

Trumbull County Rod and Gun Club

Cortland, Ohio

By-Laws

(Revised January, 2006)

The name of this organization shall be Trumbull County Rod and Gun Club

The Purpose

The basic purpose of this organization shall be to develop sportsmanship, friendship and sociability among its members. To further those characteristics of Americanism, Honesty, Appreciation and the respect for the rights of others which are the very foundation of sportsmanship in this, or any other land of free men. To purchase as much upland small game, to purchase or raise as the club can afford, and to release this game on club grounds, public land or on land open to public hunting in this county. To encourage and purchase wildlife habitat, to carry on winter-feeding programs for wildlife. To support state game laws and demand that all others be required to do the same.

ARTICLE I It shall be a non-profit, non-sectarian organization. Money for paying operating expenses will be raised by membership dues, initiation fees, contributions and activities.

Section 1: The Officers shall be a President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer each serving one (1) year terms; and four (4) trustees. Of the four trustees, one shall be of indefinite term appointed by the president. The remaining trustees shall serve three (3) year, staggered terms.

Section 2: All of the income from hunting and fishing license fees shall be used as stated in "the purpose" of this organization and within the parameters of the rules pertaining to the use of the funds. To be included are: the purchase of upland game, improving or purchasing habitat, raising and housing upland game, providing winter feed for the game and non-game animals, education expenses and other related expenses.

Section 3: Each member must contribute fifteen (15) good hours of work to improve the club or grounds or for the good of the organization when requested by the president or any club officer.

If a member does not work the required hours, they will be assessed a fee for hours not worked at the rate of ten (10) dollars for each of the first five (5) hours, five (5) dollars for each of the next ten (10) hours. Applicable taxes will be added to all fees. The only exceptions will be for extended illness. Only the president of this organization can excuse these hours. This money will be due at the time the annual dues are paid.

There shall be a list of all members maintained by the membership committee. This will include a record of hours worked by members.

There will be a sheet provided on the bulletin board for members to record their name, date, the work performed and the hours involved.

All new members will be made aware of this paragraph in the bylaws.

Section 4: Every member, and every person who becomes a member must be a United States citizen and must sign the obligation before God and the assembly, and other oath on forms furnished by the organization.

Section 5: Every person who requests membership must take out an application on approved forms of the organization and pay the initiation fee. If the charter is closed the initiation fee is doubled. The Trustees will set the initiation fee. To close the charter requires a motion and a second by a member at a regular monthly meeting and approval by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members attending. (See Section 3 regarding the paying of dues.)

Section 6: All applications for membership must be investigated by the initiation committee who must report their findings to the assembly on forms approved by the organization before a vote is taken. Such investigation may take the form of having the prospective members name published to the membership the month prior to the month that their membership is voted on.

Section 7: After an applicant has met with the approval of the committee, and has paid his initiation fee, he is ready to be voted on by the membership attending the meeting. It shall be the duty of the Membership Committee to read aloud each application to the assembly, and the results of the committee report, and for the president to instruct the members that they are to vote on said candidate or candidates. Voting will be done by black and white balls placed in the prepared box by the membership. Voting by each member must be kept secret. The box must be returned to the president unopened, the president along with the secretary will inspect the results and inform the members. Three (3) or more black balls will reject membership.

- Section 8: Applicants for membership must be present at the meeting to be voted on for membership. If approved, new members must sign their obligation. Each applicant must be informed that they will be automatically suspended if convicted of violating their obligation or State Fish and Game laws.
- Section 9 The Initiation fee shall be known as a non-profit share, and each member must own one (1) share, no more or no less. Shares are not transferable, they are invisible and the only identification is a valid membership card.
- Section 10 Each share entitles the owner to one (1) vote on any issue-requiring vote together with all the other privileges extended to any other member so long as they remain in good standing.
- Section 11 No by-laws of this organization can be changed, altered, amended, rescinded without first being read and voted upon at three consecutive regular monthly meetings and being passed by a simple majority vote at all three meetings.
- Section 12 The regular monthly meeting time, place and date shall be set by a majority of the members present at the preceding meeting. Except in case of an emergency, it may be done by the president and all members shall be notified in writing ten days in advance before a meeting can be called official.
- Section 13 Election of officers and trustees shall be held at the regular monthly meeting in January of each year. Each officer and trustee must be a member in good standing and must be present to be elected unless the nominee submits in writing intent to run for office. The regular term of office shall start at the beginning of new business and end after the election of officers.
- The trustees shall be elected for a term of three (3) years making it necessary to elect only one new trustee each year after the first year. The first year only it will be necessary to elect one trustee for a one-year term; one for a two-year term and one for a three-year term. There shall also be a trustee of indefinite term appointed by the president.

Section 14 Committees: The following committees are appointed by the president on the night of elections and after the start of new business. The respective committee chairmen shall appoint such members necessary to fulfill the committee's function and duties.

- Membership Committee
- Education Committee
- Wildlife Committee.
- Auditing Committee.
- Entertainment and Refreshment Committee
- Building and Grounds Committee

Section 15 All the committees necessary to carry on the activities developed by the members of the organization and approved by the Board of Directors will be and shall be appointed by the president.

Section 16 Once a program or an activity meets with the approval of the body and directors it shall be the duty of the president to appoint such committees and select individual members to serve on these committees.

Section 17 The sole beneficiary of all the organization property, real or otherwise, shall be the Ohio Division of Wildlife known as on this date~ February 1956, or its successor at some other date in case the organization should discontinue.

- Section 18 The regular order of business shall be:
1. Pledge of allegiance to the United States of America~
 2. Call the membership to order, welcoming new members
 3. Roll call of officers, circulate sign-in sheet
 4. Ask for reading of new member applications and request that new members present stand. Proceed with voting only if new member is present. Always advise membership of voting procedure as covered in Section (7). New members must sign an obligation.
 5. Reading of previous months minutes and correspondence.
 6. Committee Reports
 7. Unfinished old business
 8. New business
 9. Anything for the good of the organization.
 10. Treasurer's Report
 11. Motion to pay bills
 12. Adjournment
- Section 19 The regular order of business can be changed or diverted from by the president on special occasions but the assembly must be informed providing they do not know the reason for such deviation.
- Section 20 Before any member makes a motion, or addresses the assembly in any way they shall first obtain the floor. To obtain the floor a member must rise (after the floor has been yielded) and address the presiding officer by his official title, which shall be Mr. President.
- Section 21 The president of this organization can refuse any member the floor for debate on any issue once they have had one chance for debate, except such members who made the motion shall be given the floor twice, once at the beginning and once at the end. No debate shall be in order until the president rules the motion in order, or out of order. In such cases where the president rules a motion out of order there shall be no debate.

Trumbull County Rod and Gun Club
By-Laws
Page 6

- Section 22 Any member who seconds a motion does not have to rise or obtain the floor to do so but they must give their name.
- Section 23 Any person rejected for membership by vote of the members cannot become eligible, or make application for membership within a period of three or more years, and the committee must at that time report such a person of being rejected to the members before they can be voted on.
- Section 24 Any member who allows their dues to become delinquent for sixty (60) days or more will automatically be suspended unless such member request an extension of time, and are granted such extension by the trustees who shall have full authority in such cases. Any member who becomes unable to pay their dues on account of sickness, unemployment, or hard-luck may request the trustees to carry them until they are again able to pay dues. In such cases no member will be required to pay back dues.
- Section 25 Any member of this organization authorized by an officer of the club or by a majority vote of the member ship to attend any convention or meeting shall have legitimate expenses paid by the organization.
- Section 26 "Adult" in this section refers to a member or member's spouse over the age of 21 years.
- "Immediate family" is defined a member, member's spouse, and dependants under the age of 21 years.
- The immediate family of any member in good standing shall be considered as having all benefits and privileges due the actual member with the following restrictions:
- A) No one under 21 years of age shall have access to the clubhouse without an adult present.
 - B) Use of the rifle and pistol ranges is restricted in that an adult must be present before any dependant under the age of 21 can use the ranges. The archery course limit is 18 years of age.
 - C) Children under the age of 12 years must be accompanied by an adult to fish the lake.
 - D) Swimming in either lake is not permitted at any time.

E) Any member's dependants who are observed acting in or joining in any unsafe or unauthorized activities may be barred from further use of the facilities after an investigation and majority vote by the regular membership present.

- ARTICLE II** The duties of officers, trustees and directors shall be such as their respective titles imply.
- Section 1 It shall be the duty of the president to preside at all meetings of the organization.
- Section 2 The president shall appoint all committees which have been approved and be an ex-officio member of such committees.
- Section 3 The president shall have full authority in calling all meetings of the trustees and of the board of directors.
- Section 4 It shall be the duty of the vice-president to preside in the absence of the president at all meetings, and to perform the duties of the president.
- Section 5 In the event of the absence of both the president and vice-president, the president may appoint a member to fill the chair, or the trustees may make such an appointment providing the president does not.
- Section 6 The secretary shall collect all monies due the organization; keep a complete record of same before turning it over to the president and the treasurer. The secretary shall keep a complete record of meetings along with a record of the results of voting on all applicants for membership. The secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the organization.
- Section 7 The treasurer shall be the custodian of all funds, securities and pay out all monies of the organization in the appropriate financial institution as designated by the trustees. The treasurer shall give a complete financial report of the organization standing at each monthly meeting. The treasurer and president shall be bonded in such an amount that the trustees approve and the cost of such bond to be paid by the organization.
- Section 8 The General business of this organization shall be such business as requested and approved by the general assembly only.

- Section 9 The trustees shall have the full authority of the mentioned and the power to transact the general business of the organization after approval of the general assembly, and so long as the total expense remains under one-thousand dollars (\$1 ,000.00). They shall also audit the books, and see to it that all accounts are taken care of in a business like manner. The trustees shall have full authority in looking after delinquent members, and may issue free membership to any member who may become hard pressed. Such free membership may be presented to any member as long as the member remains in such circumstances and whom requests they wish to continue as a member of the organization. Such requests shall be made of the trustees only and will not require and action other than that of the trustees. It shall be the duty of the trustees to see to it that the purpose of the organization is adhered to at all times.
- Section 10 The Junior Division of the organization will include any male person under 21 years of age.
- Section IOB Membership in the Junior Division shall be obtained under the same rules stated in the organization by-laws. The trustees will set the appropriate dues and fees for the Junior Division.
- Section 10C Any member of the Junior Division may, after reaching the age of 21 years, transfer into the parent organization by paying the designated additional initiation fee and yearly dues~
- Section 10D The trustees shall designate which dues and fees collected by the Junior Division shall go into the general fund of the parent organization and which will be retained by the Junior Division~
- Section IOE The Junior Division shall set up its own officers, trustees and directors and operate this division the same as the parent organization, except one adult member of the parent organization will be appointed by the president to act as chaperone. He must attend all meetings of the Junior Division, and shall have the authority to enforce al rules and regulations of the organization.

Section 11 Any member who violates their obligation, or any Ohio State Fish and Game Law (except the trespassing without permission law) and is convicted of such violation by the court shall be automatically suspended from the organization. Furthermore, members who are suspended shall not be reinstated or permitted to rejoin the organization within a three (3) year period, and shall not be reimbursed for any part of the remaining dues or for any part of their initiation fees. Such suspension shall be spread up on the minutes together with all other information about the case.

Note: the only reason for exempting the trespassing law is due to the fact that anyone may become the victim of such circumstances without intending to do so, or without knowing it, but the organization will not tolerate members who abuse property owners.

Section 12 The election of officers in both the parent organization and the junior division shall be conducted under this ruling. Any member in good standing may be nominated for office. Nominations will be made by writing a member's name on a nomination form furnished by the organization for purpose, and handed to the secretary the same night as the election. Nominations can be made from the floor in December, with nominations remaining open until the election in January. Nomination slips may be picked up from the secretary the same as the ballot slips. Note: the only reason for writing names on the nomination forms is to stop the idea of railroading nominations through, as most of us are familiar with.

Section 13 If, at any time the members wish to create a woman's auxiliary, it shall be in order to do so, but as a separate unit, and under the rules and regulations approved by the parent organization.

Section 14 If, at any time the organization builds its own building, and if the rooms are so arranged that the regular or parent organization can hold their regular meetings as required under section eight (8), the women may hold their meeting in another room. The same ruling will apply to the junior division also.