

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION AND BY-LAWS

ARTICLE 1: NAME: The name of this organization, hereinafter referred to as the Association is: **SPARTA HUNTING & FISHING CLUB.**

ARTICLE 2: PERPETUATION: The Association shall be and shall remain a Nonprofit organization for the duration of its existence.

ARTICLE 3: OBJECT AND PURPOSE: The Objects and Purpose of this Club are as follows:

To encourage the active participation in all shooting, hunting and fishing activities, in accordance with the best interest of conservation and good citizenship.

To cooperate with other organizations engaged in worthwhile endeavors for the promotion of conservation, environmental protection and good citizenship.

To promote and assist the youth of the community in achieving a higher standard in shooting, hunting and fishing activities and appreciation of conservation and environmental protection.

ARTICLE 4: MEMBERSHIP: Membership in this Association shall be open to all persons who are interested in the furtherance of the OBJECT AND PURPOSE of this association as stated above.

SECTION 1: The membership year is from January 1 to December 31. Renewal applications will be mailed to current members by December 1st. and must be returned by December 31st. to retain current membership.

SECTION 2: New membership applications must be voted on and approved by a unanimous vote of the Board Members present at a monthly Board Meeting.

SECTION 3: Violation of Club Rules or conduct derogatory to the good name and standing of the Association may result in the loss of membership by a 2/3rds vote of Board Members at any regular meeting.

ARTICLE 5: ANNUAL DUES AND MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS:

SECTION 1: NEW MEMBERSHIP FEE: \$75.00. The new member will join as an Associate member. If during the first year of membership a new member fulfills the full membership requirements he or she will be eligible for full membership status during the next membership year. Those not meeting the requirements will remain an Associate member when renewing.

SECTION 2: FULL MEMBERSHIP FEE: \$50.00 Full members will be issued a total refund of \$25.00 at such time within the current membership year that they have completed the following requirements: attended at least three (3) meetings and worked 20 hours at Club related events. If a member cannot attend meetings he or she must work 25 hours at Club related events.

SECTION 3: ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP FEE: \$75.00 The Associate member is not required to attend club meetings or work at club events. Associate members have no voting rights. If an Associate member wishes to become a full member he or she must complete the full membership requirements prior to renewal.

SECTION 5: Children until the age of 18 shall be included with the parent's membership.

SECTION 6: A life membership will be issued to any Full member 65 years old or over and having been a Full member five (5) consecutive years.

SECTION 7: Handicapped requirements for full membership are six (6) meetings with no hours required.

SECTION 8: A members spouse is included as a member, but with no voting rights

ARTICLE 6: OFFICERS AND DUTIES:

SECTION 1: To be eligible to hold office within this Association you must be a full member for a minimum of three (3) consecutive years prior.

SECTION 2: The Officers of this Association shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Each shall be elected for a term of one (1) year at the Associations annual election meeting in January.

SECTION 3: The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association and shall preside at all meetings of the members, Directors and Executive committees.

SECTION 4: The Vice-President shall succeed to the responsibilities and duties of the President when such President is absent from any meeting.

SECTION 5: Upon leaving the Position of President, that person shall serve one (1) year on the Board of Directors as Ex Officio.

SECTION 6: Should an Officer become incapacitated or unable to fulfill the duties of the office held, The Board of Directors shall appoint a replacement to hold that office for the remainder of the term.

ARTICLE 7: MANAGEMENT

SECTION 1: The management and control of the business of the Association shall be vested in a Board of Directors, consisting of fifteen (15) members. At each annual election meeting five (5) members shall be elected for a term of two (2) years and five (5) members for a term of one (1) year. Two (2) alternate members will be determined by the next highest amount of votes.

SECTION 2: The Board of Directors may employ such agents as it deems advisable.

SECTION 3: In the event of a tie vote by the Board of Directors, the President shall have the right to one (1) vote as a tie breaker.

ARTICLE 7: (CONT.)

SECTION 4: Any vacancies in the Board caused by resignation, death or otherwise may be filled by the majority vote of the remaining Directors at a special meeting called for that purpose, or by the majority vote cast by full members at a regular meeting or special meeting held prior to the filling of such vacancy by the Board of Directors as above provided. The person so chosen shall hold office until the next annual election meeting.

SECTION 5: The Board of Directors may appoint such committees as it may deem advisable.

SECTION 6: Any expenditures of \$200.00 or more shall require majority vote of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 7: Expenditures of under \$200.00 may be approved by any Officer or Board Member.

SECTION 8: If a Board member has three (3) unexcused Board Meetings in one (1) year that Board Member will be replaced by the next alternate nominee.

SECTION 9: If a Board Member or Officer is removed from office, unless for health or work, he or she cannot run for election for the following year.

SECTION 10: Upon the death of a member or a members immediate family, a memorial contribution will be made in that persons name, as determined by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 8: MEETINGS

SECTION 1: Nominations for election of Officers and Board Members shall be made at the monthly meeting during the months of October and November. Ballots will then be mailed after the November meeting to all members with voting rights. The annual election of Officers and members of the Board shall be held the first Tuesday in December.

SECTION 2: Board meetings shall be held the first Tuesday of the month, following the general membership meeting.

SECTION 3 Special meetings may be called at any time a majority of the Board of Directors may deem advisable. Notice of such special meetings shall be given at least seven (7) days prior to such meeting. Two (2) attempts of notification shall be made.

ARTICLE 9: VOTING

SECTION 1: Only FULL and LIFE Members are entitled to a vote.

SECTION 2: Full and Life members shall be entitled to vote by OFFICIAL ballot, provided that the ballot must be received by the Association not later than the date and time the Election Meeting is called to order. A majority of those voting shall be sufficient for the Election of Officers and Board of Directors, provided that at least fifteen (15) members be present at or cast their ballot on such matter.

ARTICLE 10: DISSOLUTION

SECTION 1: The Association may be dissolved only by unanimous vote of all members entitled to a vote.

SECTION 2: Upon dissolution all assets of the Association remaining after all debts have been paid and all obligations fulfilled shall be assigned to the Sparta Community Foundation, Sparta, Michigan, to be held in trust for any future Conservation Club of Sparta, Michigan. This trust to be for seven (7) years after which time the ownership of all assets shall pass to the Sparta Community Foundation, Sparta, Michigan.

SECTION 3: The Association may be considered dissolved if at any time the membership falls below fifteen (15) members.

ARTICLE 11: REPEAL AND AMMENDMENTS VOTE: These articles of Association and By-Laws may be amended or repealed, or new Articles made and adopted by first making any additions, repeals or amendments known at (3) three consecutive monthly meetings and then by 2/3rds majority vote.

ARTICLE 12: ACCOUNTING: A Six Thousand dollar (\$6000.00) reserve is to be maintained for the purpose of paying the taxes and other bills occurred in the normal operation of this Association.

ARTICLE 13: USE OF REVENUE: All funds and assets of the club shall be used only for purposes that are consistent with the purposes of the club and for actual administrative expenses in conducting the affairs of the club under the direction and with the approval of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may purchase land, building and equipment and operate and maintain the same as required to further the purpose of the club.

ARTICLE 14: USE OF REVENUE FOR LAWFUL PURPOSE: Revenues of the club shall not be used for the benefit of any individual, member or shareholder of the club except to further the lawful purposes of the club.

This copy of the **Articles of Association** and **By-Laws of the Sparta Hunting & Fishing Club** contains all changes and amendments proposed as of May 1st.,2007 and supersedes all previous dated copy's.

