

**By-Laws**  
Of the  
Walden Sportsmen's Club, Inc.  
Walden, N. Y.

Article I - Title

The name of this organization shall be the Walden Sportsmen's Club, Inc. Its principal place of operation will be on the club property on Route 52, Town of Crawford, County of Orange, New York State.

Article II - Object

- A) The object of this organization shall be the encouragement of organized firearm and archery shooting among members of our club with a view toward a better knowledge on the part of our members of the safe and proper handling and care of firearms, as well as improved marksmanship.
- B) It shall be our further object and purpose to encourage the development of the characteristics of honesty, good fellowship, self-discipline, team play, and self-reliance which are the essentials of good sportsmanship and the foundation of true American patriotism.
- C) It shall further be the object to conserve and protect the fish and game of the country; to insist upon the observance of fish and game laws: to insist upon ethical responsibilities imposed by the law and demanded by the sport both individually and collectively.
- D) It shall further be the object to uphold and protect the Constitution of the United States and New York State and to encourage membership in other organizations sharing these objectives.

Article III - Membership

- A) The types of membership shall be:

Regular Members – Shall consist only of those members who have successfully completed the application process and continuously pay yearly dues.

Family Members – Shall consist only of the immediate family members to include: spouse, domestic partners that live in the same household, children and grandchildren under age 18, or children to age 22, who are full-time students or in the Armed Services. They pay no dues but have all the privileges of a regular member except; they may not vote, they may not hold office

and they cannot bring guests to use the Club facilities. The voting member needs to be present with their guest when using the Club.

Honorary Members – Shall consist only of those nominated and approved by majority vote of members present at a regular meeting. They shall consist of individuals who have displayed outstanding service to the club. They pay no dues but have all the rights and privileges of a regular member. They shall be an honorary member for life unless revoked.

Landowner Members – Shall consist of cooperating landowners allowing the posting of 10 (ten) acres or more (for access and use by the club). They pay no dues but have all the rights of a regular member except they may not vote or hold office.

Life Member - Shall consist of members attaining the age of Sixty-Five (65) years old and has been a dues-paying member for at least ten (10) consecutive years. They pay no dues but have all the rights and privileges of a regular member.

B) Eligibility: Citizens of the U. S., 18 years of age or older may become a member of this organization.

To become a member, they must: 1), Submit a membership application 2) Be sponsored by one club member 3) Remit the usual fees and dues,

4) Present proof of current membership in the National Rifle Association, and 5) Be confirmed by a vote by the members present at a regular meeting held in November. An applicant shall be excluded if they receive three negative votes from the members present at a regular meeting.

Upon acceptance, new members must attend an orientation meeting prior to use of club facilities.

C) Conduct: A member of the Walden Sportsmen's Club is expected to conduct themselves as a true sportsman at all times, work for the good of the club, be aware of existing game laws and follow those Laws carefully. They should also be an advocate about game and land management, landowner relations and hunting ethics. They should work to sharpen their shooting skills and always keep safety in mind while using any sporting implement. They are encouraged to support any organization which works for the good of sportsmen.

D) Rights:

- To hold office;
- To vote;
- To use the range, Club and adjoining land;
- To hunt property posted by the Club after obtaining landowner permission;
- The voting member is allowed to bring one guest at a time to use the Club no more than three (3) times per year for each guest.

E) Obligations:

- To pay dues;
- To attend as many meetings as possible;
- To assist in work details;
- To encourage all others to be good sportsmen;
- To work for the benefit of the Club as a whole;
- To follow all additional rules and regulations as established by the Club membership;
- To maintain membership in the National Rifle Association (NRA);
- To encourage all members to follow Local, State and Federal Laws relating to firearms and hunting.

F) The maximum number of members shall be decided at the August member meeting. The number established shall include only regular members.

G) New members shall only be considered at the November member meeting.

Article IV - Dues

A) The dues of the Walden Sportsmen's Club membership shall be fixed by a vote of the majority of members present at the August member meeting. The members' annual dues to the club shall be payable in full not later than the end of the annual member meeting in September. It is the sole responsibility of members to pay their dues or risk losing their membership.

- B) The term “dues” shall include but not be limited to inclusion of money and other responsibilities.
- C) New members will be subject to a one time initiation fee as established at the August member meeting. Returning members, whose membership has lapsed, will be subject to the same fees and procedures as new members.
- D) Any charges for checks returned to the club will be borne by the member who submitted such check.

Article V - Meetings

- A) Annual Meeting: The annual meeting of the club shall be held on the second Thursday of September in each year, absent extenuating circumstances
- B) Regular/Member Meetings: The regular business meeting of the club for the transaction of ordinary business shall be held on the second Thursday of each month at the club at 7:00 p.m., absent extenuating circumstances.
- C) Emergency Meetings: The President or his designee may call an emergency meeting at any time if it is necessary for the good and welfare of the club.
- D) Order of Business:
  - 1. Call to Order
  - 2. Pledge of Allegiance
  - 3. Secretary’s Report
  - 4. Treasurer’s Report
  - 5. Committee Reports
  - 6. President’s Report
  - 7. Old Business
  - 8. New Business
  - 9. Adjournment

Board Meetings: Board meetings shall be held on the Tuesday before each regular club meeting at a time agreed to by the board members. A quorum of six (6) shall be required to hold a meeting. A majority vote of the quorum shall be necessary to act on a motion. Board meetings are not open to the general

membership. Any member may request an appointment to appear at a Board meeting by contacting the Club President prior to the Board meeting; and likewise, the board may request a member to attend.

#### Article VI - Board of Directors and Officers

- A) The officers of the club shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary Treasurer, , and Range Officer. The board of Directors shall consist of the elected officers plus four Board Members.
- B) The minimum qualifications for all officers and board members shall be twenty-one (21) years of age and three (3) full consecutive years of membership by the time of the election. The offices of President and Vice-President, however; shall require five (5) full consecutive years of membership by the time of the election.
- C) Nominations of officers and board members are made by members with the agreement of the person being nominated and shall be closed at the end of the member meeting in August. The election shall take place at the annual September member meeting. Officers shall be elected by majority of ballots cast. All Officers and Board seats shall be filled by the candidates receiving the most votes of those running.
- D) Officers and Board Members shall assume their duties on October 1st. The term of office for all officers and board members shall be one (1) year. Additionally, Officers and Board members do not pay annual dues while holding office.
- E) Resignation of any officer or board member shall be made in writing to the Board. A vacancy on the board shall be filled by majority vote of the remaining members of the Board. However, if more than one vacancy exists, a special election shall be held at the earliest possible club meeting. Officers and board members are expected to attend both board meetings and member meetings. The secretary shall record attendance at both meetings. A board member missing three board meetings or three member meetings may be removed from their position by a majority vote of the full Board unless directly excused by the Board because of hardship or extenuating circumstances.

Article VII - Duties of Officers and Board Members

- A) The Board of Directors is the policy making body of the Club. The Board has the legal responsibility, under New York State Not for Profit Corporation Law, to plan, manage, supervise, and operate the properties and affairs of the Club. No individual board member has power to act on their own or represent the Club except as outlined herein for the officers. Officers and Board Members have a fiduciary responsibility to the Club and the membership they represent and are required to, at all times, act in the best interest of the Club. No Officer or Board member shall use the Club or their position for profit or enrichment of themselves or others with whom they may be affiliated.
- B) The Board of Directors shall henceforth assume the responsibility for disciplining any club member under Article IX. They shall likewise assume responsibility for disciplining any officer or board member for neglect of duty or for conduct that they judge to be harmful to the operation of the Club.
- C) The Board shall neither contract nor approve any bills in excess of \$1,000.00 per project without prior membership approval at a member meeting. (This does not apply to normal operating expenses such as taxes, fuel, insurance, etc.) Any individual, group, or committee shall petition the Board at a Board meeting for approval of bills in excess of \$200.00 per project prior to presentation to the Club at large. The board shall perform a financial review at the December board meeting and report to the club at the December member meeting.
- A financial review by the Board of Directors must be performed prior to the resignation or replacement of the Treasurer. In addition, an internal audit will be completed by the Internal Audit Committee on an annual basis...
- D) President: The President/Chief Executive Officer of the Club will preside at all meetings of the club and of the Board of Directors. He shall be a member ex-officio of all regular and special committees, and shall see that all Committees function smoothly and for the purpose for which they were constituted; shall see that the By-Laws and Rules of the Club are upheld; shall inspect and announce the result of all elections; shall make appointments to fill all temporary vacancies for the

remainder of their term; shall insure, to the best of his ability, the Club functions normally and without discord; and to insure that the basic purposes of the Club are followed.

- E) Vice-President: The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in their absence or at their request. The Vice-President shall assume the office of President should the President resign or otherwise be unable to perform their duties.
- F) Secretary: The Secretary shall conduct all official correspondence pertaining to the proper preparation and forwarding of all reports required of the Club. They shall keep a true record of all meetings of the Club and have the custody of the books and records of the Club, except the Treasurer's books of account. The Secretary shall record the minutes of regular monthly meetings. The minutes shall be neatly written in ink in a record book or by electronic methods, and taken to the meetings of the club so as to be read for corrections and approved. A separate book shall be kept for each club year. The Secretary shall record the attendance of Board of Directors at regular and board meetings and maintain a separate book and record board minutes. The Secretary will maintain the record of all work hours performed by members.
- G) Treasurer: The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds of the club and place the same in such bank or banks as may be approved by the Board of Directors. Such money shall only be withdrawn by check signed by the Treasurer and the President or Vice-President or Secretary for the payment of such bills as shall have been approved by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate account of all his transactions and render a detailed report with vouchers at the regular monthly meeting, and an annual report to the club shall be given. However, the Membership Chairperson will collect and record dues prior to turning in to the Treasurer. The Treasurer will be responsible for the deposit of all fees and dues.

Range Officer: The Range Officer shall have charge of the ranges of the club, the scoring of targets, the arranging of competitions, etc. The Range Officer may appoint a designee for the scoring of targets and arranging competitions. The Range Officer is the Chairman of the Range Committee.

## Article VIII - Committees

A) Committees shall be limited to a maximum of five (5) members. New committees shall be formed at the annual meeting in September. The Range Officer shall be the Chairperson of the Range Committee.

B) Standing committees shall consist of, but not be limited to:

- Archery
- Internal Audit Committee
- Building and Grounds
- Bylaws and Policy
- Federation
- Kitchen
- Membership
- Political Action
- Posting/Land
- Range
- Trap
- Women's Sporting
- Wood/Forestry
- Education, Training and Youth

No committee shall contract bills without the authorization of the Board of Directors. The holding of monies by committees is a privilege granted to such committees by the Board of Directors. All committees shall keep accurate account of all transactions and render a report when an activity has been held since the last monthly meeting. All remaining monies shall be remitted to the Treasurer when the yearly term of each committee has ended along with the Committee Annual Report.

C) Committees have no power on their own to act on behalf of the club except as allowed by the Board of Directors or approved by the general membership at a regular meeting. All proposed rules, regulations,



match rules, league rules, etc., shall be presented to the membership at a regular meeting for amendment or approval by a majority vote of the members present.

#### Article IX - Suspension or Expulsion

Any member may be suspended or expelled from the club for any cause deemed sufficient by the Board of Directors. No vote on suspension or expulsion may be taken unless written notice has been given to the member of the charges preferred and of the time and date of the meeting of the Board of Directors at which such charges will be considered. At such meeting the member shall be accorded time to speak to the charges preferred.

#### Article X - Amendments

- A) These articles may be amended, altered or repealed at any member meeting of the club by a two-thirds vote of the members present provided a mail or email notice of such proposed changes were sent to the members within ten days prior to being read the first time.
- B) Proposed changes shall be reviewed at the first monthly member meeting following the mail or email notification to members and a vote taking place at the following member meeting,
- C) Rules and regulations may be proposed by any Committee or individual member and enacted by a simple majority vote of members present at a member meeting. However, once enacted, it shall require a two thirds (2/3) majority vote of members present at a member meeting to alter or repeal such action. All rules and regulations in effect as of the adoption date of these bylaws shall remain in effect until amended or repealed. This includes but is not limited to all Range, Membership, Wood Cutting Rules, etc.
- D) The By-laws will be reviewed annually for any changes or amendments.
- E) In all matters not otherwise covered in the By-laws, the club will defer to Roberts Rules of Order.

These By-laws duly voted on and adopted by the membership on May 10, 2018 do constitute the By-laws of the Walden Sportsmen's Club, Inc. and supersede all previous By-laws.

We hereby certify that these By-laws have been adopted by this Club.

PRESIDENT: Raymond Roccisano

X \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

VICE PRESIDENT: Duane (Buz) Prackelt

X \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SECRETARY: Ken Kern

X \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TREASURER: Stephen Bardin

X \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_