

**MANSFIELD FISH AND GAME
PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.
BYLAWS**

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Preamble

The Mansfield Fish and Game Protective Association, Incorporated is organized to promote the sports of shooting, hunting, and fishing safely.

Article 1

Name: This organization shall be known as the Mansfield Fish and Game Protective Association, Incorporated.

Emblem: The emblem, a copy of which is annexed hereto as Schedule A, shall be the emblem of the Association.

Fiscal Year: The fiscal year of the association shall terminate on the second Monday of September in each year.

Article 2

Objectives:

The objectives of this organization shall be:

- To encourage organized and individual shooting sports and shooting activities among members of the Association, their guests, and the public (at publicly announced events) with a view toward a better knowledge of the safe handling and proper care of firearms, as well as improved marksmanship.
 - To increase the knowledge and practice of hunting and fishing skills, marksmanship, and other outdoor recreation skills that are in harmony with the sports of hunting and fishing.
- To promote hunting and fishing safety.
- To encourage the practice of good sportsmanship and compliance with local, state, and federal game and firearm laws.
- To support wildlife conservation programs and to assist wildlife management programs.
- To strengthen landowner - hunter cooperation and understanding.
- To promote public, community, and state relations within the framework of the preamble of these Bylaws.

Article 3

Officers and Elections:

Section 1: The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Purser, and six Directors. These Officers and Directors shall fulfil the duties prescribed by these Bylaws and current published Standing Rules and by the Parliamentary Authority adopted by the Association.

Section 2: The Board of Directors shall appoint a Nominating Committee Chairman in June. The full slate for elections, including vacancies and/or expiring terms, shall be determined and the ballot announced in the August membership meeting minutes. For special elections a minimum of 21-day notice is required prior to any special election.

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Section 3: The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Purser shall be elected for a two-year term, which shall begin at the conclusion of the September General Membership Meeting following the announcement of election results.

Section 4: The Directors shall be elected for three-year terms, with two Directors each year. Terms shall begin at the conclusion of the September General Membership Meeting.

Section 5: A member shall be considered eligible to be a Director if he/she is a non-probationary member in good standing of the Association. A member shall be considered eligible to be an Officer if he/she has been a non-probationary member in good standing of the Association for at least one year. A member shall be considered eligible to be President if he/she has been a non-probationary member in good standing of the Board of Directors for at least one year.

Section 6: Directors may not serve more than two consecutive terms unless voted on and approved by the general membership.

Section 7: Officers may not serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office unless voted on and approved by the general membership.

Section 8: A transition period shall take place after the election of Officers at the September General Membership meeting and shall terminate at the September Board of Directors meeting. Incoming Officers and Directors can exercise all the rights and privileges of their offices immediately following the adjourning of the September Members Meeting and may consult with the outgoing Officers and Directors during this time.

Section 9: The Chairperson of the Nominating Committee and three volunteers from the general membership (not a current member of the Board of Directors or a candidate for any office) shall count all ballots and report the results to the President of the Association before the meeting is adjourned. Results of the election including the vote tally will be included in the meeting minutes and will be announced at the conclusion of the meeting before adjourning.

Article 4

Duties of the Officers:

Section 1 - President: The President shall preside at all meetings of the General Membership and of the Board of Directors. The President shall be a member or member ex-officio of all committees except the Nominating Committee and Auditing Committee. The President shall cosign all checks over \$250 drawn on the Treasury for expenditures that are not a part of the Annual Budget, or that do not have prior approval of the Board of Directors. The President shall appoint committee chairpersons and shall transact such other business as pertains to the office. A vacancy of the office of President requires appointment of a President pro tempore by a quorum of the Board of Directors.

Section 2 - Vice-President: The Vice-President shall be the Facilities Chairperson and shall be responsible for the maintenance of the clubhouse and ranges. The Vice-President shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the President in the event of absence. Absence is defined as the temporary inability to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the position.

Section 3 - Secretary: The Secretary shall keep the records of all meetings of the Association shall keep on file the monthly reports of the Treasurer and all other papers belonging to the Association, and shall be Secretary of the Board of Directors. The Secretary shall prepare and send to the membership a roll call and minutes of each Board or regular Association meeting. The Secretary shall maintain the master copies of all published rules and official forms and have copies available for the membership. In the absence of the President and Vice-President, the Secretary may cosign checks over \$250 drawn on the Treasury for expenditures not part of the Annual Budget or that do not have prior approval of the Board of Directors. In the absence of the Secretary a temporary secretary will be appointed by the President subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 4 - Treasurer: The Treasurer shall maintain all financial records; keep a strict account of all monies of the Association; prepare and present to the Board of Directors and Association membership a written monthly financial statement, maintain the Association's checkbook, initiate and sign all checks, and ensure all budgeted expenses are paid. The Treasurer is authorized to pay all expenses within the Annual Budget, as approved by the Board of Directors, and such other expenses as have been approved by the Board of Directors. Extraordinary expenses that have not received prior approval of the Board of Directors and that exceed \$250 must be approved by the President, Vice President or Secretary as allowed by these bylaws and as evidenced by their signature on a check signed by the Treasurer. It is the responsibility of the Treasurer to alert the Board of Directors to proposed expenditures or expenses that fall outside the amounts and purposes identified within the Annual Budget or which have not received prior approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 5 - Purser: The Purser shall receive all monies from all sources, maintain strict records of all receipts, ensure current membership credentials are dispersed, receive, and distribute all mail, and ensure that all received money is sent to the Treasurer. The Purser will verify membership in either the Gun Owners Action League or the National Rifle Association annually.

Section 6: If an Officer or Director is unable to attend more than two consecutive, regularly-scheduled Board meetings and has not notified the President or Secretary in advance as to the reason for his/her absences, he/she may be removed from the Board, if another Board Member or Officer makes such motion and a two-thirds vote is in favor of the action.

Article 5

Duties of Directors:

Section 1: The governing body of this Association shall be the Board of Directors, consisting of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Purser, and six (6) Directors elected in accordance with Article 3, Section 4.

Section 2: The Board of Directors shall transact the business of the Association; fix the date, hour, and place of meetings; make recommendations to the Association; and shall perform the duties of the offices as specified in the Bylaws.

Section 3: At the September Board of Directors' meeting, the Board will set the meeting calendar for the next Association year. Meetings will be held at a time and place convenient to the Board's members. A Board of Directors' meeting may be cancelled with the concurrence of a majority of the Board members. Special meetings may be called by the President or any three Board members. A three-day notice must be given to every Board member of any special meeting, and that notice shall state the purpose of this special meeting. The three-day notice requirement is waived during General Membership Meetings, provided a Board quorum exists and a majority of Board Members present agree.

Section 4: Quorum of the Board of Directors shall be calculated as 50% plus one of the non-vacant Board of Director seats rounded up.

Section 5: The Board of Directors shall temporarily fill any vacancy of the Officers or Directors until a special election can be called. A vacancy on the Board of Directors occurs when an Officer or a Director resigns from the Board, is recalled by the Membership according to Article 16 of these bylaws, or his/her membership in the Association terminates for any reason. A vacancy on the Board of Directors also occurs when an Officer is removed from the Board per Article 4, Section 6, of these bylaws. The special election requirement is waived if there are less than 60 days remaining before the next General Election.

Section 6: Any member of the Association shall be allowed to attend regularly-scheduled Board meetings. Only members of the Board of Directors have a vote during a Board of Directors' meeting. The Board shall hear any member comments during a member comment period incorporated into the agenda of each regularly-scheduled Board meeting. The Board shall be allowed to institute other member attendance policies as may be necessary to run an effective business meeting, as long as none of the requirements of this section are contravened.

Article 6

Committees:

Section 1: The President shall appoint committee chairpersons as or when needed to assist the Board of Directors.

Section 2: The Vice-President shall appoint the Facilities committee members as needed to fulfill the responsibilities for facilities management.

Section 3: At least one member of each committee shall be a member of the Board of Directors except the Nominating Committee.

Section 4: The President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Purser may not be a member of the Auditing Committee.

Section 5: The President or the Board of Directors in session by majority vote may appoint any committee.

Article 7

Duties of Committees:

Section 1 - Membership Committee: This committee shall be composed of the chairperson and as many members as deemed necessary. Duties are covered under membership articles.

Section 2 - Finance Committee: This committee shall be composed of the Chairperson and any other members deemed necessary. The Treasurer will always be a member of the Finance Committee. This committee shall assist and advise the Treasurer in preparing an Annual Budget. This budget shall be published by the first Wednesday in August. This budget shall be used to determine the annual cost of membership. The Finance Committee, subject to oversight and approval of the Board of Directors, shall manage fundraising.

Section 3 - Activities Committee: This committee shall be composed of a chairperson and as many members as deemed necessary. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to plan or help to plan events, special activities, or special events.

Section 4 - Nominating Committee: This committee shall be composed of three members approved by a vote of the Board of Directors. It shall be the duty of this committee to nominate candidates for offices to be filled in a coming election. A nomination constitutes volunteering oneself or suggesting another member in good standing to the Nominating Committee. No member of the Nominating Committee can accept a nomination as a candidate in the coming election or openly campaign for any candidate. The full slate for elections, including vacancies and/or expiring terms for the annual election, shall be determined and the ballot announced in the August membership meeting minutes. For special elections a minimum of a 21-day notice is required prior to any special election.

Section 5 - Auditing Committee: The Auditing Committee shall consist of not less than one member of the Board and one member of the Association who is not a member of the Board. It shall be the duty of this committee to obtain the books and records of the Association from the Treasurer and, using accepted accounting procedures, verify the accuracy of them. This audit shall be within the transition period in September. This audit shall be done at least once a year and a written report presented to the Board.

Section 6 - Facilities Committee: The Facilities Committee shall be chaired by the Vice-President. Its duties include the maintenance and improvements of the facilities.

Article 8

Membership:

Section 1: Any person is eligible to become a member of the Association after his/her application for membership has been signed by a sponsor who is a member in good standing or has been recommended by the Membership Committee or the Board of Directors. Probationary membership starts upon a favorable majority vote of the membership at a general membership meeting. All accepted new member applicants must attend an orientation session prior to being issued access to the clubhouse and range

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facilities. Prospective members with a sponsor may seek membership at any General Membership Meeting. Prospective Members without sponsors should present themselves to the Board of Directors at a regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting and following Board of Directors sponsorship should then attend a General Membership Meeting as any other sponsored candidate. The sponsor field noted on the Membership Application in this latter case should contain the sponsor designated as “BOD”. Prospective members without a sponsor may be accepted into the membership by a favorable vote at a general membership meeting.

Section 2: A new member shall pledge to uphold all the Rules and Bylaws and to assist the Officers in the betterment of the Association. A new member, regardless of membership classification, shall be in a probationary status for the initial ninety days of membership before being fully accepted into the Association. Probationary members shall not be allowed to vote or host guests. Any probationary member can have his/her probation extended or his/her full membership denied by a 2/3 majority vote of the Board of Directors. Members, due to disciplinary action, may be placed on a period of probation by the Board of Directors. Terms of said probation shall be as defined by the Board of Directors. This provision shall not infringe upon the members’ right of appeal to the general membership, nor shall this provision limit the rights of the Board of Directors to impose disciplinary action.

Section 3: Association membership shall be classified as follows; Regular Member, Life Member, Junior Member, Spouse Member, and Life-Spouse Member.

a. All members, excluding Junior Members, have the use of the Association facilities, may vote in Association elections and on any items before the membership that require a vote of the membership and may be elected to hold office in the Association.

b. Regular Members, consisting of All members excluding Junior Members, may be named Life Members or Life-Spouse Members upon reaching sixty-five years of age and having been a member in good standing for the most recent five consecutive years leading to their qualification by age. Life Members shall no longer pay dues. Payment of all other parts of the annual Cost of Membership shall be required.

c. Junior Members are members under 18 years of age as of September First. Junior Members shall not have the right to vote or receive access to the meeting house and the main gate. Junior Members may not host guests or sponsor a new member. Junior Members who attain the age of 18 during the membership year have the option of remaining a Junior Member or upgrading to Regular Member by paying the prorated Regular Member Cost of Membership less the Junior Member Cost of Membership already paid.

d. Spouse Members are members married to a Regular Member in good standing who chooses to become a member at a reduced rate set by the Board of Directors. Spouse Members, when a Regular Member no longer exists in the organization, must upgrade to Regular Member at the next renewal. Widowed Spouse Members will be granted their next renewal as a Spouse Member to allow at least twelve months before needing to renew as a Regular Member.

Section 4: Membership of the Association shall not exceed 1000 members.

Section 5: Each year, immediately following the prescribed period for payment of annual Cost of Membership, the Purser will notify the Board of Directors as to the number of fully paid members and the number of openings available for new members.

Article 9

Amendment of the Bylaws:

These Bylaws may be amended at any regular members meeting of the Association by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members attending (a quorum of thirty-five (35) voting members being present), providing that the proposed amendment has been presented in writing to all Association members a minimum of fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting. Amending the proposed changes which have been presented to the association members in advance is permitted during discussion and debate by motion and vote of the quorum present. New changes in areas not previously presented to the association membership cannot be introduced outside of the fifteen (15) day notice requirement. No proposed changes can conflict with any existing other article or section of the bylaws.

Article 10

Cost of Membership:

Section 1: The Cost of Membership shall be set by the Board of Directors annually using the approved budget as a guide. Cost of Membership shall be comprised of any dues, fees, assessments, or other costs that the Board of Directors determines are needed for the financial health of the Association and to realize the full potential of the facilities. Total Cost of Membership shall be payable on or before the date of the Members meeting in October.

Section 2: Termination of any member failing to pay the annual Cost of Membership by the conclusion of the October board meeting or failing to maintain NRA or GOAL membership shall be notified in writing by the Purser. If the above are not paid, on or before the date of the November members' meeting, then membership will terminate with the approval of the Board of Directors.

Article 11

Standing Rules & Committees:

Section 1: The daily function and operation of the Association and its properties shall be governed by certain rules which shall be called the Standing Rules of the Association. Standing Rules are defined as all the published rules and policies that govern individual ranges or type of activities.

Section 2: The Standing Rules shall not conflict with the Bylaws of this Association.

Section 3: Standing Rules and Amendments are formulated by the Standing or Ad-Hoc Committees and shall be approved or denied by majority vote of the Board of Directors. Any member may submit a proposal for an amendment or change to the Standing Rules to the Board of Directors for review. Standing Rules and Amendments shall take effect

seven days after the membership has been notified in writing of the rule or change of a rule. Notification in writing is fulfilled by any form of written communication including meeting minutes.

Section 4: Range Rules or Policies governing individual areas of the property or special activities outside of the Standing Rules are determined, enacted, and enforced by the Board of Directors and any Subject Matter Experts they choose to include.

Article 12

Indemnity, Liability and Fire Insurance:

Section 1: The President, Vice-President and Treasurer shall annually review the Association coverage of insurance and make recommendations to the Board of Directors of any changes deemed necessary. These changes shall be approved by the Board of Directors.

a. Fire Insurance for the facilities shall be maintained at actual replacement cost.

b. Indemnity and Liability Insurance shall be carried by the Association.

Section 2: The cost of these policies shall be part of the annual budget.

Article 13

Annual Budget:

Section 1: The Annual Budget shall take into consideration all recurring monthly, quarterly, semiannual, and annual bills as well as other anticipated expenses. The budget for the facilities shall be based on current and future repairs and improvements.

Appropriations shall be based on current and future repairs and improvements.

Section 2: Annual Cost of Membership shall be determined by the Board of Directors based on the Annual Budget.

Section 3: Money raised by special events, fees and other assessments shall be used as the Association sees fit for special equipment, projects, and the needs of the Association over and above yearly fixed expenses, as approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 4: All expenditures not on the annual budget shall be approved by the Board of Directors or accepted as required once notified by Treasurer.

Section 5: The Annual Budget shall be submitted to the Board of Directors for approval by the first Wednesday in June.

Section 6: Approval of the Annual Budget by the Board of Directors shall authorize the Treasurer to pay all expenses contained within the approved Annual Budget.

Article 14

The Facilities:

Section 1: The facilities are the Association grounds, the meeting house, all equipment, and the ranges.

Section 2: These facilities shall be available on a space-available basis.

a: The facilities shall be closed to individual members during any organized club activity as deemed necessary and approved by the Board of Directors. Range Safety Officers will determine when ranges or sections thereof may be available for individual use.

b: Any use of the facilities for special events shall be approved by the Board of Directors and may require a minimum user fee as set by the Board of Directors and determined for each event.

Article 15

Disciplinary Action:

Section 1: The membership of any member may be subject to probation, suspension, or permanent revocation of membership and all its benefits, due to infractions of the Bylaws or Rules of the Association. If any infraction results in damage to the Association facilities or grounds, then the Board of Directors retains the right to assess the member the cost to cover repairs resulting from the infraction.

Section 2: A formal complaint must be submitted by a Regular Member, Spouse Member, Life-Spouse Member, or Life Member before the Board of Directors will take action, except when evidence of the infraction exists in the form of video or logged activities.

Section 3: The accused party shall be given at least a 10-day notice by any verifiable form of communication, have the opportunity to answer the complaint in writing, and come before the Board of Directors to answer to the complaint or infraction.

Section 4: The Board of Directors shall hear all disciplinary cases. Its decision shall be final unless an appeal before the membership is requested by the accused at the time the Board's decision regarding the case is rendered.

Section 5: On appeal, a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at the members meeting will be required to modify any decision made by the Board of Directors as the result of a disciplinary case.

Section 6: Any person who brings false charges may be subject to disciplinary action as prescribed by this article.

Section 7: The Board of Directors reserves the right to issue an immediate suspension of privileges in the event that the circumstances of the alleged violation, once formally submitted or verified by video/logged evidence, is deemed by 2/3 majority of the Board of Directors to be serious or credible enough to warrant this action. Any action of immediate suspension will not affect the member's rights to appear before the Board of Directors or appeal to the membership as provided in the other sections of Article 15. (The Secretary will keep as minutes of an emergency session of the Board of Directors all records of communication regarding this vote, due to the nature of this circumstance.)

Article 16

Recall:

Section 1: An Officer, a member of the Board of Directors, or the Board of Directors in its entirety may be recalled for failure to carry out the will and mandate of the Association.

Section 2: A petition containing the signatures of 20% of the voting membership shall be required for a recall to be initiated. A successful recall will initiate an election as detailed in Article 3 of these Bylaws for any vacancy or vacancies created by the recall and will be managed as according to Article 5, section 5 to temporarily appoint officers or Directors as required.

Section 3: A quorum of thirty-five members (35) shall be required to be present to vote for or against a recall.

Article 17

Dissolution:

In the event that a vote of the membership requires the dissolution of the Association, the Board of Directors, prior to dissolving the Association, shall liquidate any part or all of the assets of the Association. The proceeds from the liquidation of assets shall be used to pay all of the Association's outstanding liabilities. Any remaining assets or proceeds from the liquidation of assets shall be donated to a Non-Profit entity dedicated to the preservation of the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. If such a donation is not allowed or is limited by applicable tax law the remaining assets and proceeds from the liquidation of assets shall be distributed as allowed by applicable tax law. No past or present member of the Association shall materially benefit from the dissolution of the Association.

Article 18

Parliamentary Authority:

Section 1: The rules in the current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order", newly revised, shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rule of order the Association may adopt.