

**By-Laws of
Coon Valley Conservation Club, Inc.**

Article 1

Purpose

Section 1

The purpose of the Coon Valley Conservation Club, Inc. shall be to conserve, use and improve wildlife resources wisely, advance the interest of outdoor life, teach conservation, promote friendliness and good fellowship among its members, endeavor to obtain understanding and agreement between the sportsman and the general public, and in every feasible way assist the members by lending group support to a satisfactory solution of individual and group problems. Furthermore, the Coon Valley Conservation Club will actively assist in the furthering worthwhile conservation movements and be identified with similar and related groups and agencies having wildlife conservation as their purpose.

Article II

Meetings

Section 1

Regular meetings will be held on the last Thursday of each month starting promptly at 7:30pm at the Coon Valley Conservation Club Farm. Regular monthly meeting in the months of November and December will be rescheduled if the last Thursday of the month falls on Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas day or New Year's Eve.

Section 2

Special meetings may be called by the President, the Board of Directors, or the request of three or more members. Due notice will be given by Publicity Chairman (Secretary) by posting (on bulletin board) and by news media (email and Facebook page) at least three days in advance of the meeting.

Section 3

Annual meeting of the new directors, and board members, including the complete body shall be held on the last Thursday in May each year.

Section 4

Social meetings may be held at the discretion of the Corporation and may be decided upon at any regular or special meeting.

Section 5

A quorum shall consist of 3/4 s of the board plus 10 members at a regular meeting or 3/4s of the board plus 20 members at a special meeting.

An active member of the Coon Valley Conservation Club is defined as follows:

- 1) A member attending nine (9) meetings in a calendar year.
- 2) A member who volunteers ten (10) hours of club service.
- 3) ~~Active membership as established by the Board of Directors.~~

Section 6

Meeting shall be governed by Roberts's rules.

Article III

Memberships and Dues

Section 1

Membership shall be open to persons interested in outdoor sports and conservation.

Section 2

All new members shall be ~~announced~~ (approved at the beginning of each meeting if membership criteria are met. IE applicant or their sponsor must attend meeting if new member.) ~~Annual membership dues are at the beginning of each meeting.~~

Section 3

Annual membership dues are ~~\$50 (\$40) for a single membership, \$100 (\$60) for a family, \$20 for Senior (62+) and \$20 for youth(under18).~~ All memberships will be handled by the membership chairperson.

Section 4

Members will consider it their duty to abide by all rules of the Coon Valley Conservation Club as set forth by the by-Laws and Amendments.

Section 5

Members shall abide by the following sportsman's creed: **To conduct myself in the woods, in the fields, and on the water so that neither will be despoiled. To protect, conserve and restore our nation's wildlife and natural resources. To abide by the laws of nature and man in the pursuit of my sport so that generations of sportsmen to come may inherit their rightful share of nature's bounties.**

Section 6

Conduct or acts unbecoming a sportsman, proven violations of game or other laws and ordinances relating to conservation, and flagrant disregard for the reputation of this club will constitute cause for suspension of a member. A member shall be considered innocent by the Corporation until proven guilty. A three-fourths (3/4) majority of those in attendance at a meeting shall be required for suspension of a member and further the suspension can be voted upon only after all available facts in the case have been presented to the corporation in assembly and the member in question has had an opportunity to state his/~~her~~ own case. Complaints may be presented to the Corporation orally or in writing and the defendant in any complaint may present his defense orally or in writing. After a complaint has been received the Secretary shall notify the accused member or members in writing and

in the notice shall set a date for consideration of the complaint by the Corporation, allowing not less than seven (7) days for the members to prepare a defense. ~~In case (When)~~ a person has been duly suspended he /she shall surrender to the Secretary any insignia, badge or credentials issued by the Corporation as well as any property belonging to the Corporation.

All members who witness a violation of section 6 have a responsibility to report it. Violators should be reported to a board member. ~~This section will be enforced.~~

Section 7

Resignation may be accepted by a majority vote of the Corporation after all insignia, badges and property belonging to the Corporation has been returned to the custody of the Secretary or Treasurer.

Section 8

A person who previously resigned from the Corporation may be re-instated to membership in the same way as any new member.

A person who was suspended from the Corporation **will be re-instated at the same level** by a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote at a regular or special meeting.

Section 9

Each active member shall share alike all advantages, activities, accomplishments and privileges accredited to the Corporation.

Section 10

Each member shall have as duties the attendance at regular and special meetings, service on committees, assistance on projects and work of the Corporation, report to the Corporation any infractions of laws, regulations or ordinances relating to conservation, and in every way further the purpose and interests of the Corporation.

Section 11

~~Any member using profane language at any regular meeting or social gathering will be dealt with by the rules set forth in Section 6 of this article.~~ Member conduct at club meetings or club sponsored events shall be guided by section 6 of this article. Profane language or rude behavior is strongly discouraged.

ARTICLE IV

Officers, Directors, and Committees

Section 1

The officers shall be President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasure. They shall be ex officio members of the Board or Directors.

Section 2

The Board of Directors shall consist of eight (8) people: the four (4) who are not officers shall be Board members at-large.

Section 3

There shall be three (3) permanent standing committees, Historian, Education and Property Management committees.

Section 4

All officers President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer will shall hold office for a term of one (1) year. Their respective terms shall begin at the annual meeting following their election. The four (4) directors who are not officers shall hold office for a term of two (2) years with two (2) new directors elected annually. The four (4) directors who are also officers shall serve one (1) year terms on the board.

Section 5

The President shall act as chairman at all committees, and in every way further the purposes and interests of the Corporation.

Section 6

The Vice President shall assume the duties of President in the Presidents absence and assist the President in furthering the purposes and interests of the Corporation.

Section 7

The Secretary shall keep minutes of meetings and records of activities, carry on the necessary business correspondence, issue membership insignia and in the absence of the President and Vice President conduct meetings and perform the duties of the office.

Section 8

The Treasure shall keep accounts of all money received and expended, draw checks for approval by the President, collect dues, issue membership insignia, and in the absence of the President, Vice President and Secretary conduct meetings and perform the duties of that office.

The Treasurer shall pay the bills of the Corporation as they become due. All extraordinary expenses except that payment of all extraordinary expenses shall be first approved by the membership at the first monthly meeting after the bill becomes due. At each monthly meeting, the Treasurer shall account for all moneys expended since the previous monthly meeting.

Section 9

Due notice will be given by Publicity Chairman (Secretary) by posting (on bulletin board) and by news media (email and Facebook page) at least three days in advance of a regular meeting, special meeting and social gatherings.

Section 10

The Historian shall keep photos and literature of Corporation activities to be referred to in the future.

Section 11

The Directors shall manage the affairs of the Corporation. They shall also make annual audit of accounts and consider all matters of policy and administration of the Corporation.

Section 12

Delegates and representatives may be elected by the Corporation as needed or appointed by the President after a motion has been passed authorizing the appointment of delegates or representatives.

Section 13

Regular elections shall be held annually at the April meeting, to elect a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and two (2) directors. Special elections may be held to fill vacancies at regular meetings after being announced at the previous meeting. Any officer elected at a special election shall serve the unexpired term of the vacancy so filled. Election shall be written ballot after nominations from the floor by any active member. Nominations shall be order of business until a motion has been passed by a three-fourths (3/4) majority to close nominations for each office. The candidate receiving the most votes shall be declared elected and in case of a tie, a ballot shall be cast on the tied candidates to decide which nominee shall be elected.

Section 14

Any officer may resign by presenting their resignation to the Corporation at a regular meeting.

Section 15

An officer may be removed by the following procedures: A complaint or petition signed by 50 members may be presented to any office or director at least one (1) week prior to a regular meeting date. The complaint or petition shall state the facts upon which the removal action is to be based. It will be considered by the board of directors before presentation to the corporation. The officer named in the complaint may prepare a defense in writing or for oral delivery to the Corporation. A quorum, as defined in Article II section 5, of a regular meeting with a majority vote of members present shall be necessary for removal of an officer.

Section 16

The President may appoint an officer or director to fill a vacancy prior to the time when an election can be held to fill the vacancy.

ARTICLE V

Activities

Section 1

Regular activities may include cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and other organizations for the promotion of wildlife, wildlife habitat and landowners in improving the

environment for and increasing the population of wild game, stream improvement for fish and the rearing of desired fish and game.

Section 2

Educational programs before the Corporation will be encouraged. Such programs may include motion pictures, educational handouts, illustrated lectures, addresses and reviews of worthwhile articles and books on wildlife conservation and related subjects.

Section 3

Social activities such as picnics, dances, outdoor and indoor shooting matches and similar functions will be considered an important part of the Corporation's activities both for the purpose of raising funds and furnishing an opportunity for the members to become better acquainted.

ARTICLE VI

Handling Funds

Section 1

All funds will be placed on deposit in a community bank in Coon Valley, Wisconsin, to the credit of the Corporation. Any special funds will be placed in the Corporation account, but will be withdrawn at the direction of the Board of Directors only for the purpose for which they were raised or collected.

Section 2

To withdraw funds from the Corporation, account the treasure shall draw a check to the payee and the President and Treasure will affix their signatures above their title.

ARTICLE VII

Amendments

Section 1

Amendments to these by-laws must be prepared and presented to the Corporation in writing by an individual, individuals or by a committee for that purpose. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of those in attendance at a regular meeting or voting by proxy shall approve an amendment before it is added to this document.

AMENDMENT TO BY-LAWS, AMENDMENT #2

Three-fourths (3/4) of the board of directors (6 of the eight members) must reside within 15-mile radius of the clubhouse.

Additional AMENDMENTS to the By-Law's

Amendment A

By-laws shall be reviewed every five years and updated as required.

Amendment B

Board of Directors shall have the authority to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$1000 from the Corporation accounts without the approval of the Corporation.

Amendment C

Approval of these changes and amendments shall become the acting By-laws for the Coon Valley Conservation Club pending a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote by those attending the November 21, 2013 member meeting.

Ratified in accordance with Amendment C on November 21, 2013

Amendment D

Any annual member can work to earn a lifetime membership by working a shift of no less than 4 hours at any club sanctioned event. This must be done for five consecutive years and reported to the membership chairman. After completing five years of volunteering the member will have the option to buy a \$350 life membership from which the prior annual membership dues will be removed leaving the final cost.

Amendment E

Any procedural motions affecting how the corporation operates will have a 2-year lifespan after which they will be reviewed by the board and either be reinstated for another 2- years or removed if they are no longer valid to corporation operations. All action motions relating to corporation projects will be assigned a chairperson and a lifespan of one year. If after one year, the project has not been completed the motions will be eliminated. The secretary will be responsible for keeping a log of all procedural and action motions and tracking the lifespans.