

# PROPOSED CHAPTER BYLAWS

*Please feel free to use the following model as a basis to prepare your chapter's bylaws as required for Izaak Walton League chapter charter approval.*

*Additional suggestions are noted in italicized text below. If document is used and upon completion, be sure to delete any suggested text in italics from your final document. Also where applicable, change font style to match that of the entire bylaws document.*

**BYLAWS**  
**of the**  
..... **CHAPTER**  
**of**  
**THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA**

As approved on the ..... day of ....., 20 .....

## **ARTICLE I – MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**

- Section 1. The annual membership dues of the ..... Chapter (“Chapter”) shall be \$ ..... for individual, \$ ..... for family, \$ ..... for student, and \$ ..... for youth members plus current national dues and if applicable, *{Insert state name here if one exists. If not, leave blank.}* State division dues, payable on or before the first day of January of each year.
- Section 2. All members, whose dues are paid, shall be deemed active members. Only active members shall be eligible to hold office, vote at meetings or otherwise enjoy the privileges of the Organization.
- Section 3. Any member, who by his conduct violates any of the rules of this Chapter or of the National Organization, may be expelled from membership by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors at a regular board meeting, provided the accused has been given at least twenty-four hours notice of the proposed action, and is given an opportunity to be heard before the board. All charges must be supported by affidavit.
- Section 4. Any member whose connection with this Chapter shall be severed by resignation, death, expulsion or otherwise, shall forfeit all interest in any funds or property belonging to this Chapter.
- Section 5. Membership in the Chapter shall be open to any person who supports the goals and policies of the Chapter. No person shall, on grounds of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, or handicap, be excluded from participation in or be subject to discrimination in any program or activity of the Chapter.

**ARTICLE II – MEETINGS**

Section 1. Regular meetings of the Chapter shall be held at ..... on the ..... day of each month at ..... p.m.

*~ or use ~*

*Regular meetings of the Chapter shall be held each month at a date and time to be determined.*

Section 2. Special meetings of the Chapter may be called at any time by the President or a majority of the Board of Directors, or not less than one-fifth of the active members, by mailing a written or printed notice stating the time and place of such meeting, at least five (5) days before the time of such meeting.

Section 3. A majority of active members shall constitute a quorum at a duly called Chapter meeting.

**ARTICLE III – BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall meet at ..... on the ..... day of each month at ..... p.m.

*~ or use ~*

*The Board of Directors shall meet shall be held each month at a date and time to be determined.*

Section 2. A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for transacting business.

Section 3. Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at the call of the President or at the request of a majority of the members of the Board. Special meetings shall be held on not less than twenty-four hours oral or written notice.

**ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS**

Section 1. The officers of this Chapter shall be elected to hold office for the term of one year or until their respective successors are elected and qualified by the Board of Directors at its first meeting after the annual election of Directors each year.

Section 2. Only active members shall be eligible to hold office.

Section 3. The President shall be the chief executive officer of this Chapter. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Chapter and of the Board of Directors and to perform such other duties as ordinarily pertain to the office.

- Section 4. The Vice President shall, in the absence of the President, perform the duties of the President and such further duties as shall be assigned by the Board of Directors or the President.
- Section 5. The Secretary shall be responsible for ensuring that an accurate record in permanent form of all business transactions of the Chapter shall be kept and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Board of Directors.
- Section 6. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the receipt of all money owing to the Chapter and the deposit of such money in the manner hereinafter prescribed. The Treasurer shall annually account for the same to the Chapter; and at such further times as requested by the Board of Directors. At the end of his or her term, the Treasurer shall turn over to his or her successor control of all funds and records belonging to the Chapter. The Treasurer and other officers of the Chapter handling money shall furnish satisfactory bond, the cost of which shall be paid by the Chapter.
- Section 7. The duties of all other officers and agents shall be such as determined by the Board of Directors.
- Section 8. The Directors of the Chapter may at any time by a majority vote ask for, demand, receive and accept the resignation of any officer or employee of this Chapter, and upon such individual's refusal to tender a resignation or resign, the majority of said Board of Directors may dismiss the individual from that position, declare said position vacant and select a successor.
- Section 9. If any vacancy occurs during the year, in any one or more of the above offices, any reason, the Board of Directors, at any regular or special meeting, may elect a successor or successors who shall hold office for the unexpired term in respect of which such vacancy occurred.

#### **ARTICLE V – COMMITTEES**

The President, with the consent and approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint such standing and special committees as the Board of Directors shall direct. The President shall be an ex-officio member, without vote, of all committees.

#### **ARTICLE VI – FINANCES**

- Section 1. The fiscal year of the Chapter shall begin on the first day of January and end on the thirty-first day of December in each year.
- Section 2. All funds of the Chapter shall be deposited by the Treasurer, or upon his order, in the name of the Chapter, in such bank or banks as may be designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. All disbursements shall be by check, signed and countersigned by such persons as the Board of Directors may designate.

Section 4. A thorough audit shall be made at least once each year by a committee designated by the Board of Directors and submitted at a regular meeting of the Chapter.

**ARTICLE VII – OTHER**

Section 1. The objects of the Chapter and the powers granted to the Chapter by applicable law and the Articles of Incorporation are substantially similar to the objects and powers of the Izaak Walton League of America, and the Chapter shall exercise its powers to pursue the objectives of the Izaak Walton League of America and shall comply with the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation of the Izaak Walton League of America. In the event of inconsistencies between the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws of this Chapter and those of the Izaak Walton League of America, the latter shall control.

Section 2. No transfer of the assets of the Chapter to any other entity, in excess of ten-percent of the Chapter’s total assets, shall be effective or valid unless approved in advance of such transfer by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Board of the Izaak Walton League of America and by a two-thirds vote of the Chapters’ membership present at a meeting, provided that all members of the Chapter were notified of the meeting twice in writing, once at least 30 days but no more than 60 days in advance, and again at least 10 days but not more than 30 days in advance of the meeting.

Section 3: In the event the Chapter becomes inactive, dissolves, withdraws, has its charter revoked, or otherwise ceases to operate or function as a chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America, all assets of the Chapter shall be disposed of in accordance with the Bylaws of the Izaak Walton League of America.

Section 4. These Bylaws may be amended as provided in the Articles of Incorporation of the Chapter. No amendment to the Chapter’s Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws that would violate the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws of the Izaak Walton League of America shall be effective unless the Izaak Walton League of America amends its bylaws as necessary to incorporate or permit such amendment by the Chapter.

**Submitted to:** The Izaak Walton League of America Executive Board via the National Office.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Temporary Chapter President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Signature of Temporary Chapter Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date