in banquet planning.

Article 5, Subsection 1

BALLOTING

1. Balloting for executive board members shall be carried out by the Secretary.
2. The deadline for the return of ballots by the membership will be 5:00 PM the day of the **Annual IBA banquet**. In the case that an election cannot be completed at an IBA Banquet before then, the deadline for the return of ballots will be March 31 of the same year.

Provides consistent nomenclature throughout document - See Elections, Article 5 Subsection 4

3. The Secretary will ensure a ballot is distributed to each membership in good standing at least thirty (30) days prior to the deadline, as detailed in **Article 5, Subsection 1, Paragraph 2**.
4. Ballots shall be counted by the election committee. A detailed report of the results will then be printed and given to the Secretary. The results will be reported at the **Annual IBA Banquet** of the

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same year; or, only when the ballot deadline is March 31, ballots shall be counted and results reported by April 7 of the same year.

Provides consistent nomenclature throughout document - See Elections, Article 5 Subsection 4

5. All ballots so cast will be returned to the Secretary to be retained for a period of two (2) years.
6. Ballots must be signed by the member voting.

Article 6 INCOME

No influence, income or profits of the organization shall inure to the benefits of any individual or organization for profit.

Article 7 REVISION OF THE BYLAWS

1. The bylaws are to be reviewed every **four (4)** ~~two (2)~~ years with proposed revisions distributed to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the **Annual IBA Banquet**. **The bylaws may be reviewed upon special request by a 2/3 majority of the executive committee, at anytime.**

Provides consistent nomenclature throughout document - See Elections, Article 5 Subsection 4

Provides the executive board additional time to accumulate changes, which are few and far between in a mature organization. Provides the executive committee the opportunity to address proposed amendments to the bylaws outside the standard time frame if so required / requested.

2. The bylaws may be amended or repealed only by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the ballots cast by the membership. The ballots will be taken by mail prior to the **Annual IBA Banquet** or taken at the membership meeting on the day of the **Annual IBA banquet**.

Provides consistent nomenclature throughout document - See Elections, Article 5 Subsection 4

Article 8 LIQUIDATION

Upon liquidation of this organization and after all payment to creditors of the organization, the net assets remaining shall be distributed to any other not-for-profit organization. Said corporation or organization shall qualify for exempt status under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 S 501 (C), as amended, and which corporation or organization is primarily to benefit the fostering of bowhunting and conservation of natural resources.

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Article 9

MEMBER REQUEST FOR IBA BOARD HEARING

Any member of the IBA who desires to appear before the executive board in regards to any grievance, expulsion, suspension, or other business, may do so provided a notice is given to the IBA Secretary 24 hours prior to the executive board meeting. Such request must state the nature of the business. Such notice shall be in writing.

Removal of letter “s” is a grammatical correction

Article 10

GOVERNANCE OF THE INDIANA BOWHUNTER ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

The rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the IBA in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws or the Standard Operating Procedures of this organization.