

Sea Island Fly Fishers

By-Laws

Adopted July 14, 2025

ARTICLE I – General

Section 1. This organization shall be known as the Sea Island Fly Fishers (hereinafter called “Club”) based in Beaufort, South Carolina.

Section 2. This organization shall be operated as a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of South Carolina.

ARTICLE II – Aims and Purposes

Section 1. To promote the sport of fly fishing in the greater Beaufort County area.

Section 2. To promote good fellowship, heighten knowledge of our fisheries, and work for the maintenance and improvement of water quality in our local streams, rivers, lakes, and estuaries by public education and by active participation in water conservation and fishery management programs.

Section 3. To conduct ourselves on and off the water by high ethical standards consistent with current regulations, environmental awareness and through the practice of catch and release.

Section 4. To give our support to constructive efforts of the State Department of Natural Resources and other appropriate County, State, and Federal agencies.

Section 5. To be vigilant and detect possible violations of existing environmental regulatory standards by either industry or private parties and to call the alleged violation to the attention of the appropriate governmental body.

ARTICLE III – Membership

Section 1. Membership

Regular Membership.

There is no precondition for membership. Membership will be open to all applicants without discrimination as to gender, race, religion, color, ethnic culture, or national heritage. A candidate for Regular Membership must complete a membership application/survey and pay the current dues. As used in these By-Laws, a “Regular Member” is one who has no indebtedness to the Club for any dues or other monetary obligations.

Honorary, Lifetime, and Associate Membership.

The Executive Committee may nominate for approval by the majority of the members in attendance at a regularly scheduled meeting or by electronic means, honorary membership, life membership, and associate membership. Ten percent (10%) of the voting Club Membership present in person or participating by electronic or virtual means shall be counted for purposes of a quorum.

Section 2. Dues

Annual dues will be established by a vote of 2/3 of the membership in attendance at a meeting upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee. Annual dues are payable each year prior to the end of January.

Membership renewal or new member dues paid in the month of November and December will be credited for payment of the coming year.

A candidate will be charged half the current dues assessment if they are admitted to the membership between July 1st and October 31st of the calendar year.

Article IV – Board of Directors

Section 1. Powers

The management and control of all affairs, property and functions of the Club shall be vested in the Board of Directors consisting of up to eight Members in good standing. The Board (hereinafter the “Board”) shall have full and sole power and authority to interpret these By-Laws and the Club Rules and each and every one of them, and its decision on all such questions shall be final, binding, and conclusive.

Section 2. Term of Officers

The term of office of each Member shall be for two years. There shall be two classes of up to four Members each with a new class elected each year. Terms begin on January 1st of each year and expire on December 31st of each year.

Section 3. Vacancies

The President may appoint, subject to the approval of the Board, a Regular Member of the Club to fill a vacancy on the Board for the balance of the term created by the vacancy. The appointee may be elected to a full term at the termination of his/her appointment consistent with the requirements of Article IV

Section 4. Election and Appointment of Officers

(a) All members of the Board of Directors shall be elected by the Club’s general membership in a formal business meeting or by electronic means. Ten percent (10%) of the voting Club Membership present in person or participating by electronic or virtual means shall be counted for purposes of a quorum.

(b) The officers of the Club shall be a President, a Vice President, a Treasurer, and a Secretary who shall be selected by the Board from Members of the Board. Elections shall be held at the January Board meeting.

Article V – Executive Committee

Section 1. Formation and Powers

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and may include the Program Committee, and Social Committee Chairpersons, as well as the immediate Past-President. The Executive Committee shall have the powers of the Board in the management affairs of the Club when the Board is not in session, subject to such limitations and restrictions as may be imposed from time to time by a majority of the Board. With regards to the immediate Past-President, he/she serves on the Executive Committee for a one-year term immediately following his/her last year in office. The Executive Committee will recommend a budget, which will be voted on by the membership at the February meeting. The Executive Committee can authorize spending up to \$750 in unbudgeted funds without membership approval. Budgeted funds will consist of primarily of speaker fees (to include limited travel/lodging expenses for speakers outside of the local area), refreshments/food expenses for meetings, and supplies for the fly-tying box, tournaments, and the Club Christmas party.

Section 2. Powers and Duties.

PRESIDENT

Presides at meetings of the Club and the Executive Committee and has general charge of the Club affairs. Appoints all Committee Chairs and the Club Ghillie and sees that orders and resolutions of this Executive Committee or Club Membership are carried out. Is authorized, but not required as a signatory for all the checks and promissory notes. The President is an ex officio member of all Committees.

The President can authorize the spending of up to \$500.00 in unbudgeted funds without membership/Executive Committee approval.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Acts in place of the President in his/her absence and performs other duties as designated by the President. The Vice-President is and ex officio member of all Committees.

SECRETARY

The Secretary shall keep regular meeting and Executive Committee minutes. The Secretary maintains all non-fiscal Club records. The Secretary or designate serves as the Public Relations Office of the Club and places announcements of Club meetings and activities in a timely fashion in traditional media. The Secretary is the official correspondent of the Club. The Secretary shall be listed with the South Carolina Secretary of State as the corporate agent of the Sea Island Fly Fishers, Inc.

The office of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined if agreeable with the nominee.

TREASURER

The Treasurer shall receive and deposit in appropriate bank accounts all monies of the Club and disburse such funds as directed by Presidential authority or resolutions of the Executive committee. Shall sign all checks and promissory notes of the Club. Shall keep proper books of the account and is responsible for billing and collection of dues.

Shall prepare a Treasurers report for each regularly scheduled meeting and at other times if the President or Executive Committee so requests. The Report may be oral or as requested by the President or Executive Committee.

Shall participate in a financial review of records of the Club every other year, or when the Treasurer changes, by a member at large.

Section 3. Meetings. Regular meetings of the Board shall be held monthly at a specified location, including on a virtual platform, on a date designated by the President. Subject to approval of the Board, the President may suspend meetings when the Club is not in regular operation.

Section 4. Quorum. Four members of the Board present constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings of the Board.

Section 5. Term of Office

The term of office for the above listed officers of the Club shall be for a period of two years. Elections shall be held at the December membership meeting or electronically during the month of December. New officers take office on January 1st of alternate years.

Section 6. Nominating Committee

A Nominating Committee of not less than two members will be appointed by the President on or about the October Meeting. The Nominating Committee will report its recommendations at the November meeting.

ARTICLE VI – Standing Committees

Section 1. Formation. There shall be four standing committees known as the Membership Committee, Communications Committee, Education Committee, and Activity Committee. The President shall appoint the Chair of each Committee from the Board. Each Committee Chair may appoint one or more members of the club to the Committee as the Chair deems necessary.

Section 2. Powers and Duties. The Standing Committees shall act with oversight responsibilities in a consultative and collaborative manner with the Board. The Standing Committees shall have the following powers and shall perform the following duties, subject to approval of the Board.

1. Membership Committee: Will accept and review membership applications to insure the collection of relevant material. Working with the Treasurer, will verify annual membership dues are paid/current. Will maintain the Club roster, send written or digital correspondence welcoming new

members, and respond to membership related questions. Will maintain the membership meeting name tags.

2. Communications Committee: Will be responsible for e-mail system message creation and transmission. Will have oversight responsibility for the Club website and social media presence. Will provide I.T. support as required (e.g. event registrations, electronic elections, etc).

3. Education Committee: Will have responsibilities for the development, coordination, promotion, and implementation of educational programs and events to enhance the skill levels of existing and potential Club members in the arts and crafts of fly fishing. The Committee may establish subcommittees as necessary to address specific issues within its scope of responsibilities (e.g. Fly Casting, Fly Tying).

4. Activity Committee: Will be responsible for Club social activities and events including, but not limited to, engagement of speakers for monthly membership meetings, development and coordination of Club tournaments, coordination and planning of remote and local fishing trips, and coordinating group tours of sites relevant to our fisheries.

Section 3. The Board President in consultation with the Board may establish any committee in addition to the Standing Committees and may abolish any committee other than the Standing Committees as deemed appropriate for the interests and activities of the Club.

ARTICLE VII – By Laws Revision

Section 1. The affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Board may alter, amend, or repeal the By-Laws, subject to the conditions and regulations set forth in these By-Laws.

ARTICLE VIII – Dissolution

Section 1. An affirmative vote obtained by written ballot or electronic voting of two-thirds of all Regular Members will be required to authorize the dissolution of the Club.

ARTICLE IX

Roberts Rules of Order are adopted for the conduct of meetings of the membership and the Executive Committee. Procedures not covered by these By-Laws shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order.