

NEW HORIZON BASS ANGLERS

Constitution and By Laws

ARTICLE 1 - Mission Statement

To provide an organization and environment that promotes enjoyment through fishing and fishing-related activities; to foster and nurture comradeship through friendly association; to improve the skills of members through mutual sharing of information, fish catching techniques and educational programs; to provide a forum for friendly competition through club tournaments; to promote the conservation of, and protection of the fisheries resource; to provide an organizational structure that governs this body and perpetuates its ideals.

ARTICLE II - Board of Directors

In order to build, preserve and protect its mission, final authority and control of the club shall be vested in its Board of Directors. This Board shall consist of two of the founders, who shall hold these positions for life, two additional club members, and the current elected president. The elected president shall serve as a temporary member of the Board during his or her tenure. In the event of a death, the inability to serve, or choice not to serve, the membership will nominate three potential members to fill the vacancy. The vacancy shall be filled by a vote of the remaining directors. In case of a tie, the choice will be made by election of at least half of the paid membership. If such a quorum cannot be obtained, the Board of Directors will review all members and the vacancy shall be filled by a vote of the remaining directors. The Board of Directors shall meet as often as necessary to conduct the business of the club.

ARTICLE III - Membership

Section 1: Number of Members

The club shall consist of at least five members. Membership shall be open to all, without regard to race, creed, color, religion or gender. The minimum age for membership shall be sixteen years. The Board of Directors, at its sole discretion, may set limits as to the number of members.

Section 2: Requirements for Membership

To become a member, a person shall:

- (a) Voluntarily express an interest in membership.
- (b) Fill out a membership application, answer a brief questionnaire about fishing expertise and willingness to share expenses, and commit to the club mission.
- (c) Agree to abide by the Constitution, By-Laws and Tournament Regulations.
- (d) Agree to serve the club in any capacity when requested by the membership, officers or Board of Directors.

Furthermore:

- (e) Prospective members will be allowed to fish as guests in one (1) club tournament or fun fishing event and will be expected to attend club meetings to demonstrate their desire to be members. Dues are to be paid before second tournament is fished. Tournament points are credited only for those tournaments fished after dues have been paid.
- (f) The candidate's final membership status will be determined by the Board of Directors.
- (g) Dues paid after the Classic Tournament will be credited for the following year.

Section 3: Continued Membership

Membership shall continue unless said member:

(a) fails to pay in full, all dues, assessments or other liabilities.

(b) fails to conduct himself or herself in a sportsmanlike manner, or acts in a manner which would reflect dishonor on the club. The Board of Directors expressly reserves the right to review circumstances of any such matter brought to its attention. After appropriate investigation and/or discussion with the member(s) involved, the Board will determine the action to be taken, if any, up to and including suspension of membership.

Section 4: Membership Dues - Annual

Annual membership dues shall be fixed by the Board of Directors. All membership dues shall be used for the benefit of the club and support of its' mission, not its individual members or Directors. Annual dues are payable at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the fiscal year, or upon being admitted to the club.

ARTICLE IV - Officers, Elections, Term of Office, Vacancies and Fiscal Year

Section 1: Officers and Their Duties

The officers of the club shall be President, Tournament Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The duties of each office shall be determined by the Board of Directors, which reserves the right to review the performance of any officer. Furthermore, the Board of Directors may recall and replace an officer when, in its sole discretion, the objectives of the club are not being met.

Section 2: Nominations and Elections

All nominations for elected office will be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors at or before the November membership meeting. The nominees will be reviewed by the Board in early December and a final slate of candidates will be published in the December newsletter. Elections will take place at the January Annual Meeting.

Section 3: Term of Office

The term of office for all officers shall be one year.

Section 4: Vacancies

In the event an office becomes vacant, the Board of Directors shall appoint a member to serve the remainder of the term of said officer.

Section 5: Fiscal Year

The fiscal year shall begin March 1 and end February 28.

ARTICLE V - Governance and Annual Meeting

Section 1: Governance (Conduct of Meetings)

All meetings of the club, both regularly scheduled and specially called meetings, as well as meetings of the Board of Directors and all appointed committees, shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order (Revised).

Section 2: Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of members in January has been set aside as the official business meeting of the club. Thus, to insure that regular meetings focus on the club's mission, member-initiated proposals to change By-Laws or Tournament Rules may be voted on, only at the Annual Meeting. Such initiatives, to become part of the Annual Meeting agenda, must follow the specific procedures outlined in Article VIII of these By-Laws. The election of officers for the following fiscal year is also conducted at the Annual Meeting. Because of

the business importance of the Annual Meeting to the club, each member is expected to attend, either in person or by written proxy.

ARTICLE VI - Assessments

From time to time, and upon review of the financial status of the club, the Board of Directors, with the consent of the membership, may levy a special assessment of the club members, to meet the goals of the club and to continue such operations of the club as the membership deems necessary.

ARTICLE VII - Policies and Procedures

The Board of Directors, at it's sole discretion, may establish such policies and procedures necessary to fulfill the mission of the club.

ARTICLE VIII - Method of Amending Constitution and By-Laws

The Constitution, By-Laws and Tournament Rules may be amended by the Board of Directors at any of it's regular or special meetings. Member initiatives regarding changes in By-Laws and Tournament Rules will be permitted, and must take the follow form and procedure:

- (a) All proposals for changes to the By-Laws and Tournament Rules must be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors at or before the November meeting, and must carry the signature of one or more members of the Board, indicating agreement to bring the concept before the full Board for consideration.
- (b) All proposals properly submitted to the Board, will be discussed by the Board members in an early December meeting. If a proposal is acceptable to the Board, the proposal will be published in the December newsletter in the form of a final motion, along with any other initiatives that had been previously considered and approved by the Board. The membership will be notified of any proposal rejected by the Board of Directors.
- (c) All Board approved proposals will be voted on by the membership at the Annual Meeting in January.
- (d) Any initiatives approved by the membership at its' Annual Meeting in January shall take effect on March 1.

Approved December 6, 1992
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Amended January 13, 2000
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