



THE MERCER COUNTY SPORTSMEN ASSOCIATION, INC.

Celina, Mercer County, Ohio

CONSTITUTION & CODE OF REGULATIONS

OFFICIAL GOVERNING DOCUMENT

REVISED EDITION — 2026

Established for the conservation, restoration, and propagation of wildlife in Mercer County.

Adopted September 20, 1965 • Amended 1974, 1991, 2017, 2026

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The Mercer County Sportsmen Association, Inc.

Constitution and Code of Regulations

Celina, OH Revised 2026

ARTICLE I - 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 field 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 nonpolitical and non-sectarian.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Resident > Any person who is a resident of Mercer County, Ohio, owns, leases/rents on an annual basis a second residence in Mercer County, Ohio or owns a business in Mercer County, Ohio 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, signing an application and paying the annual dues hereinafter designated, and being duly voted into the Association by the Board of Trustees. Resident members have the right to vote in all elections on all issues and hold office in the association. Upon leaving residence in Mercer County, Ohio, or sale of qualifying business, their membership converts to Non-resident membership. Member retains their Land Certificate but relinquishes their right to vote or hold office until they re-establish Mercer County, Ohio residency.

Section 2: Non-resident > Any person who 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, paying the annual dues hereinafter designated, and being duly voted into the Association by the Board of Trustees.

Non-resident members shall not vote in any election, nor hold office in the association.

Section 3: Spousal > Currently, guests to the MCSA facilities and ranges must be in the same location as the member. To enhance members enjoyment of MCSA grounds and facilities Spousal membership is established.

- **Resident Spousal Membership** > Open to the spouse of an Annual or Life Resident member in good standing. Resident Spousal memberships may vote and hold office in the association including all the privileges, responsibilities and/or restrictions of the Association as their Resident spouse.
- **Non-Resident Spousal Membership** > Open to the spouse of a Non-Resident member in good standing. Non-Resident Spousal members shall not vote or hold office in the association, But enjoy all other privileges, responsibilities and/or restrictions of the Association as their Non-Resident spouse. An applicant for Spousal membership shall submit a membership application to the board of trustees for consideration that bears the name of their member spouse in good standing, selecting Resident or Non-resident Spousal member as their desired level of membership and include appropriate monetary dues and fees hereinafter designated.

Upon divorce or dissolution of marriage between the Annual or Life member, Non-Resident member and Spousal member, said Spousal membership shall cease on the filing date of divorce or dissolution decree.

The Resident Spousal membership converts to Annual membership, and the appropriate amount of dues as hereinafter designated is payable on the next renewal date. The converting spousal member's original Land Certificate remains valid. This rule also applies to non-resident members with appropriate changes to their respective membership and dues amounts.

Section 4: Life > 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 nontransferable and nonrefundable if membership is revoked. Upon death of the life member, life membership reverts to annual membership status.

Section 4(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 onetime payment of \$2,500.00
- Aged 30 to 39 the cost of life membership shall be a onetime payment of \$2,000.00
- Aged 40 to 49 the cost of life membership shall be a onetime payment of \$1,500.00
- Aged 50 to 59 the cost of life membership shall be a onetime payment of \$1,000.00
- Aged 60 and over are not eligible for the lifetime membership program

Section 5: Sub-categories of membership > The Board of trustees may, by a quorum vote of trustees, create or terminate sub-categories of membership when deemed in the best interest of the association and/or members. Sub-categories shall be recorded in the MCSA Book of Rules. Example: Worker.

Section 6: Orientation and Shooting range safety > All members regardless of category are required to complete Association and Firearms Range Safety orientation before using the shooting ranges and other facilities.

Section 7: Each member hereby obligates himself to report to the nearest game protector any and all violators that may come to his/her knowledge.

Section 8: Any member found guilty of any State or Federal fish or game law shall be subject to suspension of membership.

Section 9: The amount of yearly dues of each member of this Association shall be payable on such date as is designated by the Board of Trustees.

Section 10: 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.

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:

- 1st: Minutes of previous meeting;
- 2nd: Reports of Officers and Board of Trustees;
- 3rd: New Business;
- 4th: Old Business;
- 5th: Announcement of result 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 the 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: Ten members in good standing at any meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2: 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, and 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: Board of Trustees: 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 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 Associations 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) President:

- (1) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and Board of Trustees, and enforce all laws 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) 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 designate.

Section 8: (D) 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) 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 of the 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, 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.
- (2) The Treasurer shall be required to furnish adequate bond in the amount designated by the Board of Trustees; the premium of such bond to be paid for by the Association.

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 area acreage until they will 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 McKirnen, Jared Halderman, Ed Glass

Walter R. Bernard, Legal Adviser

OFFICERS 1974

CARL SCHELICH, President

ROY GEREN, Vice President

MILETUS MIESSE, Secretary

WILFRED (Cherry) SUNDERHAUS, Treasurer

ATTEST TRUSTEES:

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

OFFICERS 1991

MILT MILLER, President

BOB MEIHLS, Vice President

CHARLES AYERS JR., Secretary

RUTH YOUNG, Treasurer

ATTEST TRUSTEES:

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

OFFICERS 2017

MILT MILLER, President

DAVID CAHILL, Vice President

RHONDA BOWLBY, Secretary

MIKE SESSOR, Treasurer

ATTEST TRUSTEES:

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

OFFICERS 2026

SCOTT MCCLURE, President

DAN ADAM, Vice President

KRISTI COREY, Secretary

MICHELLE WEBER, Treasurer

ATTEST TRUSTEES:

John Barker, Ben Brown, Aaron Bruns, Mike Lehman, Mark Linn, Annette McClure, Bob Meihls, Matt Walker, Chris Weaver, Nathan Wenning.

Adopted by the members of the Association at their Special Meeting held at the Clubhouse, Celina, Ohio, on July 19, 2026.