

# *The Atlanta Salt-Water Sportsman's Club*

## **BY-LAWS**

AMENDED OCTOBER 2022

### ARTICLE I

- Section 1. The name of this organization shall be “The Atlanta Salt-Water Sportsman’s Club, Inc.”, hereinafter referred to as “The Club.”
- Section 2. The purpose of The Club shall be:
- (a) To promote, encourage and participate in salt-water activities including fishing, diving, cruising and others.
  - (b) To meet with members on a regular basis, to research, discuss and exchange ideas on these activities.
  - (c) To promote family participation in the enjoyment of the salt-water environment.
  - (d) To promote and sponsor fishing tournaments and other related activities for club members.
  - (e) To promote safe boating practices and encourage affiliation with other organizations concerned with safe boating.
  - (f) To support and promote constructive conservation practices as it relates to the salt-water environment and encourage affiliation with groups and organizations with like concerns.
  - (g) To adhere to and abide by all rules, regulations and laws as they relate to salt-water activities in which we, The Club, participate.
- Section 3. The Atlanta Salt-Water Sportsman’s Club is organized and is to operate as a non-profit corporation, and it is intended that The Club will always qualify as an organization exempt from income tax.
- Section 4. The Seal of The Club shall be in such form and shall contain symbols and wording as the Executive Committee finds appropriate.
- Section 5. The Club shall maintain a registered address as required by stature, at which it will maintain a registered agent. The address and agent may be changed from time to time by the Executive Committee.
- Section 6. The fiscal year of The Club shall be from January 1 through December 31.
- Section 7. These Bylaws shall become effective upon The Club’s incorporation.

ARTICLE II  
OFFICERS

Section 1. PRESIDENT

The President shall serve for a term of one (1) year and may serve consecutive terms of one year. The outgoing president shall serve in a non-voting advisory capacity on the executive committee for a period of one (1) year. The President shall be responsible for the administration and general supervision of The Club's policies and programs. The President shall act as spokesman for The Club, shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee and general membership, and shall appoint committees as necessary and/or appropriate.

Section 2. VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice President shall serve for a term of one (1) year and may serve consecutive terms of one year. The Vice President shall be chairman of the Program Committee. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President.

Section 3. SECRETARY

The Secretary shall serve for one (1) year and may serve consecutive terms of one (1) year. The Secretary shall attend all general and Executive Committee meetings and keep accurate minutes of these proceedings. The Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining records, an accurate membership list, and shall conduct the official correspondence of The Club.

Section 4. TREASURER

The Treasurer shall serve for one (1) year and may serve consecutive terms of one year. The Treasurer will maintain an accurate account of all monies received and spent during the year. Upon request, a Treasurer's report will be available for all Executive Committee meetings and general membership meetings. The Treasurer shall be responsible for filing all required tax forms. The Treasurer will have one of two signature responsibilities for all checks drawn on or withdrawals made from The Club's bank account.

Section 5. TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

The Tournament Committee Chairman shall serve for one (1) year and not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms of one (1) year each. The Tournament Committee Chairman shall be responsible for the Tournament Committee and the administration and general supervision of The Club's tournament activities.

Section 6. COMPENSATION

Members of the Executive Committee shall not receive any compensation for their service, but may be entitled to reimbursement of reasonable and necessary expenses incurred as an officer of The Club.

Section 7. EXTENDED SERVICE

All members of the Executive Committee will be eligible to serve on the Tournament Committee either as an elected member or an appointed member at the end of their term as an officer of The Club.

ARTICLE III

Section 1. ACTIVE MEMBERS

Any individual/family with an interest in the salt water environment may become a member of The Club by presenting a completed application for membership which contains an agreement to adopt the By Laws and comply with the rules and regulations of The Club, and by paying the dues.

(a) Once a minor within a family reaches the age of 21 it is required that he/she become a member in his/her own right.

Section 2. HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

An honorary membership may be extended to any person or organization who, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, has contributed significantly to the purpose and objectives of The Club.

(a) Honorary members may only be selected by the Executive Committee.

(b) The duration of honorary memberships will be for life unless otherwise determined by the Executive Committee.

(c) Honorary members will not be permitted to vote on The Club issues.

(d) Tournament entry fees for honorary members shall be the same as for the general membership.

Section 3. LIFE MEMBERS

Any person who has been an active and contributing member of The Club for a total of twenty (20) consecutive years shall be eligible for Life Member status. In addition, any active member may purchase a lifetime membership. The cost shall be determined by the Executive Committee but shall not be less than twelve (12) years dues at the prevailing rate.

(a) Life members are exempt from annual dues.

(b) Tournament entry fees for life members shall be the same as for the general membership.

ARTICLE IV  
COMMITTEES

Section 1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The general management and control of affairs, funds, and property of The Club shall be vested in the Executive Committee which shall be elected and consist of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Tournament Committee Chairman.

Section 2. TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

In addition to the elected tournament committee chairman the tournament committee shall consist of eight (8) members who are not officers as elected by the membership. Four (4) members shall be appointed by the outgoing President. Four (4) members shall be nominated and voted upon by the membership. Tournament committee members shall serve a term of one (1) year.

(a) Tournament Committee Duties

1. The Tournament Committee shall organize, promote, and manage any and all tournaments.

2. The Tournament Committee will be responsible for site selection of the tournaments and for securing information regarding accommodations for boats, lodging, and facilities for bait, tackle, and licenses.

3. The Tournament Committee shall be responsible for ordering and transporting tee-shirts, award plaques, tally board, Captains' Party and Awards Dinner for each tournament, with input from the Treasurer.

4. The Tournament Committee may delegate its duties to non tournament committee members to maximize talents but the final decision regarding any tournament activities shall be the responsibility of the Tournament Committee.

5. The Tournament Committee will determine all tournament winners.
6. Any tournament may be cancelled by 2/3 vote of the Tournament Committee. Full disclosure shall be made to the general membership by the Tournament Committee Chairman.

Section 3. RULES COMMITTEE

Active and knowledgeable club volunteers shall be selected by the Executive Committee to serve on the rules committee on an as needed basis. The rules committee shall determine their own Chairman, subject to Executive Committee approval.

(a) Rules Committee Duties

- 1) Recommend rules in addition to tournament rules as they pertain to club functions. Implement those rules approved by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V  
MEMBERSHIP DUES

Section 1. Membership dues shall be paid annually and be payable on or before March 1<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year. A \$10.00 late fee will be assessed on All renewals received after March 1<sup>st</sup>. New members joining The Club after July 1<sup>st</sup> but prior to October 1<sup>st</sup> will pay 2/3 of the annual dues in effect at that time. New members joining after October 1<sup>st</sup> will pay the annual rate in effect for the upcoming year and will be paid through the upcoming year.

Section 2. The amount of the yearly dues shall be determined by the Executive Committee with responsibility to advise the general membership accordingly. The annual dues must be determined by September 15<sup>th</sup> or the prevailing dues will be carried forward for the upcoming year.

ARTICLE VI  
EXPULSION/SUSPENSION

Section 1. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Any member guilty of conduct not in the best interest of The Club as determined by the Executive Committee or any member not paying his dues within sixty days following the start of a fiscal year shall be removed from the membership roll. Any member removed solely for non-payment of dues may be reinstated upon payment of full membership dues plus a \$10.00 late payment penalty, as applicable. Any member removed by the Executive Committee for conduct not in the best interest of The Club may be reinstated, upon majority vote of the Executive Committee, plus payment of full dues and a \$10.00 late payment penalty.

Section 2. RESIGNATION

Any member may resign at any time. No reimbursement of dues for the remainder of any fiscal year shall be made upon such resignation.

ARTICLE VII  
MEETINGS OF MEMBERS AND VOTING

Section 1. MONTHLY MEETINGS

There shall be one (1) regular meeting per month.

Section 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings of the general membership may be called by the President with no less than fourteen (14) days notice.

Section 3. QUORUM

The presence of any combination of 20% of active or life members of The Club at any meeting shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A quorum may be counted by use of electronic attendance: by electronic conferencing or by email. Voting may be in person or by email at the direction of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. VOTING

Each membership, comprised of all the immediate members of a family or a single individual, shall be entitled to one (1) vote in deciding issues that may arise from time to time. (Reference Article III).

Section 5. ORDER

All Club meetings shall be conducted in accordance with "Roberts Rules of Order", latest edition.

ARTICLE VIII  
ELECTIONS

Section 1. NOMINATIONS

Thirty (30) days prior to the October meeting, the President shall appoint from the general membership, a nominating committee consisting of not less than five (5) members in good standing. The nominating committee will present nominations to fill vacancies on the Executive and Tournament Committees. Nominations will be received from the floor during the regular October meeting.

Section 2. BALLOTS/VOTING

The names submitted by the nominating committee and received from the floor shall be placed on the ballot. The ballots will be mailed to the membership no later than October 31<sup>st</sup>. All ballots must be returned to the Executive Committee by November 15<sup>th</sup>. The ballots will be tallied by the Executive Committee and the results will be given to the President who will then announce the results at the December general meeting or the December Christmas Party.

Section 3. RESULTS

Majority vote will elect the officers and committee members. Those elected officers shall assume their positions at the time of the announcement.

ARTICLE IX

Section 1. INDEMNIFICATION

The Atlanta Salt Water Sportsman's Club shall indemnify any officer of The Club and members of the Executive Committee from liability which may be imposed by any court of final jurisdiction for any and all reasonable actions done in good faith in the performance of their duties. No indemnification shall be made by reason of any compromise settlement before, during, or after trial unless such settlement is approved in advance by the Executive Committee of The Club. The indemnification provided above shall also include reasonable legal fees provided the Executive Committee shall be the judge of the reasonableness of such fees.

ARTICLE X

Section 1. DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS AFTER TERMINATION

No member of The Atlanta Salt-Water Sportsman's Club shall have, as an individual, any interest in or title to the assets of The Club and such assets shall be devoted exclusively to the purposes of The Club.

In the event of the dissolution or other termination of The Club, all assets then belonging to The Club will be liquidated, then donated to a non-profit conservation group.

ARTICLE XI

AMENDMENTS AND BYLAWS CHANGES

Section 1. AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws or any Section hereof may be altered or amended by majority vote of the membership at any regular or special meeting of The Club. Proposed revisions will be communicated to the general membership at least ten (10) days before the next meeting, at which such revisions will be voted on.

Section 2. APPROVAL

The decision of the Executive Committee shall be final upon all questions and interpretations of the Bylaws.



## AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

### ARTICLE II

#### Section 1. PRESIDENT

The President shall serve for a term of one (1) year. No person shall be eligible to succeed himself or herself as President of The Club. The President shall be responsible for the administration and general supervision of The Club's policies and programs. The President shall act as spokesman for The Club, shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee and general membership and shall appoint committees as necessary and/or appropriate.

#### AMENDMENT

#### Section 1. PRESIDENT

The President shall serve for a term of one (1) year. No person shall be eligible to succeed himself or herself as President of The Club, OR IN ANY OTHER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE POSITION, EXCEPT THAT THE OUT-GOING PRESIDENT SHALL SERVE IN A NON-VOTING ADVISORY CAPACITY ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) YEAR. The President shall be responsible for the administration and general supervision of The Club's policies and programs. The President shall act as the spokesman for The Club, shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee and general membership, and shall appoint committees as necessary and/or appropriate.

#### AMENDMENT 8/2007

#### Section 1. PRESIDENT

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Amendment 8/2007 approved by a hand vote of a quorum of membership at the August 2007 meeting.

## AMENDMENTS 10/2022

### Article II Section 1. PRESIDENT

**The President shall serve for a term of one (1) year and may serve consecutive terms of one year.** The outgoing president shall serve in a non-voting advisory capacity on the executive committee for a period of one (1) year. The President shall be responsible for the administration and general supervision of The Club's policies and programs. The President shall act as spokesman for The Club, shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee and general membership, and shall appoint committees as necessary and/or appropriate.

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### Article VII Section 3. QUORUM

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Amendments 10/2022 approved by a hand vote of a quorum of membership at the October 2022 meeting.