

Last Update – 2/17/2015
Bylaws of the Walleye Searchers of Minnesota
ARTICLE I
Name

The name of the Club shall be Walleye Searchers of Minnesota.

ARTICLE II
Objective

The objective of the club is to bring together people that are interested in learning more about walleye fishing. In addition to club fishing tournaments and monthly meetings; club activities may include family, educational, conservation and community functions. Walleye Searchers of Minnesota is a nonprofit organization. Nonprofit charter # X 1B-566 and Fed. ID # 41-1518667.

ARTICLE III
Members

Section 1. The size of this Club shall be unlimited.

Section 2. New members will not need to be voted into the Club, unless they were a past member and were previously voted out.

Section 3. A member can't vote to remove someone at the same meeting they joined the club.

Section 4. The annual dues shall be \$35.00 payable in advance on or before the regular meeting in January. Payment of annual dues gives the member the right to participate in all club activities. Members whose dues are not paid by the regular meeting in January shall be automatically dropped from membership in the Club. The annual fee for new members shall be \$25.

Section 5. No annual dues will be refunded unless approved by the president.

Section 6. Anyone fishing or participating in any event held by Walleye Searchers are doing so on their own free will. Members of Walleye Searchers are not responsible for any accident or injury that may occur while boating or participating in scheduled monthly events. The club (Walleye Searchers) is not liable for any personal property damage or injury of another member. Each individual is responsible for their own personal safety, equipment, and gear needed to participate in any Walleye Searchers event.

Section 7. Upon participating in your first club tournament, the Walleye Searcher's Club will pay membership dues to the Walleye Federation for said member.

Section 8. Members under the age of 18 must have a signed permission slip from parent or guardian stating they are allowed to participate in club activities and must have a valid boating safety certificate in order to participate in club fishing events without a parent or guardian.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Club shall be a President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer. These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws and by the parliamentary authority as prescribed by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

Section 2. At the regular meeting held in October nominations of candidates for the offices to be filled at the annual meeting in November will be accepted. Before the election at the annual meeting in November, additional nominations from the floor shall be permitted. The club shall also nominate and elect a Youth Coordinator and a Conservation Coordinator. These will be two years terms.

Section 3. Members nominated for office shall orally present his/her qualifications, goals and objectives immediately prior to the election at the regular meeting in November.

Section 4. The officers shall be elected according to Roberts Rule of Order (Revised) and serve for one (1) year or until their successors are elected, and their term of office shall begin at the regular meeting in December.

Section 5. No member shall hold more than one office at a time, and no member shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

Section 6. Any member having served two (2) terms as an officer and having been a club member in good standing for five (5) years shall be granted a lifetime membership to the club.

ARTICLE V

Officer's Duties

Section 1. The President's duties are as follows:

- a. Preside over all meetings
- b. Set the agenda for all meetings (suggestions from Club members on agenda items are welcome). A typical agenda would include: last month's minutes, a Treasurer's report, old business, new business, educational activity (movie, speaker, etc.).
- c. Authorized to sign checks on behalf of the club in the absence of the treasurer.
- d. Rule on any undocumented questions

Section 2. The Vice President's duties are as follows:

- a. Assume all of the Presidential duties in the absence of the President
- b. Assume all of the Secretarial duties in the absence of the Secretary

- c. Tally member tournament standings after each tournament
- d. Be in charge of all club tournaments
- e. Be the official time keeper for all club tournaments
- f. Start new message board threads for all club tournaments
- g. Do the partner pairings
- h. Post partner pairings on message board within one day after club meeting and keep it up to date
- i. Keep a tally of each tournament results and post them on the message board
- j. Order food for club tournaments
- k. Resolve any tournament disputes or guideline infractions. Be in charge of tournament drawing board.

Section 3. The Treasurer's duties are as follows:

- a. Assume all of the Vice Presidential duties in the absence of the Vice President
- b. Present at each monthly Club meeting a complete accounting of Club finances, including:
 - 1. The beginning balance of the Club checkbook.
 - 2. A list of all check numbers issued.
 - 3. The amount of each check.
 - 4. Who it was issued to.
 - 5. Why it was issued.
 - 6. A list of all deposits.
 - 7. A list of any known expenses for the next month.
 - 8. The ending balance of the Club checkbook.
- a. Issue Club checks deemed appropriate by the Club
- b. File state and federal income tax for the Club with the accountant designated by the Club.
- c. Ensure that the Club maintains a \$100 minimum balance in the Club checkbook. This \$100 will be used in the event of an emergency. The Club will decide what constitutes an emergency.
- d. Verify prior to all Club tournaments that all participants have paid their annual dues in full

Section 4. The Secretary's duties are as follows:

- a. Keep minutes of monthly Club meetings. Write and distribute a monthly newsletter that contains any pertinent Club news. This includes alerting Club members of upcoming Club votes of any kind
- b. Write or review all correspondence that is issued by the Club
- c. Check the Club P. O. box regularly and pay the fees for the box when necessary
- d. Maintain an "up to date" list of all active members, home addresses, e-mail addresses and phone numbers
- e. Bring a current copy of the Club by-laws to all functions
- f. All club documentation will be kept current with revision dates and backed up on a diskette. A copy of the backup diskette will be given to the president whenever changes are made. Packets consisting of a roster list, By Laws, and Tournament Guidelines, and Pool 4 Public Boat Launches shall be distributed to new members.

Section 5. Youth Coordinator duties:

- a. Organize volunteers for Cabela's Fishing Day
- b. Organize a kid's fishing clinic at as local venue
- c. Have or be involved in a minimum of 2 kid's events per year.

Section 6. Conservation Officer duties:

- a. Schedule DNR Fisheries presentation for February meeting
- b. Schedule Coast Guard for annual seminar

Section 7. Walleye Searchers Public and Private Forums, and website.

The duties as listed below shall be given to the president, vice-president, treasurer or secretary upon election. These duties may be delegated to a club member volunteering to help.

- Handle all Internet inquiries and correspondence for the club
- respond to all e-mail addressed to club
- Pay for domain name and hosting service
- Post details about any club speakers on fishing forums
- E-mail Rochester Post Bulletin with details about any club speakers at least 6 days before the Thursday you want it published
- Start new message board threads for all club events (except tournaments)
- Provide documentation to webmaster on how to build and maintain website pages
- Manage the club's home page and Web site
- Keep an ongoing tally of tournament total results for the website

Section 8. The Officers shall have general supervision of the affairs of the club between business meetings, fix the hour and place of meetings, make recommendations to the Club, and shall perform such other duties as are specified in these bylaws. The Officers shall be subject to the orders of the Club, and none of its acts shall conflict with the action taken by

the Club.

Section 9. When new officers are installed they will review all accounts with the previous officers.

ARTICLE VI Meetings

Section 1. The regular meetings of the club shall be held on the first Monday of each month starting at 7:00 PM. If the first Monday of the month falls on a holiday, the meeting shall be moved to the following Monday unless ordered by the club.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the President or by the Officers and shall be called upon the request of fifty-one percent of the members of the Club. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the call. At least three days notice shall be given to all Club members.

Section 3. Twenty percent or more members in good standing of the Club shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII General Rules

Section 1. The Club must approve all raffles, drawings, and or any other contest.

Section 2. The Club must approve any literature intended for the general public

Section 3. No Club member shall be paid for their labor or work unless specifically approved by the Club.

Section 4. No Club member shall provide a non club member with a list of club members without prior approval by the club.

Section 5. Expenditures in excess of \$500.00 shall be proposed at a regular Club meeting and shall be voted on for approval at the following regular Club meeting.

ARTICLE VIII Committees

Section 1. Any Special Events may be suggested at any regular club meeting. Some of these may include a site and date for Family Day, Annual Banquet, speakers, movies or other items of interest. These suggestions will be discussed at the meeting and if required a vote may be taken for approval.

Section 2. At the regular meeting in December suggestions are made for Club Tournament dates and sites. A committee shall be formed and this committee shall present to the club at the January meeting a schedule of events for the following year. This schedule will then need to be approved by the club members. These dates are to be published in the monthly

newsletter and will be discussed and approved at the regular meeting in January. In the event of unpredictable river conditions resulting in cancellation, the event will be postponed until the first weekend in December. In any scheduled monthly event you must have 5 boats in order to have a tournament. For the safety of club members 1 public landing on Pool 4 must be open to launch boats the day of the tournament. If any scheduled tournament is cancelled due to lack of boaters, the gift cards that were to be used for that tournament will be given the following month for the top 3 biggest fish.

ARTICLE IX

Parliamentary Authority

The rules in the current edition of ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER, NEWLY REVISED shall govern the Club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order of the Club may adopt.

ARTICLE X

Tournament Rules

Section 1. Refer to the Tournament Guidelines which are in effect for all tournaments, except the Family Day Tournament.

Section 2. Refer to Sponsored Tournament Events when Walleye Searchers Members are asked to participate in any tournament that is not scheduled by Walleye Searchers.

Section 3.

a. Walleye Searchers may elect to hold "Side Pot Tournaments " as NTC Qualifying events. These tournaments will be held in conjunction with the regular Walleye Searcher's tournament. Side -pot tournament rules are separate from Walleye Searcher's of MN club tournament guidelines.

b. NTC Qualifiers- Entry fees up to 1,000 dollars total will be paid by Walleye Searcher's fund , to be distributed equally amongst NTC invite teams that qualified through the regular club tournament system. These invites are appropriated by NTC/TWF office. No team shall receive more than said entry fee. Payment to teams will be distributed upon completion of qualified team(s) in NTC event.

ARTICLE XI

Election Ties

A coin toss will be used to resolve a tied election vote for the election of officers, in the event of a three way tie the coin toss would be an odd man out.

ARTICLE XII

Amendment of Bylaws

Changes to these Bylaws may be proposed and voted on at any regular club meetings. Results will be published in the next Club Newsletter. A quorum must be present and a

majority of that quorum must vote in favor of the proposed change(s) for approval. Any changes to the by-laws shall be put in writing and signed for approval by 12 members of the club. The by-law change shall be read at the monthly meeting, then reread and voted on at the following scheduled monthly meeting. The vote must pass by greater than 2/3 the members present.

ARTICLE XIII

Fair law

All rules have "Loopholes." It is the intention of the Club to provide an honest sportsman like Club. In the interest of good sportsmanship, members are reminded that the "Spirit of the Rule" will prevail in all judgment cases.