

CONSTITUTION

And

BY-LAWS

OF THE

ROCK ISLAND

CONSERVATION CLUB

ROCK ISLAND

ILLINOIS

1954

Revised 1993

Revised 2012

Revised November 19, 2013

Revised October 21, 2014

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
(Incorporated – 1954)

ARTICLE I – NAME:

- Section 1: This organization, incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois as a non-profit organization, shall be known as the Rock Island Conservation Club.
- Section 2: Membership and affiliation with any other club or groups shall be on a year to year basis when approved by the members present.

ARTICLE II – OFFICE:

- Section 1: The office and business mailing address of this club shall be a Post Office box number until such a time as a permanent mailing address shall be established.

ARTICLE III – OBJECTS:

Section 1: This Corporation is organized for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (7) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section 2: The propagation and restoration of all forms of wildlife and the conservation of natural resources.

Section 3: The development of workable programs to restore wildlife cover and a constant vigil on the conditions of all waters located in our area.

Section 4: Cooperation with any and all other organizations with similar objectives.

Section 5: **INSUREMENT OF INCOME:**

No part of the net earnings of this corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to, its members, trustees, officers or other private persons except that this corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered.

Section 6: **LEGISLATIVE OR POLITICAL ACTIVITIES:**

No substantial part of the activities of this corporation shall be the carrying on to propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and this corporation shall not participate in, or intervene, with any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office, including the publishing or distribution of statements.

Section 7: OPERATIONAL LIMITATIONS:

Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, this corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on

- (A) by a corporation exempt from the Federal Income Tax under Section 501 (c) (7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or with a corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law); or
- (B) by a corporation, contributions, to which are deductible under Section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or with the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

Section 8: DISSOLUTION CLAUSE:

Section 8a. Upon the dissolution of this corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all liabilities of this corporation, dispose of all assets of this corporation exclusively for the purpose of this corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501 (c) (7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or with the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors shall determine.

Section 8b. In the event of a dissolution of this corporation, only such members as are in good standing at the time of the dissolution, and have been members for the immediate five (5) consecutive past years, shall participate in such dissolution.

Section 9: DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME:

This corporation will distribute its income for each tax year at such time and in such manner as not to become subject to the tax on undistributed income imposed by Section 4942 of the Internal Revenue Code, (or any corresponding section of any United States Internal Revenue Law).

Section 10: SELF-DEALING

This corporation will not engage in any act of self-dealing as defined in Section 4941(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, (or any corresponding section of any United States Internal Revenue Law).

Section 11: EXCESS BUSINESS HOLDINGS:

This corporation will not retain any excess business holdings as defined in Section 4943(c) of the Internal Revenue Code, (or any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

Section 12: INVESTMENTS:

This corporation will not make any investments in such manner as to subject it to tax under Section 4944 of the Internal Revenue Code, (or any corresponding section of any United States Internal Revenue Law).

Section 13: TAXABLE EXPENDITURES:

This corporation will not make any taxable expenditure as defined in Section 4945(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, (or any corresponding section of any United States Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP:

- Section 1: Membership in this club shall be open to all men and women who are (18 years old and older and are legal residents of the U.S.)
- Section 2: The club may expel any member by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular membership meeting, said vote to be by ballot, upon receiving (notice of his or her having been of his or her having been (accused); of any unseemly or unbecoming conduct (as noted in the RICC rules, and IL local, city and State laws.), after due notice of the charges and an opportunity for defense has been given the accused by the Board of Directors.
- Section 3: Membership limit shall be determined by the Board of Directors)
- Section 4: Membership term is considered January 1st to December 31st, regardless of purchase date of membership
- Section 5: Membership privileges: will entail use of the club grounds, according to rules determined by the Board of Directors and enforced by the RICC Caretaker and RICC membership.

ARTICLE V – DUES:

- Section 1: There shall be no initiation fee.
- Section 2: The annual dues shall be the amount as set by the Board of Directors
- Section 3: Any member who fails to meet dues or any other obligation within sixty (60) days expiration of his present membership will be automatically dropped from the membership.
- Section 4: Members who have been called to active military service shall have their membership until their return.
- Section 5: Family Membership: Dues paying member: spouse and children/grandchildren under the age of 18 shall have access to all club grounds and functions with one voting privilege by the dues paying member per Family Membership.

Senior – Age 65 or older Dues Paying Member: spouse and grandchildren/children under the age of 18 shall have access to all club grounds and functions with one voting privilege by the dues paying member per Senior Membership.

Life Member: Must be a confirmed life member. Life Member: spouse, and children or grandchildren under the age of 18 shall have access to the grounds and functions with one voting privilege by Life Member.

ARTICLE VI – MANAGEMENT:

- Section 1: The management of this club shall be entrusted to the officers of the club and a Board of Directors consisting of fifteen (15) elected members to be elected as hereinafter provided.
- Section 2: The officers of the club shall be a President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- Section 3: All Directors and Officers shall serve as volunteers. No monetary compensation will be given to any office holder.
- Section 4: The regularly elected officers of the club shall serve the Board of Directors as the chairman in the order as follows: President, First Vice-President, and Second Vice-President. In the event of the absence of these officers, the Board of Directors shall appoint a temporary Chairman to serve during the period of such absences.
- Section 5: Rules, regulations and authority governing management of this club shall be stated in detail in other articles of this Constitution and By-Laws.

ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS:

- Section 1: This club shall hold meetings at 7:30 p.m. on the third (3rd) Tuesday of each month. The regular November meeting shall be designated as the annual meeting.

- Section 2: Special membership meetings can only be called after the Secretary has notified the entire membership by mail or email.
- Section 3: The Board of Directors shall hold meetings on the third (3rd) Tuesday of each month. The President or a majority of the members of the board may call a special meeting of the Board at any time, but all meetings must be held within the corporate limits of Rock Island County – and notice must be given to all members of the Board at least two days in advance of the meeting place.

ARTICLE VIII – QUORUMS:

- Section 1: Nineteen (19) members shall constitute a quorum at regular membership meetings and seven (7) Directors constitute a quorum at a Board of Directors meeting.

ARTICLE IX – COMMITTEES:

- Section 1: The President of the club shall appoint the regular committees of the club and any special committees as requested by the Board of Directors and act as ex-officio member of any and all committees. Subject to the approval of the members present.
- Section 2: All committee chairmen shall report their activities to the First Vice President using the Committee Report Sheet prior to regular Board meeting.
- Section 3: The following are STANDING COMMITTEES:

- A..... Membership
- B..... Events
- C..... Fish Program
- D..... Environmental Action
- E..... Property
- F..... Purchasing Committee
- G..... Kitchen Committee and Rental
- H..... Publicity, Shows and Web Page
- I..... Bar
(Under Bar Manager, Chair of the committee answers to Manager)
- J..... Budget Committee
- K..... Scholarship

ARTICLE X – VACANICES:

- Section 1: The Board of Directors shall fill any vacancies which may occur in the Board members from death, resignation or otherwise and such appointments shall be valid until the next annual meeting.

- Section 2: Vacancies among the elected officers of the club shall be filled by a special election at the next regular meeting of the club.
- Section 3: The President shall fill by appointment any vacancies occurring in the standing committees of the club. Subject to the approval of the members present.

ARTICLE XI – BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- Section 1: The Board of Directors shall consist of the duly elected officers of the Club, the immediate Past President, and 15 elected members to serve a 3 year term each.
- Section 2: Election of Board members, as their term expires, shall take place at the Annual Meeting; five members to be elected each year. Any unexpired vacancies shall be filled at the Annual Meeting.
- Section 3: Any Member of the Board of Directors who has three unexcused absences, during any one fiscal year, from regular Board Meetings, shall automatically be dropped from the Board, and he/she shall be so notified by the President. (An unexcused absence is one in which no officer has been notified by the board member.)
- Section 4: Requirement for board members and elected positions
To be elected to the board of directors, that person must be a paid member for at least two (2) consecutive years previous to the election.

ARTICLE XII – CLUB OFFICERS:

- Section 1: The officers of the club shall be as follows:
 - A..... President
 - B..... Vice-President
 - C..... Second Vice-President
 - D..... Secretary
 - E..... Treasurer

- Section 2: The duties of the club officers shall be as follows:
 - A) The president shall conduct all regular membership meetings . . . appoint standing committees; serve as ex-officio member of any and all committees; cast the deciding vote in case of a tie and perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.
 - B) The Vice-President shall serve as the Events Chair and assume all duties of the President in the absence or disability of the latter.
 - C) The Second Vice-President shall assume the above duties in the event of the absence or disability of both the President and Vice-President.
 - D) The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the regular meeting; be responsible for issuing a monthly news letter to the general membership before the regular meeting; handle all correspondence and

keep all records intact and turn them over to the succeeding secretary within ten days following installation.

- E) The duly elected secretary shall also serve as secretary of the Board of Directors. A copy of the By-Laws and Club minutes shall remain with the secretary and a second copy shall be kept in the club house file at all times.
- F) The Treasurer shall collect all membership dues from the Membership Chairman; handle all finances, and financial records; pay all bills authorized for payment and shall keep a complete and accurate account of all receipts and disbursements which shall remain with the Treasurer and a second copy shall be kept in the club house file at all times. The Treasurer shall issue a full financial statement at the annual meeting and the Board of Directors whenever requested. All records must be turned over to the succeeding treasurer within ten days following installation. The Treasurer shall present a written monthly financial statement at each month's membership meeting. Shall prepare the books for the annual audit by the club Auditor.

Section 3: Requirement for board members and elected position

To be eligible for any of the above offices, a member must have been a regular board member or served on the board for at least two (2) years prior to the election. A member running for one of the above offices must be willing to submit to a background check if that office is involved actively with the bar.

ARTICLE XIII – ELECTION:

Section 1: The President of the Club shall at the August meeting appoint a nominating committee of five (5) active members.

Section 2: At the regular October meeting, the nominating committee shall nominate one person for each office and elected directorship to be filled, and the Nominating Chairman shall then receive such additional nominations as may be made from the floor. The election shall be held in November where additional nominations may be made from the floor.

Section 3: After the regular December meeting the new officers and elected directors shall be installed in office and shall assume the duties and powers pertinent to their respective offices.

Section 4: Eligible voters shall be 1) Family Membership: Dues Payer; 3) Senior Membership: Dues Payer. 4) Live Member: Life Member holder.

Section 5: Members must show proof of their membership to eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting in order to vote for Officers and Board Members.

ARTICLE XIV – FINANCES:

- Section 1: All finances shall be under the control of the treasurer and no special funds shall be established by that person unless so directed by the Board of Directors. Any individual receiving funds from the Board of Directors or Treasurer is accountable to the Treasurer for the use of those funds.
- Section 2: The Board of Directors may, if the need arises, bond any person handling club funds.

ARTICLE XV – PROPERTY:

- Section 1: This club is hereby empowered to buy, hold and maintain property in the name of the club only and all such property shall be subject to the rules and regulations outlined in the Constitution and By-Laws.
- Section 2: All property of the club will be under the direct control of the Board of Directors and the officers as a group.
- Section 3: No individual member shall ever be granted special privileges denied to other members as regards to any and all property held by the club.
- Section 4: Rules and regulations regarding the admittance of non-members to the club property shall be governed by the Board of Directors.
- Section 5: No non-budgeted expenditure exceeding \$250.00 in price shall be spent without the approval of a quorum of the membership at a regular meeting.
- Section 6: No non-budgeted expenditure ranging in price from \$1.00 to \$249.99 shall be spent without the approval of a quorum of the Board of Directors and/or, the purchasing committee.
- Section 7: A Safety Deposit box shall be maintained at all times for the purpose of storing valuable papers of the club, including a copy of the Constitution and By-laws. The keys to the box shall be in the possession of the President and Secretary.

ARTICLE XVI – BUSINESS MEETING:

- Section 1: The following order of business shall be honored at all regular business meetings and all meetings shall be governed by the Robert's Rules of Order:
- A..... Call to order
 - B..... Pledge of Allegiance
 - C..... Reading minutes of the last meeting
 - D..... Reading of Board of Directors Minutes
 - E..... Treasurer's Report
 - F..... Committee Reports

- 1.... Regular and Ad-Hoc Committees
- 2.... Care Takers Report
- 3.... QCCA Report
- G..... Unfinished Business
- H..... New Business
- I..... Good of the Club

ARTICLE XVII – CONSTRUCTION:

Section 1: Any question as to the meaning or construction of any of the articles herein, shall be decided by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XVIII – MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR:

Section 1: All matters not provided for in these articles shall be controlled by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XIX – AMENDMENTS:

Section 1: This Constitution and By-Laws may be amended or enlarged only by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular meeting, provided that notice of any action affecting these By-Laws and Constitution be made available to all members, not less than one month prior to the regular meeting at which time the actions thereon is proposed.

Submitted to the Club on May 15, 2012;
Voting by the club on these changes July 17, 2012
Submitted to the Club August, 2013
Voting by Club on these changes November 19, 2013
Submitted to Club August 2014
Voting by Club on these changes, October 21, 2014

Bylaws Committee:
Dick Narske - Chair
Sue Pienta
John Miller
Amy Anderson
Dave Shradar
Troy Eacker
Jim Garcia