

CONSTITUTION OF THE ARKANSAS OUTDOOR PHOTOGRAPHERS CLUB

Adopted May 26, 1998

ARTICLE I – NAME

The organization shall be known as the Arkansas Outdoor Photographers Club and may be abbreviated as AOPC. It shall be a non-profit organization established and existing for the purposes identified in Article II herein.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE OF ORGANIZATION

The primary purposes of the organization are:

- (a) To promote the exchange of information regarding outdoor, nature, wildlife and travel photography;
- (b) To provide a social forum for all those interested in outdoor, nature, wildlife and travel photography;
- (c) To develop and promote educational programs related to photographic techniques, conservation, preservation and protection of all the natural world;
- (d) To make available upon request members who specialize in particular areas of outdoor, nature, wildlife and travel photography for consulting purposes within the membership; and,
- (e) To promote outdoor, nature, wildlife and travel photography to the public at large.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Membership to the AOPC shall be open to any individual who possesses a sincere interest in outdoor, nature, wildlife or travel photography. Membership application forms shall be formulated and provided by the Executive Board to any individual interested in becoming a member and meeting the membership criteria.

Annual membership dues will be set by Executive Board based on the following classes of membership:

- (a) Individual Membership. This membership is open to any individual sixteen years of age and older. Each member of this class shall have one vote on all issues that come before the membership.
- (b) Family Membership. This membership is available to family members living in the same household and is meant to avoid each individual family member having to pay a separate membership fee. Each family member sixteen years of age and older shall have one vote on all issues that come before the membership.

Membership dues will be due from existing members no later than the close of the February membership meeting. The failure of existing members to pay dues by that time shall result in suspension of all rights of membership until such time as dues are paid. Annual dues for new members will be due by the close of the second meeting in which they appear as a guest. There will be no proration of dues except for new members joining after June 30 in which case they will pay one-half regular dues for the applicable membership class to which they are accepted.

Membership of any person may be suspended, when sufficient reason exists, by action of the Executive Board. The suspended member shall have the right to appeal suspension, in which case the action of the Executive Board shall be upheld or rescinded by a majority vote taken at a membership meeting.

ARTICLE IV – EXECUTIVE BOARD

The management of the organization, including matters of finance as provided for by the Article I of the By-Laws, shall be directed by an Executive Board composed of the elected Officers (Article 5), the chair of the standing committees (Article VI), and the Past President ex-officio. The Executive Board shall meet as often as necessary to transact the business of the organization.

Four members of the Executive Board will constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS

The following officers shall be elected by the membership: (1) President, (2) Vice President, (3) Secretary, and (4) Treasurer.

ARTICLE VI – COMMITTEES

The following standing committees shall be established to conduct organization activities as provided for in Article 4 of the By-Laws: (1) Programs and Events, (2) Activities and Field Trips, (3) Special Projects, and (4) Newsletter and Communications.

Temporary ad hoc committees may be established by the Executive Board from time to time as may be needed and such committees will be dissolved after their purpose has been completed.

ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS

The Executive Board shall establish the time, date and location of meetings of the organization and announce such information in the organization's newsletter. All official business of the organization shall be conducted in accordance with the *Modern Edition* of Robert's Rules of Order except as may be inconsistent with this Constitution, the organization's By-Laws, any amendments thereto, or any special rules of order adopted by the organization. It will be the responsibility of any member challenging procedure to have in possession a copy of the *Modern Edition* of Robert's Rules of Order and to point out the proper procedure at the time of the challenge. Otherwise, the interpretation of the President, or in his absence, the Vice President will stand on the challenged issue.

A Quorum for the purpose of conducting organization business shall consist of not less than one-third of the entire membership.

ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed by any member to the Executive Board and, if approved by the Board, may be presented to the membership and incorporated into this Constitution if approved by a two-thirds majority at a membership meeting. The Executive Board shall provide notice to the members of any proposed amendment to the Constitution by publication of such proposal in the organization's newsletter. Written proxy votes will be accepted for members who will not be in attendance at the meeting but must be received prior to the vote being taken.

Amendments to the By-Laws of this Constitution may be proposed by a member to the Executive Board and, if approved, shall become a part of the By-Laws if approved by a majority vote at a membership meeting.

This Constitution and any By-Laws will automatically amend to conform with any Federal, State or Local law.