

**The Mercer County Sportsmen
Association, Inc.**
Constitution and Code of Regulations

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Article I – Organization Name

Section 1:

The name of this association shall be 'The Mercer County Sportsmen Association, Inc., Celina, Mercer County, Ohio.

Article II – Objectives

Section 1:

The purposes for which this association is organized are to conserve, restore, and propagate the game, fish, and other wildlife and its habitat in Mercer County; to seek to procure better fishing and hunting for sportsmen; to promote and maintain friendly relations between farmers and sportsmen; to cooperate in obtaining proper respect for, and observation of, the fish and game laws; and so far as is possible, to spread knowledge of useful wildlife among the residents of Mercer County through education of its citizens and sponsorship of proper legislation to conserve its natural resources.

Section 2:

To engage in recreational activities of interest to sportsmen such as archery, boating, trap, skeet, and rifle shooting, sporting dog trials, conducting of pest and predator hunts, establishment of game sanctuaries and feeding and propagating of wildlife thereon, sponsoring and maintaining an education program for our youth in the proper handling of firearms and sound conservation practices, to work with other organizations of the community towards the improvement and maintenance of our lakes, streams, and parks and their recreational and fishing facilities, and to acquire real estate if necessary or proper to carry out the objectives of this organization.

Section 3:

This Association shall operate without profit and shall be non-political and non-sectarian.

Article III – Membership

Section 1:

Any person who is a resident of Mercer County, has a second residence in Mercer County, or owns a business in Mercer County and is at least 18 years old and of good character in accord with the principles and objectives of this Association may become a member upon purchase of a Land Certificate, upon signing an application and paying the annual dues hereinafter designated, and being duly voted into the Association by the Trustees.

Section 2:

Honorary members may be selected by a unanimous vote of the Association at any regular meeting. They shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

Section 3:

Each member hereby obligates himself to report to the nearest game protector any and all violators that may come to his knowledge.

Section 4:

Any member guilty of violation of any State or Federal fish or game law shall be subject to suspension of membership.

Section 5:

The amount of the yearly dues of each member of this Association shall be payable on such date as is designated by the Board of Trustees.

Section 6:

A Land Certificate issued after September 15, 1991 can be inherited by your living spouse but reverts back to the Mercer County Sportsmen Association, Inc. and ceases to exist upon his/her death.

Section 7:

Upon leaving residence in Mercer County, you retain your Land Certificate but cease to be a voting, active member until you re-establish Mercer County residency. You can maintain a social status without voting rights by continuing payment of annual dues.

Section 8:

Life memberships are available under the same guidelines as any yearly membership provided the applicant has been a paid member in good standing for a minimum of 5 consecutive years. The amount of the membership will be established by the Board of Trustees in conjunction with the annual dues and are non transferable and nonrefundable if membership is revoked. Upon death of the life member, life membership reverts to annual membership status.

Section 8(A):

The following payment scale for life members shall be effective October 1, 2024:

- Aged 23 to 29 the cost of life membership shall be a one time payment of \$2,500.00
- Aged 30 to 39 the cost of life membership shall be a one time payment of \$2,000.00
- Aged 40 to 49 the cost of life membership shall be a one time payment of \$1,500.00
- Aged 50 to 59 the cost of life membership shall be a one time payment of \$1,000.00
- Aged 60 and over are not eligible for the lifetime membership program

Section 9:

Spousal memberships are open to the spouse of an Annual or Life member in good standing. Spousal memberships include all the same privileges and responsibilities of the Association. Upon divorce or dissolution of marriage between the Annual or Life member and the Spousal member, said Spousal membership shall cease on the filing date of divorce or dissolution decree. The total Annual membership amount is payable on the next renewal date.

Article IV – Meetings

Section 1:

The annual meeting of the Association shall be held on the third Sunday in September of each year at such time and place as the Board of Trustees may designate. At such meeting, the order of business shall be:

1. Minutes of the previous meeting
2. Reports of Officers and Board of Trustees
3. New Business
4. Old Business
5. Announcement of results of annual election

Section 2:

Regular monthly meetings of the Board of Trustees, which is open to general membership, shall be held on the third Monday of each month in the calendar years.

Section 3:

Special meetings may be held by the call of the President or at any time upon written request of ten members in good standing.

Section 4:

All meetings shall be conducted according to standard parliamentary rules and open discussion from the floor on all measures shall be permitted and encouraged.

Section 5:

No person not a member of the Association shall be present at a meeting of the Association unless he shall be specially invited by the President or Board of Trustees.

Section 6:

Notice of every annual meeting of the Association shall be mailed by the Secretary to every member of the Association at least ten days before the date of such meeting.

Article V – Quorum

Section 1:

At meetings of the Board of Trustees, a majority of the total membership of said Board shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business. A majority vote of the total number of Board members shall prevail.

Article VI – Management

Section 1:

The management of the Association shall be vested in a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and ten Trustees.

Article VII – Officers and How Elected

Section 1:

The Board of Trustees of this Association shall consist of ten members. At the first meeting of the Association, one-third of the members of the Board shall be elected for one year, one-third for two years, and one-third for three years. Thereafter at each annual meeting, there shall be elected one-third of the members of the Board to hold office for three years.

Section 2:

The President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected by a vote of the members and hold office for one year, or until their successors are elected and qualify.

Section 3:

The officers shall be elected for the ensuing year at the annual meeting of the Association.

Section 4:

The elections shall be by ballot.

Section 5:

In the event of any vacancy in any office for any reason, the Board shall appoint some member in good standing to fill the vacancy until the next general election, at which time a successor shall be elected to fill the unexpired term.

Article VIII – Duties of Officers

Section 1:

The Board of Trustees shall have the power to manage all the affairs of the Association on any and all questions relating in any manner whatsoever thereto, and to make all contracts necessary for the proper transaction of all business. They shall have entire jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to the care, conduct, control, supervision, and management of the Association and its finances, and all appropriations shall be made by them.

Section 2:

It shall be the duty of said Board of Trustees to establish a Book of Rules regulating the use or occupancy of the rooms of the Association, and the care and protection of its property.

Section 3:

The Board of Trustees shall meet for the transaction of business each month and at any other time, at the call, in writing, by the President or any two Board members, provided written notice shall be given to each member of the Board before the time appointed for each meeting.

Section 4:

At the annual meeting of the Association, the Board of Trustees shall make a full report of their proceedings during the preceding fiscal year and recommend such measures as they may deem advisable.

Section 5:

The Board of Trustees may fill any vacancy among the Officers or Trustees by a vote of the majority of those present at a regular monthly meeting of such Board.

Section 6:

Any member of the Board of Trustees who shall absent himself from three consecutive monthly meetings of such Board, unless he shall offer at the next monthly meeting an excuse for his absence which is satisfactory to the President, shall be deemed to have resigned as a member of said Board and cease to be a member thereof.

Section 7:

In no case where a resolution has been passed at a meeting of the Board of Trustees affecting the relations of any member of the Association toward the Association shall such resolution be reviewed at a subsequent meeting without notice in writing sent by the Secretary to every member of the Board of Trustees at least ten days before the meeting that such previous action will be brought up for review or consideration.

Section 8(A):

The Board of Trustees shall have the following specific powers:

1. To appoint delegates to the different associations of which this Association may be a member, or for the purpose of conferring with any association or club respecting any matter in which this Association may be concerned.
2. To establish a Book of Rules for the conduct of the members of the Association and for their use of the Association property.
3. To suspend or expel a member for any conduct in violation of the rules, or behavior improper or prejudicial to the interest of the Association.
4. To fix and enforce penalties for the violation of rules.
5. To remit penalties for offenses against rules.
6. To prescribe rules for the admission of strangers or guests to the privileges of the Association.
7. To call special meetings of the Association to consider special subjects.
8. To make, revise, and/or amend the rules for the Board's own government, and fix and enforce penalties for the violation of such rules.

9. To prescribe additional duties for any of the Officers in addition to those herein set forth.
10. To purchase or lease real estate in the name of the organization if in the judgment of the Trustees it is necessary or proper to carry out the objectives of the organization.

Section 8(B):

The President.

1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and Board of Trustees and enforce all laws and regulations of the Association. He shall perform such other duties as shall be imposed upon him by resolution of the Board of Trustees. The President shall, with the Secretary, sign all written contracts and written obligations of the Association.
2. The President shall have the power to appoint committees whenever it becomes necessary, each committee to consist of not less than three members of the Association in good standing.
3. The President shall have the power to vote at Board meetings in case of a tie vote of the Trustees.

Section 8(C):

The Vice President.

1. In the absence of the President, his duties shall be performed by the Vice-President. In the event of the death or disability of the President, the Vice-President shall act until the Board of Trustees fill the office.
2. The Vice-President shall be an ex-officio member of the Board of Trustees and attend all meetings of such Board and shall take charge of all committees as the President shall delegate.

Section 8(D):

The Secretary.

1. The Secretary shall keep the minutes and other official reports of the Association. He shall conduct the official correspondence of the Association. He shall keep all records, books, documents, and papers relating to the Association in such place as shall be designated by the Board of Trustees. He shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Board of Trustees.

2. The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Board of Trustees for taking minutes and maintaining a record of the meetings, but shall have no voting power at such meetings.

Section 8(E):

The Treasurer.

1. The Treasurer shall keep account of all moneys received by him and deposit same in the name of the Association in such bank as shall be designated by the Board of Trustees. He shall not pay out any money of the Association except in such manner and for such purposes as shall be approved by the proper Officers of the Association whose approval shall be authorized by motion or resolution of the Board of Trustees. The Treasurer shall not be responsible for money or funds of the Association paid out or disbursed upon checks or vouchers therefore, which have been properly signed and countersigned. At each monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees, he shall make a statement of the financial condition of the Association and at the annual meeting of the Association, he shall submit a detailed report of the financial condition of the Association for the preceding fiscal year, which report may be audited by accountants designated by the Board of Trustees.

Article IX - Dues

Section 1:

Any member who shall fail to pay the annual dues within thirty days after the same shall become due and payable, or who shall fail to pay any indebtedness to the Association within thirty days after a bill for same has been rendered, shall be suspended from all the privileges of membership, and shall remain suspended until the full amount of such indebtedness has been paid.

Article X – Amendments and Revisions

Section 1:

Amendments hereto may be made at the annual meeting, or at a meeting called for the purpose by a two-thirds vote of all the members present provided written notice of the proposed amendment shall be submitted to the Board of Trustees and approved by a majority vote of the whole of said Board, and provided further that notice of the proposed amendment shall be given to all members by the Secretary.

Article XI – Book of Rules

Section 1:

A written book of the general rules of the Association shall be established and maintained by the Board of Trustees that may be revised or amended at any monthly or special meeting by a majority vote of the ten Trustees (6) of said Board for the good of the Association.

Article XII – Dissolution of Association and Asset Disposal Procedures

Section 1:

Should this Association disband, become inactive to the point of surrender of its corporate charter, or dissolve its operations upon a majority vote of the members present at a meeting called for the purpose ten days after written notice has been mailed to all members by the Secretary, the proceeds of the sale of the recreation area acreage, all buildings and appurtenances thereon, and all other tangible goods and items of value owned by the Association, after payment of all expenses of the sale thereof, shall be paid into the Mercer County Civic Foundation, Inc., Celina, Ohio.

Section 2:

The Board of Trustees shall not sell any part or parcel of the recreation acreage until they have obtained the approval of the membership by a two-thirds vote of the members present at meeting ten days after written notice of the meeting has been mailed to all members by the Secretary.

Adopted by the members of the Association at their meeting held at the Clubhouse, Celina, Ohio. This 20th day of September, 1965.

Fred Grimm, President

Don Gilliland, Vice-President

Gerald Smith, Secretary

Wilfred (Cherry) Sunderhaus, Treasurer

ATTEST:

Trustees

John Bowman

Clifford Vinnece

Ed Stoner

C.W. Bock

Ray Murlin

Ron Smith

Pat McKirnan

Jared Halderman

Ed Glass

Walter R. Bernard, Legal Advisor

OFFICERS 1974

Carl Schelich, President
Roy Geren, Vice-President
Miletus Miesse, Secretary
Wilfred (Cherry) Sunderhaus,
Treasurer

TRUSTEES

Hugo Fahncke
Rex Ellis
Clair Jones
John Bowman
Edward Glass
Robert Schelich
Leland Young
Mike Hoying
Jerome Vogt

OFFICERS 2017

Milt Miller, President
David Cahill, Vice-President
Rhonda Bowlby, Secretary
Mike Sessor, Treasurer

TRUSTEES

Andrea Cahill
Dave Freeman
John Lake
Mike Lehman
Mike McKirnan
Bob Meihls
Shelly Moorman
Robert Schelich
Chris Weaver
Nathan Wenning

OFFICERS 1991

Milt Miller, President
Bob Meihls, Vice-President
Charles Ayers, Jr., Secretary
Ruth Young, Treasurer

TRUSTEES

Brice Blair
Jim Dingledine
Randy Francis
Albert Heckler
Terry Kittle
Kevin McKirnan
Ed Raudabaugh
James Scheer
Jerome Vogt
Gary Young

OFFICERS 2018

Milt Miller, President
David Cahill, Vice-President
Andrea Cahill, Secretary
Dan Adams, Treasurer

TRUSTEES

Tom Cole
Donn Hoying
John Lake
Mike Lehman
Mike McKirnan
Bob Meihls
Shelly Moorman
Robert Schelich
Chris Weaver
Nathan Wenning

OFFICERS 2020

Milt Miller, President
Scott McClure, Vice-President
Sandy Smart, Secretary
Dan Adams, Treasurer

TRUSTEES

Ben Brown
Tom Cole
James Cook
Mike Lehman
Annette McClure
Mike McKirnan
Tod McKirnan
Bob Meihls
Matthew Walker
Nathan Wenning

OFFICERS 2024

Scott McClure, President
Dan Adams, Vice-President
Sandy Smart, Secretary
Michelle Weber, Treasurer

TRUSTEES

Ben Brown
Aaron Bruns
Tom Cole
Mike Lehman
Mark Linn
Annette McClure
Bob Meihls
Matthew Walker
Chris Weaver
Nathan Wenning