

# **GREENWAY-VERONA MILLS FISH & GAME CLUB INC.**

## **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

September 1991  
Amended July 1996  
Amended June 2000  
Amended May 2003  
Amended April 2005  
Amended December 2009

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### **ARTICLE I**

**NAME:** The name of the club shall be the Greenway - Verona Mills Fish & Game Club Inc.

### **ARTICLE II**

**OBJECTIVE:** This organization is formed for the purpose of encouraging good wildlife management and conservation in our area and to further an amicable relationship between land owners and sportsmen; to promote safe and efficient use of firearms; to promote conservation education; to promote the proper respect for fish and game laws and so far as possible spread knowledge of useful wildlife and conservation practices among the population at large.

The club shall operate without profit, shall be non-partisan, and non-sectarian.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **MEMBERSHIP:**

**SECTION I.** Any citizen of the United States having reached his 18 birthday, of suitable character and interest is eligible for membership in this organization. Any citizen 17 or under may become a junior member and shall enjoy all privileges except holding an office or voting.

#### **SECTION II. INITIATION FEES & DUES:**

A- All dues, initiation fee, and life membership shall be reviewed at least annually by the board of directors and if changes are necessary they will be brought before the membership for a vote. The officers of the club shall be granted the year's dues free and any president serving 2 consecutive years be granted life membership.

B- JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP: The annual dues are reviewed by the board of directors for junior members age 17 and under. At age 18 a junior member becomes an associate member and his name goes to the top of the waiting list. He will pay the regular dues but WILL NOT BE REQUIRED TO PAY THE initiation fee.

C- ALL NEW MEMBERS paying dues and initiation fee after 12/31 will not be responsible for dues the following year.

**SECTION IV:** There shall be a maximum of 250 paid active members, plus Landowners and Honorary Life members are not included in the above number.

**SECTION V:** Honorary Life Members:

- (1) Members age 70 with 5 years as an active member of the Club.
- (2) Exceptional performance within the club (voted on by membership).
- (3) 60% disability or more.

**SECTION VI:** Lapses In Membership

A- In the event that any member is drafted into the armed services or enlists and is serving on active duty, his place will be kept open in the club until his return. No dues will be asked while the member is in the service of his country, providing they notify the club in writing. This member will have one year after his return to contact the club for reinstatement.

B- In the event that finds it necessary to leave the area for a period of time, due to circumstances beyond their control, but expects eventually to return to the area at some future date and wishes to preserve their membership in the club without penalty; a request for a leave of absence must be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors for approval. Upon such approval the member will be placed on inactive status and will owe no annual dues. Upon return to the area the member will have up to one year to notify the Board of Directors of his return for reinstatement. No initiation fee will be charged.

C- In the event any member drops out of the club for a period of time or fails to renew his annual membership within the prescribed grace period, an initiation fee will be charged for reinstatement. (Re:Article IV, Section VII)

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **MANAGEMENT:**

#### **SECTION I: BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Overall management of the club shall be the responsibility of the Board of Directors.

1 - The Board of Directors shall have the duty to manage the affairs of the club and to make all contracts necessary for the proper transactions of all business. They shall have responsibility for all matters pertaining to the care, conduct, control, supervision and management of the club and its finances.

2 - It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to prescribe and publish rules regulating the use and occupancy, care and protection of club property.

3 - The Board of Directors shall have veto power over issues voted upon at a regular meeting. This power may be exercised by a majority of the Board members present at the meeting.

4 - The Board of Directors shall, by the annual meeting, assess the number of club activities, capital improvements, or repairs to club facilities required, and levy upon the general membership a proportional amount of club participation required of each member to accomplish the designated

club activities. Member participation may be in the form of donated labor, and/or materials, and/or club services, and/or a monetary assessment in lieu thereof. Club officers, members of the board of directors, and designated activities chairmen shall be considered as participating in club activities for this purpose. The fulfillment of this obligation shall be performed during the fiscal year of the assessment.

5 - It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to recommend a budget for approval by the members at the January meeting. A proposed budget will be drafted by the Treasurer and presented at the board meeting preceding the January regular meeting.

**SECTION II:** The Board of Directors shall meet for the transaction of business whenever necessary, but no less than three times a year.

**SECTION III:** The Board of Directors will consist of five officers of the club and four additional members elected from the floor. The elected members will serve two year terms staggered such that two new members will be elected each year. Elected members may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms. The past president shall serve a one year term on the Board of Directors immediately following his term as president.

**SECTION IV:** The Greenway-Verona Mills Fish & Game Club Inc. shall have as officers a President, Vice President, Secretary, Publication Secretary, Treasurer as well as four (4) Directors who will be nominated and elected from the floor at a regular meeting in February. The elected officers will assume their duties at the first regular meeting following the election. Regular meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of each month in such a place as the president prescribes. No member shall hold office unless he has attended at least six (6) meetings the previous year, unless approved by the Board of Directors.

**SECTION V:** The duties of the officers. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the club and to serve spokesman for the club. The president's term of office will be limited to two consecutive years. There are no restrictions on the amount of terms a member may serve as president in conjunction with this stipulation. The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of officers not later than the November meeting and each monthly meeting thereafter.

It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to carry on the business of the club in the absence of the President.

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to oversee membership in conjunction with the Treasurer, and to carry on the correspondence of the club and to keep the minutes of all meetings.

It shall be the duty of the Publications Secretary to oversee publication of the monthly newsletter, to perform the duties of the Secretary in his absence, and to assist the Secretary and Treasurer in the membership process as needed.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to handle the banking of all money, records, all income and disbursements and to report at all monthly meetings.

The Board of Directors will act as an intervening body to keep watch over club proceedings.

**SECTION VI:** Vacancies in office shall be filled by nomination and election at the next meeting

after the vacancies occur.

**SECTION VII:** The club dues are due by the March meeting. If dues are not paid by the March meeting, there is a thirty (30) day grace period, after which anyone not paid will be dropped from the roles.

**SECTION VIII:** In the event there is an emergency need for funds, the Board of Directors may make an assessment of all members (excluding landowners).

**SECTION IX:** All checks must be signed by the Treasurer and counter signed by another officer. At such time as this organization shall be dissolved, any remaining assets shall be donated to the NYS Conservation Dept.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **LANDOWNERS:**

**SECTION I:** Landowner members will be considered for a landowner's membership at the discretion of the Board of Directors. They will be issued a membership card, button and courtesy cards to be used at their own discretion.

**SECTION II:** All land owner members can deny access on their land to anyone, member or non-member.

**SECTION III:** Landowner members will be supplied with a current list of officers and also a current copy of the By-Law annually.

## **ARTICLE VI**

**SECTION I:** It will be necessary for any member utilizing landowner member lands to contact the landowner and to have in his possession a membership card issued by Greenway-Verona Mills Fish & Game Club for the current year. Our Game Club Button must be displayed on outside clothing and Club provided vehicle card with signature of a club officer displayed in the windshield of member vehicle.

**SECTION II:** It shall be the privilege and duty of all members, when they meet strangers on club posted property, to request from them in a polite manner, proof that they have a right to trespass. It shall also be the duty of all members to take the license number of all trespassers or other unauthorized persons and to turn this information over to a conservation officer to be dealt with accordingly.

**SECTION III:** Deleted

**SECTION IV:** No member of the club shall give to any person permission to hunt or fish on any landowner member land he does not personally own. Guest permission is only obtainable from the landowner member. No club member shall take or transport from the club or landowner member property any illegal game of any kind and is obliged to report any such activity he or she is aware of

to the proper authority.

## **ARTICLE VII**

**SECTION I:** Any member of the club may be dismissed for violation of the By-Laws of the club, or if his company becomes of objectionable nature to the other members. Upon complaint of any member to the President or other officer, the accused member shall be notified of the charge, and then shall be allowed to speak in his own defense at the next monthly meeting of the club, or at a meeting of the Board of Directors. A majority of the members present has the authority to expel any member of the club, should the offense be deemed sufficiently serious to warrant dismissal.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

**SECTION I:** If it is deemed necessary to amend the Constitution and By-Laws of the club all members will be notified by the Secretary of the date, time and place of the meeting. Before a By-Law can be added or amended, a two-thirds vote in favor must be cast by the members present.

## **ARTICLE IX**

**SECTION I:** The clubhouse will be open to outside activities at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **PROPERTIES:**

**SECTION I:** The club shall not be responsible for any personal property of any member, friend, or guests of members on club property. All vehicles entering the property of the club shall do so at the owners risk. All vehicles shall be parked in the area designated for this purpose.

**SECTION II:** It shall be the duty of the members of this club and their guests to clean and maintain the property in good condition upon leaving the club grounds.

Last Amendment: July 1996; Article III, Section VI.

Last Amendment: June 2000; Article V, Section III  
Article VI, Sections I, III, and IV

Last Amendment: May 2003; Article IV, Section V

Last Amendment: April 2005; Article III, Section VI; A

Last Amendment: December 2009; Article III, Section II; D  
Article III, Section IV

12/9/2009