2017
By-Laws

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Multi-Lakes Conservation Association
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By-Laws Index

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ARTICLE 1, NAME

The name of this organization, incorporated under the laws of the State of Michigan, shall be known as the “Multi-Lakes Conservation Association” and hereafter referred to as the “Association”.

ARTICLE 2, PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization shall be as follows:

1. The propagation or conservation of air, water minerals, fish, game, wild fowl, fur-bearing animals, wild flowers, forests, soil, and environment.
2. To help secure the full benefits of fishing and hunting in the legal furtherance of these pursuits.
3. To cooperate with and respect the rights and properties of landowners while members are upon their premises and to encourage better relations between the farmer and sports person.
4. To help secure the reforestation of sub-marginal lands.
5. To assist and cooperate with the State and Federal Conservation Departments and other sports person’s organizations.
6. To aid in maintaining lake, river, and stream levels, and the prevention of the pollution thereof.
7. To cooperate in all manner of home and national defense.
8. To stimulate and encourage the participation of youth in conservation activities.
9. To own and/or lease real or personal property for the benefit of the Association, the community and charitable purposes as outlined.
10. To do any and all things necessary or proper for the accomplishment of the above purposes.
11. Further, the Association is organized exclusively for educational and charitable purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Articles, the Association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or by a corporation, contributions to which are not deductions under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

ARTICLE 3, MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

Membership in this Association shall be limited to the following nine categories known as: “Regular”; “Active or Working”; “Senior”; “Disabled”; “Honorary”; “Semi-Active”; “Probationary”; “Life”, and “Conditional” members.

1-A Membership in this Association shall be limited to those persons who shall have attained the age of twenty-one (21) years, shall subscribe to the principals herein set forth, and who shall meet such other and further requirements as may, from time to time, be required by the Board and approved by the membership.

1-B **“Senior”** membership in this Association shall consist of those persons who have been members in good standing for a period of Two (2) years or more immediately prior to or after attaining at least the age of sixty-two (62).

1-C **"Disabled"** membership in this Association shall consist of those persons who, are unable to be gainfully employed due to total permanent medical disability, are, and have been, members in good standing of this Association continuously for a period of five (5) years or more prior to the disability.
1-D **"Honorary"** membership shall be for a one (1) membership-year period and subject to renewal to those persons selected by the Board from time to time for their outstanding service to the Club, community, or conservation. "Honorary" memberships carry no voting rights, nor the right to sponsor any new members.
1-E **"Semi-Active"** membership in this Association shall consist of those persons who elect to become such members and have been "regular" or "active" members continuously for the period of two (2) years or more immediately prior to his/her relocation of residence, and who then intend to permanently reside outside a radius of 100 miles or more from the parent Association. "Semi-Active" memberships shall carry no voting rights. Any "Semi-Active" member moving back within the 100-mile radius must change his/her membership status.
1-F **"Probationary"** All new members, with the exception of Associate members, shall be on a probationary period pursuant with club policy. It shall be the duty of each new member during the probationary period to participate in twelve (12) club functions, at least six (6) of which must be active participation on "club days" formerly work bee's or serve upon a committee of the association to the satisfaction of the committee chairperson. If such obligations are not met, the member shall be expelled subject to a review of the Membership Committee and the Board.
Participation in these twelve (12) club functions must be completed within a twelve (12) months period, If such obligations are not met, the member shall be expelled subject to a review of the membership Committee and the Board. Probationary membership shall carry no annual voting rights for Officer and Board of director elections.
1-G **"Life"** membership shall consist of all past Association Presidents, who meet the following stipulations: (1) served at least one term in office (2) or was forced to vacate the office due to illness, death, or extenuating circumstances that is agreed to by the "Board" and approved by the Membership and remains a member in good standing.
1-H **"Life"** membership shall consist of any member who has attained the age of sixty-three years and been a member in good standing for a minimum thirty years. They must be recommended by another working member in good standing, and been active in the club for ten of the last fifteen years. All applicants must be approved by the Board of Directors, on or before the November board meeting.
1-I **"Conditional"** members shall consist of any person who has applied, for the first time, for membership in the Association in accordance with these By-Laws, paid his or her respective application fee, had his or her application reviewed by the Membership Secretary, and who has been issued a Conditional membership card, but has not been inducted as a Probationary member. Those Conditional members whose applications have been approved by the Membership Committee and the Board, and who have paid their conditional member dues, shall (provided their applications continue to be valid) shall be inducted as a Conditional member at the induction meeting scheduled quarterly by the Membership Secretary and approved by the Board. A person's Conditional membership shall last for no longer than nine (9) months and shall terminate upon the first of the following to occur: (i) rejection of the application by the Membership Committee or the Board; (ii) the person's application becoming invalid; (iii) order of the Board; (iv) failing to timely pay Conditional member dues; (v) expiration of the above referenced three (3) month period; The person being inducted as a Conditional member. "Conditional" members shall have no voting or sponsorship rights in the Association. Conditional members will be

allowed to accrue hours towards their Probationary membership requirements if they elect to do so.

Section 2
"Regular", "Active", and "Senior" members in this Association shall be limited to one thousand individuals. The Board may waive this limitation to restore to membership those members who receive an honorable discharge from the Armed Forces, or to accept into membership children of members upon their honorable discharge from the Armed Forces, provided that all other requirements herein are complied with.
Section 3
Membership in this Association shall not be transferable.
Section 4
All members in good standing, except "Honorary" and "Probationary" shall have the privilege of sponsoring for membership in this Association, six (6) applicants per calendar year. If a sponsoring member should drop his/her membership for any reason, the applicant's status as an "Probationary" member shall immediately terminate, the applicant's application will become invalid and it will be necessary for the applicant to obtain a new sponsoring member.
Section 5
It shall be the duty of the sponsoring member, to have the applicant sign the membership application in the presence of two (2) members in good standing of the association other than the sponsoring member.
5-A Each application shall be accompanied by a forty-dollar ($40.00) application fee. Application fee is not refundable, and shall apply to the applicant's first year membership dues should said applicant be accepted as a "Probationary" member.
Section 6
Application forms for membership in this Association shall be of standard design. The design shall be approved by the Membership Committee and the Board.
Section 7
All new members, with the exception of Associate members, shall be on a probationary period pursuant with club policy. It shall be the duty of each new member during the probationary period to participate in twelve (12) club functions, at least six (6) of which must be active participation in Club events sufficient to earn twenty-four (24) Club credits or serve upon a committee of the association to the satisfaction of the committee chairperson. Club credits generally reflect hours of participation at "Club Days" (formerly work bee's) and help with Club events, but not limited to such. It shall be an option for an Applicant to pay an additional one hundred ($100.00) in Lieu of 24 club credits. New members who opt to pay $100.00 in Lieu of 24 club credits shall not have the right to vote until the second year of membership. If such obligations are not met, the member shall be expelled subject to a review of the Membership Committee and the Board. Participation in these twelve (12) club functions must be completed within a twelve (12) months period, which shall commence on the first of the following to occur (i) the date the conditional member elects to participate in, and seek credit for, a club function; or (ii) the date the person becomes a Probationary Member. If such obligations are not met, the member shall be expelled subject to a review of the membership Committee and the Board.
Section 8
"Regular"; "Active"; "Senior", "Disabled" and "Life" members shall be entitled to one vote at regular, special and annual meetings, to hold office, and otherwise enjoy the privileges of membership while the member is a member in good standing.

Section 9
A member may be suspended or expelled for any just cause upon written petition by any member in good standing and following a hearing before the Board. At least thirty (30) days before the time set for such a hearing, written notice shall be sent to the member against whom charges are brought, containing the alleged charges. It shall be mailed to the member's last known place of residency, by registered mail, return receipt requested. Violation of the Federal or State Conservation Laws, Articles of Incorporation, or By-Laws of the Association, the House Rules of the Association, or conduct tending to jeopardize the Association's legal licenses shall be deemed to be just cause for suspension or expulsion of a member. Any member, expelled pursuant to this Section, shall have the right to appeal to the membership at the next regular meeting thereof by serving written notice upon the Recording Secretary of their intention to appeal. The determination by the membership upon appeal shall be final and shall bar any further recourse.
Section 10
Association membership will not be determined on the basis of any form of discrimination whatsoever, including but not limited to, discrimination based on race, religion, gender, class, country of origin, or employment status.

ARTICLE 4, BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Section 1
The Board of Directors, herein also referred to as the Board, shall consist of five (5) Officers and nine (9) Directors and the immediate Past-President of the Association. In the event a President succeeds themself in office, the immediate Past-President shall continue as a Member of the Board until a new President takes office. In the event the immediate Past-President is unable to act, the office shall be left vacant until a new President takes office.
Section 2
No member shall be elected and serve as a Director for more than two (2) consecutive terms of three (3) years each.
Section 3
The Board shall have full power and authority to manage and control the affairs and business of the Association except as hereinafter provided. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Board shall have no authority to expend upon any single project approved by the Board, more than the sum of ($5,000) five thousand dollars without the prior approval of a majority vote of the members present at a regular or special meeting of the membership.
Section 4
The majority of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and a majority vote of such a quorum shall be sufficient to pass any measure before the assembly.
On each matter submitted to a vote, each Board Member of record is entitled to one vote. A vote may be cast by written ballot or by a show of hands. Common or interested Board Members should not be counted in determining the presence of a quorum at a Board or committee meeting at which a contract or transaction is authorized, approved, or ratified.
Section 5
The Board shall meet at least once a month, at a place and date to be designated by the Board.
Section 6
Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Chairperson of the Board or any five (5) members of the Board of Directors thereof acting in unison, or by the President, upon two

(2) days' notice thereof to the Board members. The notice shall also be posted on the main bulletin board in the clubhouse giving the time and place and purpose of the special meeting. No other subject than the purpose shall be discussed at this meeting.

Section 7
Any board member that is absent from three (3) board meetings in one (1) calendar year unless there are extenuating circumstances, such as; illness, or death in the family, shall be automatically suspended from the board. The board shall declare a vacancy on the board to be in existence.
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Section 8
In the event a vacancy shall occur in the Office of Director, it shall be the duty of the Board to fill such vacancy within thirty days for the unexpired year. All such vacancies shall be filled from the list of candidates for the Office of Directors at the last annual election. The candidate who receives the greatest number of votes shall be appointed first and, thereafter, the candidate with the next highest number, until the position is filled. Any member thus appointed shall serve until the next annual meeting, at which time a successor shall be elected to fill the unexpired term. If the vacancy occurs on or after the October regular Board Meeting the vacancy shall stand until the next General Election.
Section 9
The membership of this Association shall retain the right to override any action of the Board, except expenditures which are provided for in Article 4, Section 3, by a 2/3 majority vote as outlined in Article 6 Section 3 , of the members present at any regular, special or annual meeting.
Section 10
Officers and Directors shall not be personally liable for claims or damages against them solely by reason of the fact that they were acting for or on behalf of the Association at the time such claim accrued (see Article 11, INDEMNIFICATION).
Section 11
An Officer or Director of the Association who is a party to a lawsuit solely by reason of the fact that the person was an Officer or Director of the Association at the time such claim accrues shall be indemnified by the Association.
Section 12
Board Members shall not receive, as such, any salary from the Association, but the Board may be reimbursed for actual reasonable and necessary expenses incurred by the Board Member in his or her capacity as a Board Member. No such payments shall preclude any Board Member(s) from serving the corporation in any other capacity and receiving compensation therefore.

ARTICLE 5, OFFICERS
Section 1
The officers shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Membership Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall be elected at the annual meeting for a term of one (1) year. No elected President shall hold the office for more than two (2) consecutive years.
Section 2
In the event of a vacancy in any of the aforesaid offices (other than the President) such vacancies shall be appointed by the Board and the appointee thereto shall serve until the end of the current year. The office of President shall be succeeded by the Vice-President.
Section 3 - **President**
It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of this Association to call special meetings, to enforce the By-Laws, sign all documents requiring the President's signature, appoint all committee chairpersons, subject to approval of the Board, maintain order, and perform such other duties usual to the President of a parliamentary body.

3-A The President shall also appoint such other special committees, as may be directed by the Board or as the President may deem necessary from time to time.
3-B The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees with a voice and a vote, except the Nominating and Election Committee, and shall be notified of all committee meetings.
3-C The President shall have the power to authorize expenditures of Association funds in event of an emergency, not exceed five hundred dollars ($500) in any thirty-day period.

Section 4 - **Vice-President**

It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to fill the office of President in the event of death, absence, or disqualification of the President and succeed to the office until the end of the current year. The Vice-President shall also perform such other duties as may be directed by the Board.

Section 5 – **Recording Secretary**

The Secretary shall keep all minutes in a book provided therefore of all membership meetings, and all Board meetings, and shall:
5-A Have access to all legal papers and official documents.
5-B Handle Association correspondence.
5-C Perform such other duties as secretary of a parliamentary body and perform such duties as may be directed by the Board.

Section 6 – **Membership Secretary**

The Membership Secretary shall be responsible for the collecting of payments for membership dues, recording same, and receipt of same and shall:
6-A Keep an accurate record of membership address.
6-B Account to the Treasurer of all dues received.
6-C Process all new applications to this Association, and present them to the Board as recommended by the Membership Committee.
6-D Adhere as near as possible to this Association's membership limit as set forth in Article 3.
6-E Confer with the Board on all late dues as set forth in Article 7.
6-F Have Board approval of all new, Honorary, Senior, Disabled, and Semi-Active Memberships.
6-G Act as Chairperson of all Membership Committee functions.
6-H Perform such other duties as may be directed by the Board.

Section 7 – **Treasurer**

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to:
7-A To prepare an operating budget for submission to the Board at the Regular January Board Meeting for review and action at the meeting.
7-B Receive and deposit or invest all funds of the Association, as directed by the Board. The membership, at a Regular Membership Meeting by a 2/3-majority vote, may override the decision of the Board in regards to the depository of Association funds.
7-C Pay all bills and debts incurred within the approved operating budget.
7-D Submit all expenditures not within the operating budget to the Board for approval.
7-E Disburse all funds for expenditures, not within the operating budget, that have had prior approval of the Board.
7-F Supervise the keeping of an accurate and approved set of Corporate books in accordance with the standard accounting practices and acceptable to Federal, State and Local Government agencies. The books shall be kept and maintained on the Association premises.

7-G Authorize all checking and savings accounts of the Association with the approval of the Board.
7-H Maintain and adequate amount of cash in the approved checking accounts to transact all current Association business and deposit all remaining monies in the approved savings accounts.
7-I Render an accurate financial report at all regular Board Meetings. The report, as approved by the Board, to be rendered at the following Regular Membership Meeting.
7-J Prepare and submit to the Board for approval a list of depositories for checking and savings accounts. The Board shall set the number of depositories and number of required signatures.
7-K Submit the Association accounts for the inspection of the Board and/or Auditing Committee appointed by the Board.
7-L Shall be required to furnish Bond. The Board shall set forth the amount thereof and the expense thereof shall be paid by the Association.
7-M Appoint a member of the Finance Committee as a representative(s) to receive and/or deposit all funds in their absence, but under their direction.
7-N Direct the receipt and disbursements of all Committee funds and approve the Committee's financial records.
7-O Be responsible for the submission of all Federal, State, and Local tax returns, forms, etc.

ARTICLE 6, MEETINGS
Section 1
The Annual Meeting of the Association shall be held on the third Wednesday of December in each year.
Section 2
Regular meetings of the Association shall be held on the third Wednesday of each month, provided that the membership may, by a majority vote thereof, at any regular meeting, change the time for holding a regular meeting.
Section 3
At any Regular, Special, or Annual Meeting, one hundred (100) members of this Association in good standing, as recorded in the official registration book of the meeting, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. In the absence of the President the Vice-President, the Recording Secretary, the Membership Secretary, and the Treasurer shall preside at the meeting in that order.
Section 4
The order of business of such regular or Annual Meetings shall be as follows:
4-A Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting and meetings of the Board.
4-B Report of the President.
4-C Report of the Secretaries.
4-D Report of the Treasurer.
4-E Report of Standing Committees.
4-F Report of Special Committees.
4-G Unfinished Business.
4-H New Business.
Section 5
Special meetings of the membership may be called by the President or Board, by mailing to the membership a notice thereof, addressed to the last known address of each member, at least ten (10) days before the special meeting. Notice shall contain the time; place and

purpose of the special meeting and no other business shall be transacted at that special meeting except as contained in the notice thereof.

ARTICLE 7, DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

Section 1

Dues in the Association shall be as follows:

1-A All dues will be an amount assessed and approved by the membership for each class. (i.e., Regular, Active, Probationary, Senior, Disabled and Semi-active).

1-B Dues for a **Regular** member will be $225.00 per year.

1-C **Active** (Working) member's dues for any regular working member who accumulates twenty-five (25) hours of approved club credits before June 30th will be $125.00 per year.

1-D **Probationary** member's dues will be Two Hundred Twenty Five dollars ($225.00). Must complete 24 hours of work time and 12 club functions before June 30th for renewal as a regular member, or 49 hours to attain working member status.

1-E **Honorary** membership and all "**Life**" members along with "**Past Presidents**" of this Association will be exempt from payment of dues.

1-F **Senior** and **Disabled** member's dues will be $65.00 per year.

1-G **Semi-Active** member's dues will be $75.00 per year.

1-H **Conditional** member dues shall be $140.00

1-H Any Regular, Active, Disabled or Semi-Active or Associate member who is delinquent on July 1st shall be assessed a late fee of $25.00 (twenty-five dollars). In extenuating circumstances, the Membership Secretary shall have the right to waive the above fine.

1-I Twenty percent (20%) of all dues collected per year will be applied to a maintenance fund. This fund shall be used to update and maintain all buildings and maintenance equipment and may need additional support to complete needed maintenance projects.

Section 2

Any member whose dues are delinquent on July 1st of the current year shall be suspended and any member whose dues are delinquent on September 1st of the current year shall be expelled from this Association, subject to a review of the Membership Committee and the Board. Notice as to time of year that dues are due and the last date before a member becomes delinquent shall be printed in the Association's official publication, for June, July, and August of the current year. This Section shall not apply to any Regular, Semi-active or Active member who joins or is called into the active Armed Forces, until the end of that membership year following his honorable discharge. The member shall not be subject to annual dues for this period of duty and shall not be included in the Associations limit of one thousand members. Inactive reserves are not subject to this exclusion.

Section 3

In extenuating circumstances and upon written notification to the Membership Secretary, the annual dues may be paid in two (2) equal installments, the first one by August 31st and the other by November 30th of the current year.

Section 4

The membership may, by a majority vote of those present at a special meeting called for that purpose, declare that an assessment in an amount not to exceed fifty dollars ($50.00) be levied against all Regular, Active, Senior, Disabled, Probationary, Past Presidents and Life members of this Association for the purpose of financing the necessary operations of the Association. Semi-active members, who return to a regular membership status within

three (3) years of such levy, shall be required to pay the assessment. Notice of the special meeting shall be governed by Article 6, Section 5. No more than fifty dollars ($50.00) in assessments shall be levied against these members within a three (3) year period.
In the event of a levy of any such assessment, the Board shall provide terms and conditions for the payment thereof. Any member, who shall fail to comply with such terms or conditions of payment within thirty (30) days shall be subject to expulsion from membership in this Association.

ARTICLE 8, OFFICERS COMMITTEE

Section 1

The presiding President shall have the right to form an Officers Committee and, if such a Committee is convened, it shall follow the guidelines as hereafter set forth.

Section 2

Any decisions with respect to Association policy or finance matters shall be determined only by the Board, except as provided in Section 5.

Section 3

The Officers Committee shall expedite the operational functions of the Board and it shall be, and is, authorized to do all things necessary to accomplish such purpose, provided that all decisions of the Officers Committee shall be subject to approval of the Board of Directors at its next regular meeting.

Section 4

The Officers Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Membership Secretary, and a member-at-large chosen from the Directors. The member-at-large shall be elected by a majority of the Directors and shall keep the Board of Directors informed of Officers Committee activities. Three (3) members shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5

The Officers Committee, notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, shall have authority to expend up to one thousand dollars ($1,000) in any one month, for emergency purposes. Any such expenditure shall be reported to the Board at its next meeting.

ARTICLE 9, QUALIFICATION, NOMINATION AND ELECTION

Section 1

No member shall hold office as an Officer or Director by election or appointment who has not been a member in good standing for these specified periods prior to election or appointment:

- Officer – thirty-six (36) months
- Director – thirty-two (32) months

Candidates for the office of President or Vice-President must have served at least one (1) year as an Officer or Director or been a member in good standing for a period of five (5) years. Also, the member must have attended at least six (6) regular membership meetings during the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the first Nominating Committee meeting of that year. This requirement may be waived by majority vote of the Nominating Committee if it feels that the candidate has contributed sufficient work time to the welfare of the Association.

Section 2

No member of this Association shall run for more than one elective position in a current year.

Section 3
Any member who is holding the office of Immediate Past-President may become a candidate for another office in the Annual Election. However, should the President succeed them self and the Past-President attain a new elected position in the Association, the office of Past-President will remain vacant as provided for in Article 4, Section 1.
Section 4
A Director of the Association whose term of office does not expire at the end of that current year and desires to be a candidate for another office, must resign from their current office, effective December 31, and so state, in writing to the Board. Such action shall be read at least three (3) membership meetings prior to the Annual Election.
Section 5
No full-time employee of the Association shall be eligible for election or appointment as an Officer or as a Director of the Association.
Section 6
Qualifications of all candidates shall be approved by the Nominating Committee as outlined in Article 10.
Section 7
Candidates for Officers and Directors shall be placed in nomination by the Nominating Committee at the October membership meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor and shall be added to the submitted list. No member shall be placed in nomination for any office of the Association, either by the Nominating Committee or from the floor, unless there shall accompany the nomination a written statement from the nominee that they accept the nomination, and further, such statement shall contain the date of the nominee's election to membership and a brief summary of the services rendered by the nominee on behalf of the Association. It shall be the duty of the Association to adopt a standard form to be used by prospective candidates, that will contain a legible signature and printed name of the applicant and the nominating members and their respective phone numbers.
Section 8
A candidate who has been accepted and validated for an office by the Nominating Committee may not change their candidacy to another office after the October membership meeting.
Section 9
A complete list of the nominees for Officers and Directors shall be printed in the Official publication of this Association and distributed to the membership at least ten (10) days before the Annual Meeting.
Section 10
All candidates elected to office shall start their term of office January 1st of the year following the annual election.
Section 11
The Officers and Directors shall be elected by ballot. Ballots will be available to members qualified pursuant to Article 3, Section 8. Ballots may be picked up at the club between the November meeting and the annual December meeting. Polls will close at 9:00 p.m. on Election Day. Absentee ballots will be mailed to members who have contacted the election committee, in writing, before December 1. In the event of a tie, the results shall be decided by a flip of a coin at the meeting, in front of the membership.
Section 12
At each annual election, three (3) members shall be elected to the Office of Director for a period of three (3) years. When two (2) or more candidates are nominated for any elected

office, the names of the candidates shall be rotated on the ballot every one hundred (100) ballots printed. If five (5) or more candidates are nominated for an office or for the Board, then the names of the candidates shall be rotated upon the printed ballot in the proportion that the number of candidates bear to the total number of ballots printed.
Section 13
The results of the annual election shall be announced by the Election Committee before the Annual Meeting adjournment.
Section 14
If a lone candidate is running for an office and for some justifiable reason cannot fulfill their candidacy after the October membership meeting, but prior to the ballot printing, the Nominating Committee shall reconvene and qualified candidate(s) shall be selected to restore the ballot to its original number.

ARTICLE 10, COMMITTEES
Section 1
The President shall appoint all committee Chairpersons, as provided by Article 5, Section 3.
Section 2
All committees shall serve until their successors are approved. Special committees may be appointed as deemed advisable and shall serve until discharged from their responsibilities by the President.
Section 3
The Chairperson of any committee requiring a treasurer shall appoint an Association member from the membership of the committee to fill the position.
Section 4
Before any committee shall conduct any function, the purpose of which is to raise funds for the Association, permission must be obtained from the Board. Committees that conduct fund-raising activities for the Association shall furnish the Treasurer a detailed account of funds received, expenses incurred, and the net proceeds within a period of fifteen (15) days following the event.
Section 5
Committees that require funding must submit a budget to the Association's Treasurer by December 31st each year.
Section 6
Standing committees of the Association shall consist of, but not limited to, Auditing, By-Laws, Election, Membership, Nominating, Purchasing, Finance and Strategic Planning.
6-A Auditing Committee – It shall be the duty of this committee to audit the Association's records as specified in Article 12, Section 1. The committee shall have a minimum of three (3) association members.
6-B By-Laws Committee – It shall be the duty of this Committee to prepare and bring before the membership, any By-Law changes as outlined in Article 14. The committee shall have a minimum of four (4) association members.
6-C Election Committee – It shall be the duty of this committee to organize and conduct the Annual Election as specified in Article 9. These duties shall consist of, but not limited to:
Ballot preparation – The ballot shall contain the names of all candidates running for Offices and Directors. The names of the candidates for Directors shall be listed as outlined in Article 9, Section 12. Ballot instruction shall be printed on the ballot and shall list the following as a minimum:
1. Place an "x" in the square in front of the names of your choice.

2. Vote for not more than the specified amount for each office to avoid cancellation of ballot.
3. Fold ballot and insert in envelope marked “For Ballot Only” and seal.
4. Place the envelope marked “For Ballot Only” in the larger envelope, which is addressed to the Election Committee Chairperson, stamp, seal, and mail promptly.
5. Ballots, returned by mail, must be in the hands of the Election Committee by 7:00 p.m. (Insert day of election) to be counted.
6. Members electing to vote at the Association’s poll should be instructed to place their ballot in the envelope marked “For Ballot Only” and then insert this envelope in the larger envelope addressed to the Election Committee Chairperson. This ballot shall be deposited in a container provided by the Association and located in the main clubhouse. A ballot packet shall be made up for each voting member. The packet shall contain:
a. A Ballot
b. A Ballot Envelope
c. A mailing envelope addressed to the Election Committee Chairperson and showing as a return address of record.
7. The Election Committee shall adhere to all election procedures as outlined in Article 9. The Election Committee shall have a minimum of six (6) members.
8. All ballots shall be kept in a sealed container, on the Association premises, for no less than 30 days before being destroyed.

6-D Membership Committee – It shall be the duty of the Membership Committee to handle all the affairs of membership, as directed by the Membership Secretary, who shall act as Chairperson. In addition to the duties as outlined in Article 5, Section 6, the committee shall perform, but not be limited to these other functions:

- Receive and sign applications.
- Receive applications for at least one (1) hour before each regular membership meeting by three (3) members of the committee.
- Screen applicants using a proposed set of questions prepared by the Membership Committee and approved by the Board.
- Publish membership dues date in the club publication, for at least three (3) months and mail notices to delinquent members.
- Provide names of delinquent members to the Board prior to suspension date.
- The Membership Committee shall consist of the Board, all Past-Presidents, and a minimum of four (4) non-Board members appointed by the Membership Secretary and approved by the Board.

6-E Nominating Committee – It shall be the duty of this committee to handle all the affairs of nomination, which shall consist of, but not be limited to the following:

- Receive and act on all nominating applications for Officers and Directors.
- Hold meetings beginning the first week of August, and thereafter, as decided by the Committee, and to act on applications on file.

- All or any discussion that prevails at all Nominating Committee meetings shall be held in strictest confidence and not discussed
outside the committee meeting. Any person who violates this rule may be dismissed by the Committee Chairperson.
- Post all approved candidate’s names and office in the clubhouse of the Association.

- The Chairperson shall place a notice, in the form of a nominating application, in the August, September, and October issues of the Association publication.
- Make a progress report at the September membership meeting and handle the nominating portion of the October meeting as outlined in Article 9.
- Provide guidelines to the candidates regarding their rights to campaign at the club.
- Make sure all incumbent candidates have their applications submitted before October membership meeting.
- The Nominating Committee shall consist of twelve (12) or more members appointed by the Board. The Committee Chairperson may appoint additional members, as the chairperson deems necessary. Any appointee shall be a member in good standing for at least two (2) years immediately preceding their appointment. A quorum shall be twelve (12) committee members.

6-F Purchasing Committee – It shall be the duty of this Committee to approve the purchase of all items except recurring items (such items to be determined by the Purchasing Committee). Any purchase in excess of one hundred dollars ($100), must have Board approval. The Committee shall consist of at least three (3) Association members; neither the Treasurer nor the Club Manager shall be obliged to sit on this Committee but may be consulted for advice. Additional members may be appointed by the President. Approval on any purchase shall be by a 2/3 majority of the quorum. The Board shall have the sole right to override any decision of the Purchasing Committee. All purchases that are approved by the Purchasing Committee shall be put in writing and submitted to the Club Manager for the manager's information.

6-G Finance Committee

- It shall be the duty of this Committee to assist the Association's Treasurer in the Treasurer's functional duties.
- To counsel Association Treasurer in such matters as corporate structure, Accounting practices, and other financial responsibilities that are vital to the operation of this Association.
- This Committee shall consist of no less than three Association members appointed by the Treasurer and approved by the Board. Such members should have a working knowledge of financial matters.

6-H Life Member Committee

- It shall be the duty of the Life Member Committee to screen all applications for life membership and submit qualified applications to the board for approval. The Life Member Committee shall consist of all life members.

6-I Strategic Planning Committee: Strategic Planning Committee shall consist of no less than 5 association members and approved by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 11, INDEMNIFICATION

Section 1

Proceedings Against Corporate Agents.

The corporation shall have power to indemnify any person who was or is a party to, or is threatened to be made a party to, any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a board member, officer, employee, or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a board member, officer, employee, or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise.

The indemnification shall be against expenses (including attorney's fees), judgments, fines, and amounts paid in settlement, actually and reasonably incurred in connection with such action, suit, or proceeding. The corporation shall have the power to indemnify the board member, officer, employee, or agent of the corporation, only if he/she acted (or refrained from acting) in good faith and in a manner he/she reasonably believed to be in and not opposed to the best interests of the corporation or its members, and with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe that the conduct was unlawful.

Section 2

Proceedings by or in the Right of the Corporation.

The corporation shall indemnify any person who was or is a party to, or is threatened to be made a party to, any threatened, pending, or completed action or suit by or in the right of, the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that the person is or was a board member, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a board member, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, or other enterprise. The indemnification shall be against expenses (including attorney's fees) actually and reasonably incurred in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit. The corporation shall indemnify any person only if that person acted in good faith and in a manner reasonably believed to be in and not opposed to the best interest of the corporation or its members. However, no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue, or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of a duty to the corporation unless, and only to the extent that, the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determined upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability, though in view of all circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which such court shall deem proper.

Section 3

Expenses Payable in Advance.

Expenses incurred in defending a civil or criminal action, suit, or proceeding may be paid by the corporation in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit, or proceeding, as authorized in the Michigan Nonprofit Corporation Act, upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the board member, officer, employee, or agent to repay such amount, unless it ultimately shall be determined that the person is entitled to be indemnified by the corporation.

Section 4

Right to Continue:

The indemnification provided in the Act continues as to a person who has ceased to be a board member or officer and may continue as to a person who has ceased to be an

employee or agent to the extent provided in a resolution of the board or in any contract between the corporation and such person and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such person.

Section 5

Liability Insurance.

The corporation shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a board member, officer, employee, or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a board member, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, or other enterprise against any liability asserted against that person and incurred by that person in any such capacity or arising out of that person's status as such, whether or not the corporation would have power to indemnify that person against liability pursuant to the Michigan Nonprofit Corporation Act.

Section 6

Constituent Corporation.

References to the corporation include all constituent corporations absorbed in a consolidation or merger and the resulting or surviving corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise shall stand in the same position with respect to the resulting or surviving corporation as that person.

ARTICLE 12, BUSINESS AND ACCOUNTING

Section 1

Books of the Association shall be audited by the Audit Committee, annually or at such other times as may be requested by the Board or ordered by the majority vote of the membership present at any Regular Meeting.

Section 2

The fiscal year of the Association shall end each year on the thirty-first of December.

Section 3

The last known address of a member shall be that upon the records of the Membership Secretary.

Section 4

The Association shall not transfer its membership to any other groups or organizations without a two-third (2/3) majority vote of the members present at a special meeting called for that purpose.

Section 5

The membership list of this Association shall only be used by the Association for its own business purposes and it shall not be sold or given to any person or persons.

Section 6

No real estate shall be purchased or sold by the Association without a majority vote of the membership at a Regular Meeting of the Association or at a special meeting called for that purpose.

Section 7

In the event of the dissolution or abandonment of the Association, the real estate thereof shall revert to the Township of Commerce, Oakland County, Michigan, to be used for recreational purposes, by the Township.

Section 8

A Club Manager, if retained by the Board, shall operate the Association, as the manager deems necessary, in compliance with the approved guidelines established by the Board. The manager will be accountable only to the Board for the manager’s actions or decisions.

Section 9
All properties, legal papers, Association records, or licenses shall not be removed from the Association premises without the approval by the Board.
Section 10
Any Association member shall have the right to examine any club record upon reasonable request, not to disrupt the ordinary function of the club.

ARTICLE 13, AUXILIARY
Section 1
The membership, by a 2/3 majority vote, present at any regular or special meeting, may authorize the formation of auxiliary groups or clubs to be composed of members of the Association, for the purpose of carrying out any of the proposes or activities of the Association which may be deemed advisable or necessary, and the subsidiary group shall include in its name, the phrase “Multi-Lakes”.
Section 2
The membership, by a 2/3 majority vote present at any regular or special meeting, may authorize the formation of a Junior Conservation Club, which the Club shall be under the supervision of the Association, and its members and the Junior Club shall use the name of the Association and may be authorized to use its equipment necessary for the performance of the function thereof.

ARTICLE 14, BY-LAWS
The membership by a 2/3 majority vote present at any regular or special meeting, may amend the By-Laws in the following manner.
Section 1
A proposed change to the By-Laws must be presented in writing and read at a regular or special meeting of the Association and then referred to the By-Laws Committee.
Section 2
The By-Laws Committee shall read a proposed change at the next regular membership meeting , then at the following membership meeting reread the proposed changes and report to the membership with their recommendations. Then the proposed By-Laws change shall be read for a third and final time at the next meeting at which time it shall be voted upon.
Section 3
It is further provided that notice of the proposed change or changes in the By-Laws shall be mailed to each member of the Association at their last known address at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting at which the proposed change or changes are to be voted upon. Publication in the Association’s official magazine shall constitute sufficient notice.
Section 4
If any member of the Association shall call for a roll call vote, it shall be limited to the membership present as recorded in the Association’s ledger at the meeting.
Section 5 – Parliamentary Guide
The rules as outlined in Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised current edition shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Association’s By-Laws.

ARTICLE 15, RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. All members and guests entering the Association grounds must first register in an official book provided for that purpose. Also, any member desiring the services of the Association's bar must sign the register provided for that purpose. The privileges of the Association are extended to members in good standing and their immediate families (defined as spouse, parent, child, brother, and sister). Guests must be accompanied at all times by a card carrying member in good standing except for special Board-designated functions.

2. If requested by a member, gate person, doorperson, manager, or an Associated-designated person they shall show their membership card and establish their identity as a member in good standing.

3. Members will be personally responsible for all indebtedness to the Association incurred by them, their spouses, immediate families and guests.

4. No alcoholic beverages shall be taken in or out of the clubhouse except as stated under a special liquor permit.

5. Minors are not allowed to stand at the bar except when purchasing non-alcoholic items; such persons are not allowed to sit at the bar at any time.

6. Members, their families, and/or guests who are intoxicated shall not be permitted into the club buildings or grounds.

7. The clubhouse shall close not later than the time set for closing by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission rules.

8. All members and their guests shall conduct their speech and actions in a manner befitting ladies and gentlemen. The Association reserves the right to refuse service to any person at any time.

9. The Club Manager must approve all decorations and will advise Committees on their decorating problems for the purpose of complying with fire and safety regulations.

10. Requests for any special privileges or services are to be made to the Club Manager, which are subject to Board approval.

11. Private Parties – in the event building grounds are rented for private parties, no alcoholic beverages shall be sold on the property by the renters without Board approval. All private parties must be sponsored by a member in good standing.

12. The Association shall have the right to dispose of any item left on club property by any person beyond a one-year period. If possible, the Association shall notify the owner by registered mail of its intent to dispose of such articles. Owner will then have 90 days to remove items from the club property.

13. The Association shall not be responsible for loss of, or damage to property left or kept on Association property by members, their families or guests.

14. No unauthorized gambling will be permitted in the clubhouse.

15. No Committee shall promulgate its own rules without Board approval.

16. Any Committee Chairperson or legally appointed individual or individuals in charge of any function of the club shall have the responsibility of enforcing these rules of good conduct. They may take whatever action is immediately necessary and/or report the violation to the Board for such action, as they may deem advisable.

17. Any member violating any of the rules or for any conduct prejudicial to the Association will be subject to suspension or expulsion pending action by the Board.

18. All complaints, requests and suggestions affecting any of the club rules shall be in writing, dated, signed, and addressed to the Club Manager or the Board.

19. Any changes to the rules and regulations shall be made in accordance with Article 13 of these By-Laws.

This new set of By-Laws was passed by the General Membership on 16 May 2012.
Eighth Edition: May 16, 2012
Richard Johnson –Chairman
Sam Mullins –President
Mike Beattie – Vice –President
David Fisher Sr.– Treasurer, Past President
Mark Geiger – Membership Secretary
Dan St Aubin- Past President
Jim Ashcraft
Eric Manning
Larry “Skip” Cohorst
Dan Peltier – Past President
Raymond Foley – Co-Legal Counsel
Jeff J Svoboda – Co-legal Counsel 24

Includes all approved By-Law changes to date: October 18, 2017

HOUSE AND GROUND RULES

1. The Club Manager must approve the placing of any signs on the Association property or in the clubhouse not pertaining to the Association.

2. Members or guests must be properly attired and all persons wear tops and shoes while in the clubhouse.

3. No member or members may sponsor groups larger than 25 persons without permission of the Club Manager and approval of the Board.

4. Dogs and other animals are not permitted in the clubhouse. All animals shall be leased and under control while on club property except for scheduled events in which the animals participate.

5. Parking must be confined in the spaces provided; also handicap parking spaces must be provided and used in compliance with the State law. Motorized driven vehicles will not be permitted on club grounds except on designated roads and in parking areas. At no time shall any moving vehicles of any type exceed the speed limit of 15 MPH while on club property.

6. Spiked shoes, baseball, or otherwise, will not be permitted in the clubhouse.

7. All fires built on club grounds must be made at areas so designated. All fires must be attended at all times and extinguished before leaving club grounds.

8. No hunting or trapping shall be allowed on club property at any time.

9. Smoking or carrying lighted cigarettes or cigars on the dance floor by dancers is prohibited.

10. On a regular membership meeting night only adult guests, 21 years of age or older will be allowed in the Club House. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the President.

CONSERVATION PLEDGE

I GIVE MY PLEDGE AS AN AMERICAN
TO SAVE AND FAITHFULLY DEFEND
FROM WASTE THE NATURAL
RESOURCES OF MY COUNTRY,
ITS AIR, SOIL AND MINERALS,
ITS FOREST, WATERS AND
WILDLIFE.