

RICE LAKE ROD & GUN CLUB, INC.  
DBA  
THE BLUE HILLS SPORTSMEN'S CLUB  
BY-LAWS  
REVISED & RATIFIED BY THE MEMBERS JANUARY 15<sup>th</sup> 2018

Article 1 NAME, DURATION AND MISSION STATEMENT

This club is a non profit 501(c)(7) corporation organized and incorporated under the Laws of the State of Wisconsin on or about May, 1954. It shall be known as The Rice Lake Rod and Gun Club, Inc. DBA The Blue Hills Sportsmen's Club, and shall exist into perpetuity. Any further mention in these by-laws to the 'Club' or 'BHSC' shall refer to the Rice Lake Rod & Gun Club DBA The Blue Hills Sportsmen's Club. The Club's Mission Statement shall be: “The purpose of the Club is to promote sportsmanship, the wise use of our natural resources, promote the sport of shooting in a safe way and to engage in programs of educational and charitable activities of any nature.”

Article 2 MEMBERSHIP

Total memberships shall not exceed 3000 members, and the voting members of the club shall be members who are current with their annual dues or are life members. Membership dues shall be prescribed by the Board of Directors. (BOD) The BOD maintains the right to accept, reject, adjust, suspend or terminate the membership of any member for just cause by a majority vote of the BOD. Just cause is defined but not limited to acts of:

- A non payment of dues within a reasonable amount of time.
- B. violation of club rules or by-laws.
- C. abuse of club property, buildings or equipment.
- D. criminal or civil acts while on club property.
- E. unsafe acts that endanger themselves or someone else, or for any other unlawful conduct.

Each board member shall have one vote in matters requiring membership approval or disciplinary matters.

Honorary members are members approved by the BOD for deeds done, services rendered or contributions made to the club for causes for which the club stands for. This is a non-voting membership.

When another club sends a team to shoot or any guest of a BHSC member attends our facility to shoot, that other club's team or BHSC member's guest shall be considered a member of BHSC for that event or day only and shall be approved by the BOD on a case by case basis.

Article 3 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors (BOD) shall be composed of voting members of the club and consist of 6 members. Each board member shall have a single vote in all proceedings brought before the board. The board chair person shall abstain from voting unless a tie vote needs to be decided. Board member duties are specified in various articles of these by-laws. The board shall consist of three at large Directors, a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

Board members are required to attend  $\frac{3}{4}$  (three-quarters) of all meetings per year unless excused for cause by the Chair or other un-foreseen circumstances arise, and due notice given to chair or other director. Failure to meet this requirement may be just cause for removal from the board. Only current voting members with at least one year membership of the club may serve on the board.

#### Article 4 OFFICERS DUTIES

A) The Chair shall preside at all regular and special meetings of the club. The Chair shall appoint all committee chair persons unless a member volunteers for said position. The board chair shall be a member of all committees in an ex-officio position. The chair shall appoint all representatives not elected by the body, subject to approval by the BOD. In the case of a tie vote the chair shall have the power to cast the deciding vote, except in the election of officers. The chair shall have the power to call special meetings or audit all financial records of the club whenever he/she deems necessary or upon request of a current board member. In calling a special meeting the chair must notify the members of the board at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Chair shall perform all other duties necessary to carry on the business of the club.

B) The Secretary shall assist the chair in the performance of his/her duties and in the absence of the chair shall assume all duties of the chair unless relinquished to the treasurer. The secretary shall have custody of the minute book, records, documents, and office paraphernalia and equipment. Secretary shall take a record and transcribe minutes of the meetings of the BOD and general member meetings. Provide copies by email or regular mail to all officers and board members within 21 days after close of that meeting. In the absence of the secretary the chair shall appoint someone to take notes. The secretary shall conduct the general correspondence of the club. Secretary shall be the official custodian of the original copy of these by-law documents of the club which shall be authenticated by the signatures of the BOD. Each BOD member and Trustee shall receive a copy of these by-laws and a copy shall be available to any current member on the clubs web site. At expiration of their term secretary shall deliver to his/her successor, minute books, documents, records, paraphernalia and equipment and shall require a receipt thereof.

C)The Treasurer shall receive and take charge of all monies belonging to the club. Treasurer shall maintain records of all financial transactions of the club. Treasurer shall pay out money from the treasury upon presentation of a proper bill. Treasurer shall sign all checks drawn upon the club and all checks shall be cosigned by another board member who shall be determined by the BOD. More than one person may be designated as co-signor but only one signature shall be required other than the treasurers. Treasurer shall collect all dues and fees of the club, keeping a true and just account thereof. Treasurer shall keep all records up to date along with receipts, statements and any other information necessary to enable an audit of the books at any time. The BOD may call for an annual audit of the records at the end of each year and be presented to the membership body at the annual meeting in January. Treasurer shall retain all funds of the club in a financial institution designated by a majority vote of the BOD. Within 21 days after the expiration of his/her term of office ex-treasurer shall present all equipment, materials and records in his/her possession to their successor taking receipt thereof.

#### Article 5 TERMS OF OFFICE AND ELECTIONS

The board of directors shall be elected for a term of two years, staggered such that only

three members will be elected in any given year, thereby having a rotating number of members so that the entire board can't be replaced in a given year. Their terms shall commence at 12:01 AM following the evening of their election. The Board chair, Secretary and treasurer shall be determined by a majority vote of the board at their first board meeting within 21 days following general elections at annual meeting. Nominations for directors may be made 30 days in advance of annual meeting by the BOD acting as a nominating committee. Other nominations may be made from the floor by any current voting member at the annual meeting in January.

#### Article 6 REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

In the event of removal from office of any board member by death, resignation, or removal by vote, the BOD shall elect within 30 days a new board member to hold that position until the next annual meeting. Any board member or officer of the club may be removed from office in the event he/she be deemed unfit to continue the duties of that office. Actual removal from office may only be accomplished by a four fifths (4/5ths) vote of the board of directors. In this instance the chair shall have a vote.

#### Article 7 MEETINGS

Each BOD member has one vote to cast on business matters before the Board. No vote may be taken at a Board of Directors meeting if there is not in attendance a Quorum of at least two thirds (2/3) members of the Board. Emergency motions, resolutions and Board actions will be handled by the Chair in the following manner; A telephone poll or email will be conducted by the Chair. Formal action on the matter will be held at the next Board meeting. All business conducted at a meeting of the BOD must be in accordance with these by-laws. An annual meeting will be held for the purpose of gathering all interested members of the club together to conduct business that requires the participation and vote of the voting members at large. The meeting date and location shall be decided by the BOD. Each voting member of the club shall be notified of such date, time and place by any of the following, and in any combination singular or plural; By letter, public notice or email. All business conducted and votes taken at this meeting must be in accordance with these by-laws.

#### Article 8 COMMITTEES

The club may establish, maintain, or dissolve standing committees as the BOD may see fit. All standing committees must be chaired by a current member who volunteers or is appointed by the Chair. Any committee may be established or dissolved in accordance with the needs of the club. The duties and functions of these or any committee appointed shall be prescribed by the BOD and their actions must fall within the guidelines of these by-laws.

A) Membership committee; Charge is to develop methods to increase memberships and be responsible to keep membership records up to date.

B) publication Committee; Charge is to be responsible for news releases and advertising designed as an educational tool.

C) Youth committee; Charge shall be to develop a youth shooting and educational program to meet the purpose of the club.

D) Shooting committee; Charge shall be responsible for shooting undertaken on the club grounds, set up sub committees for the varied shooting disciplines on said grounds.

E) Grounds and general maintenance committee; Charge shall be to oversee all

maintenance of club property including grounds, buildings and roads as funds are available.

F) Events and fund raising committee; Charge shall be to plan and develop club events and fund raisers, such as but not limited to Gun Shows, Special shoots, annual dinner banquet, raffles and so on.

G) Club house operations committee shall consist of the board of directors and be responsible for all operations of the club house, bar, concessions and any other operations necessary to make the club run smoothly.

H) Club development committee; Charge shall be to plan and develop a long range plan for the club and it's grounds. To plan and oversee club expansion or development for now and in the future.

## Article 9 CLUB MANAGEMENT

Club management shall be the responsibility of the Board of Directors (BOD)

## Article 10 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

There shall be established and maintained a Board of Trustees. The purpose of this Board is to assist and advise the BOD on any and all matters coming before the BOD. Any member of the Board of Trustees shall be appointed by a simple majority vote of the BOD. Membership on the Board of Trustees shall continue for a 3 year period. At the end of this time the BOD may extend or replace one (1) member each year on a rotating basis so that the entire Board of Trustees are not replaced all at one time. The Board of Trustees shall be considered non voting ex-officio members of the Board of Directors.

## Article 11 FUNDING

Revenue for the club may be in any form of income consistent with the club's 501(c)(7) tax exemption status issued to us by the IRS. No member may receive direct compensation or benefit from the financial well being of the club. A member may however be reimbursed only for actual expenses incurred on behalf of the club. Any paid position of employment shall be prescribed by and compensation decided on by the BOD.

Donations may be made to groups that share like minded goals and support the goals of the BHSC. Donations must not be of a material or monetary (cash) nature but may be of a limited non-financial nature such as a years membership or free round of shooting.

## Article 12 AGENT

Any Principle Board member (chair, treasurer or secretary) at the direction of a four fifths (4/5ths) vote of the BOD may sign in behalf of the club, leases, or other legal documents with exception of instruments of indebtedness. Instruments of indebtedness can only be undertaken by a four fifths (4/5ths) vote of the BOD and simple majority vote of the members present at said meeting.

## Article 13 INDEMNIFICATION

This club shall indemnify any officer his or her expenses, attorney's fees, judgments, fines, and settlements actually and reasonably incurred by reason of the fact that they were an officer, Board Director, employee or agent of the club, if the person acted in good faith and in a manner they reasonably believed to be in the best interest of the club, to the full extent

permitted by law as stipulated in chapter 181 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

**Article 14 IN THE EVENT OF DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB**

A. The property of the Club shall include real estate in Wisconsin, together with all improvements and all other property assets belonging to BHSC where ever located, both within and outside the State of Wisconsin, as may be necessary for this purpose.

B. Upon dissolution of the Club all properties of every kind shall be liquidated or assigned a fair market value and after all debts and obligations of the Club have been satisfied or otherwise provided for, the resulting monies shall be distributed to other non-profit charities, agencies or scholarships as the then voting membership shall feel proper, within the laws of the State of Wisconsin.

**Article 15 RULES OF ORDER**

Roberts Rules of Order revised shall govern this club in all cases where they are applicable and not in conflict with these by-laws.

**Article 16 FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal tax year shall run from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>. The membership year shall run from April 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year.

**Article 17 AMENDMENTS**

These by-laws reflect the majority decision of the current members of this club and can only be altered at the annual meeting. Amendments to the by-laws shall be incorporated into these present by-law language and new pages distributed to the Officers and BOD at the next meeting. These by-laws supersede all other by-laws and/or rules making them null and void. Revised January 15<sup>th</sup> 2018 by the current members at the club's club house 1604 23-24,1/2 St Town of Stanley, State of Wisconsin.

Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Charles Harrison

Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Sukopp

Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Dawn Olson

Director \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Greg Wilcox

Director \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Dominic Emole

Director \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Lucas Stevens