

NORTHERN LIGHTS SNOWMOBILE CLUB, INC.
BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I – NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1 These are the by-laws of the Northern Lights Snowmobile Club of Three Lakes, Wisconsin (“the club”). They augment the Articles of Incorporation of the club dated February 14, 1968.

Section 2 The Article of Incorporation of the club state: “Article 3. The purpose shall be to promote good sportsmanship; and to encourage and promote sound rules and policies of snowmobiling in northern Wisconsin; to protect existing rules and regulations, and to promote new legislation for the benefit of snowmobilers in the state of Wisconsin and to disseminate to the public information of interest to snowmobilers and to promote and to cooperate with governmental agencies and officials in the interest of snowmobiling and laws applicable thereto and particularly to snowmobilers; and to engage in other activities and objectives which are permitted by law”.

Section 3 The club is an IRS 501c (7) Social Club organization.¹

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Membership is available to anyone interested in snowmobiling, who submits an application and membership fee, and abides by club rules. ~~Family memberships also available shall consist of partners and all minor dependent members of the family.~~ **The annual club membership is per family or single person. A family is defined as a legally married couple and their children under the age of 19. Member's children aged 19 or older at the time of application, must have their own club membership to be considered a current member.²**

Section 2 Annual membership dues ~~for family membership, and single membership, to~~ **shall be evaluated annually and** determined by the Board of Directors. **The membership dues include enrollment to the AWSC.**

In appreciation to landowners who grant Three Lakes-Brule River Trails Inc. to establish snowmobile trails on their property, membership to the club is provided at zero cost to the landowner. The club will process and pay for their membership to AWSC.³

Section 3 Annual membership and dues shall run concurrent with the annual membership period of the Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Club (AWSC) which is currently July 1 – June 30. ~~New members joining after February 1 may elect to apply their dues to the following membership period.~~ **Annual membership applications may be submitted at any time during this period.**

Section 4 Each ~~member age 16 and older~~ **membership** shall have 1 vote **in matters brought before the membership that require approval by voting⁴.**

Section 5 No member may run for office, serve as an officer, or vote in elections or on any financial matters which come before membership at any regular meeting unless dues have been paid to date by that member.

Section 6 Any member leaving the club for any reason shall not be entitled to a refund of any portion of their dues.

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ARTICLE III – OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ELECTIONS AND TERMS OF OFFICE

- Section 1 The officers of the club shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer. The officers shall serve for a two-year term. The officers of Secretary and Treasurer may be co-served.
- Section 2 The Board of Directors of the club shall consist of the ~~three or four~~ officers of the club, the immediate past president of the club, and up to ~~four other~~ **six additional members directors** appointed by the President of the club. **The additional directors shall be selected to provide additional support and guidance for the well-being of the club as needed, and Board members shall serve during the same 2-year term of as the officers President.**⁵
- Section 3 The officers of the club shall be elected by a majority vote of the members present at the March meeting with the President and Secretary being elected at the end of a two-year term in the odd years, and the Vice-President and Treasurer being elected at the end of a two-year term in the even years. The terms of office shall begin immediately ~~upon election~~ **following the March meeting**⁶.
- Section 4 A nominating committee, consisting of at least two members, shall be appointed by the Board of Directors in January of the year in which officers are going to be elected, and the nominating committee shall present a slate of officer for vote by the membership at the February meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor before elections are conducted in March.
- Section 5 Vacancies in any office of the club or on the Board of Directors, with the exception of the President (see Article IV, Section 2) shall be filled by the Board of Directors appointing a member to fill the vacant office until the next regular election.

ARTICLE IV – DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

- Section 1 The President shall preside at all meetings of the club and preserve order. He/she shall decide all questions of order. He/she shall reserve his vote unless there is a tie, at which time he/she will exercise his/her right to vote in order to break the tie. He/she shall enforce the provisions of these by-laws. He/she shall be member ex-officio of all committees.
- Section 2 The Vice-President shall assist the President in the discharge of his/her duties, **perform any other duties assigned**⁷, and ~~during his/her absence,~~ shall perform the duties of the President **during his/her absence**. In the event that a vacancy occurs in the office of the President, the Vice-President shall act as President until the next regular election.

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- Section 3 The Secretary (or co-secretaries) shall ~~record~~ **document** the proceedings of the club ~~in a book kept for that purpose, read all correspondence and minutes of the previous meetings, mail out membership renewal forms on an annual basis, and perform any other duties the club may assign.~~ **general membership meetings and the board of director meetings using a common electronic word processing format (such as Microsoft Word) and distribute the notes (in digital format), in timely manner, to the Board of Directors for review and approval. Once approved, the minutes of the meeting will be made available on the club website for review by the membership.**⁸
- Section 4 The Treasurer (or co-treasures), **in coordination with the Membership Director**, shall receive all dues **and donations** from the members and **sponsors**. He/she shall keep an accurate account of all dues, **donations, and funds** collected. He/she shall deposit all moneys collected in the club's checking or savings account and keep regular and correct accounts of all money received and paid by him/her, and report at each meeting the balance of cash shown by the last report, the amounts received, expenditures, and balance remaining. He/she shall file the annual corporate report and any other required reports with the State of Wisconsin **and the U.S. Government**. The Treasurer shall give a complete financial report, which has been reviewed by ~~two other Board members excluding the President~~ **the Board of Directors**⁹. His/her accounts shall be open to examination by the members at any time.

ARTICLE V – DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Section 1 The Board of Directors shall meet each month there is a general meeting prior to the general meeting, if needed. Purpose of the Director's meeting will be to plan for the general meeting, to prepare an agenda for the general meeting, to review the progress of any committees which may be in existence at the time of the Director's meeting, and to conduct such business of the club as may come before it, in accordance with these by-laws.
- Section 2 A special meeting of the Board of Directors may be called by the President, or any board member, for a cause pertaining to the welfare of the club, by notifying all Board members of the time and place of the said meeting at least twenty-four hours in advance of said meeting.
- Section 3 The Board of Directors may establish and disband committees from time to time, as it deems suitable for the club's needs.
- Section 4 The Board of Directors shall designate one member of the club to **represent the club (NLSC) at all Three Lakes-Brule River Trails, Inc. director meetings and to communicate "business of interest" between the two clubs.** ~~to serve as a member of Three Lakes Trails, Inc., This is in accordance to as stipulated in~~ the by-laws of Three Lakes-Brule River Trails, Inc.¹⁰
- Section 5 Subject to the provisions of these by-laws, the Board of Directors shall have full charge of the affairs of the club in the interim between meetings of the club.

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ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

- Section 1 ~~The fiscal year runs from September 1 through August 31.~~¹¹ Regular general meetings of the club shall be determined by the Board of Directors and/or published in the first newsletter of the fiscal year for the upcoming fiscal year and posted on the website. First meeting of the fiscal year will be in September and the last meeting will be in March. If the date of a meeting is changed, the membership shall be notified at least a week in advance.
- Section 2 Special meetings of the club may be called by the President, or any five members of the club, by giving fourteen days written notice to all members of the club, of the time, place, and purpose of such special meeting.
- Section 3 ~~In order to conduct business there must be a quorum present. A quorum consists of at least two officers and/or directors, and at least 15 other members.~~ **The members present shall constitute a quorum for all membership meetings. Unless otherwise specified in these bylaws, a simple majority of eligible members votes cast at any membership meeting shall be decisive of any motion¹².**

ARTICLE VII – FINANCE¹³

- Section 1 The fiscal year runs from September 1 through August 31.**
- Section 2 Any expenditure exceeding ~~two~~ **seven** hundred fifty dollars, except normal operating expenses of the club, must be approved by a majority vote of the ~~members~~ **directors** present at a ~~regular~~ **Board of Directors¹⁴** meeting of the club.
- Section 3 In the absence of the Treasurer, the President of the club shall be authorized to sign checks.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

- Section 1 Any proposed amendments to the by-laws will be sent to the membership at least 30 days prior to the next regular meeting. A majority vote of all members present at the regular meeting will be needed to pass any proposed amendments.

ARTICLE IX – DISBANDMENT OF THE CLUB

- Section 1 If at any time the club disbands, the balance of the club's treasury will be donated to Three Lakes-**Brule River** Trails, Inc., PO Box 14, Three Lakes, Wisconsin, 54562.

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Revisions (approved and adopted xx/xx/2021):

- ¹ Article 1, Section 3; this section added to define the type of club IRS organization.
- ² Article II, Section 1; deleted “Family memberships also available shall consist of partners and all minor dependent members of the family”. This new verbiage is per AWSC 2021 guidance. This change became effective July 1, 2021.
- ³ Article II, Section 2 paragraph added - This has been the policy and is now officially documented.
- ⁴ Article II, Section 4; was “Each member age 16 and older shall have 1 vote”.
- ⁵ Article III, Section 2; the limit of additional board members was four.
- ⁶ Article III, Section 3; the start of term of office was immediately “upon election. For best continuity, existing officers should finish last meeting of their term.
- ⁷ Article IV, Section 2; added “perform other duties assigned”.
- ⁸ Article IV, Section 3; deleted the following text that follows (the proceedings of the club); “in a book kept for that purpose, read all correspondence and minutes of the previous meetings, mail out membership renewal forms on an annual basis, and perform any other duties the club may assign”.
- ⁹ Article IV, Section 4; 2nd to last sentence; “the Board of Directors” replaces the deleted text “two other Board members excluding the President”.
- ¹⁰ Article V, Section 4; rewritten to provide clarification.
- ¹¹ Article VI, Section 1; First sentence was “The fiscal year runs from September 1 through August 31” – now moved to Article VII, Section 1.
- ¹² Article VI, Section 3; replaced “In order to conduct business there must be a quorum present. A quorum consists of at least two officers and/or directors, and at least 15 other members”.
- ¹³ Article VII; the title of this section was EXPENDITURES OF THE CLUB
- ¹⁴ Article VII, Section 2; maximum expenditure was \$250; approval was by a majority vote of the members present at a regular meeting of the club.