

## By-Laws

## Of

## Fox Valley Muzzle Loaders

Revised April 3, 2014

## **ARTICLE I - NAME**

This club shall be known as FOX VALLEY MUZZLE LOADERS, INC.

## **ARTICLE II- TYPE OF CLUB**

**Section 1.** This club shall at all times, at all functions, use only Flint Lock or Percussion fire arms of a Muzzle Loading Type.

**Section 2.** No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles. The corporation shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation contributions to which are deductible under section 170 (c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

**Section 3.** Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of the assets of the corporation in such manner or to such manner or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purpose as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of by the County Court in which the principle office of the corporation is located exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations as said Court shall determine which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

### ARTICLE III - REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

**Section 1.** This club shall be composed of Adults Eighteen (18) years of age or older, of any race, color, or creed.

\* **Section 2.** All members of the above named organization shall be members in good standing of the Wisconsin Muzzle Loaders Association (WMLA), the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association(NMLRA) or the National Rifle Association(NRA). *revised April 2014*

**Section 3.** All applicants for membership or re-instatement to membership shall be recommended by a member in good standing or if unknown, by anyone; the President shall appoint a regular member to act as their sponsor and advisor. All applicants shall appear in person at a regular monthly meeting to apply for membership. All such applicants upon filing an application with the Club Secretary, payment of one year's dues, and any special assessments, will be classified as an "Associate Member" for a period of one year, with all rights and obligations of a regular member with the exception of voting, hunting, and holding office. At the first regular meeting after an associate member has completed his/her first year, a vote by written ballot will be taken to decide their acceptance or rejection for regular membership. Associate members in attendance at meetings which their regular membership is voted upon will be required to leave the premises during which time discussion and vote is taken. Within five days of this meeting the Club Secretary will inform the candidate by letter of their acceptance or rejection.

A spouse (as defined by Wisconsin law) of an active regular member is entitled to all rights and obligations of membership by applying for membership and paying the spousal annual dues as determined by Article VI, Section 1.

Children of regular members will be exempt from the associate member status if they apply for membership during the year of their eighteenth birthday\* and are accepted by a vote of the membership at a regular meeting.

\*This time limit may be extended to age 23 if the individual has been involved in further education and or military service.

### ARTICLE IV - LOCATION AND TIME OF CLUB MEETINGS

**Section 1.** The headquarters of this club shall be the residence of the President of the club. Subsequent meeting place for the club shall be determined at each meeting.

**Section2.** Regular meetings shall be designated by the Officers of the club. Time of subsequent meeting to be determined at each meeting.

**Section 3.** Special meetings may be called by the President only. Any member desiring a special meeting must contact the President stating the nature of the business to be transacted. It shall be at the discretion of the President whether a special meeting is warranted. In the event a special meeting is called, the President shall give forty-eight (48) hours advance notice at date, time, and place.

**Section 4.** All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.



## **ARTICLE V- QUORUM**

**Section 1.** A Quorum shall consist of Twenty -Five (25) percent of the members in good standing on date of meeting.

**Section 2.** No business shall be transacted at a regular, or special meeting, without a Quorum present

**Section 3.** For approval or rejection of motions a majority of Quorum shall decide the Issue

## **ARTICLE VI- FEES AND DUES**

**Section 1.** Annual Dues for regular and spousal membership shall be set at the Oct. Meeting for the coming year, payable on or before first regular meeting in January of the year due. No demand for payment of dues or notice of delinquency is required. Each member shall be responsible for payment of his own dues to the treasurer of the club.

**Section 2.** Each member is liable for any special assessments that may occur. Said special assessments may be declared by the Board of Directors but must be voted on by the membership at the next meeting.

## **ARTICLE VII – SUSPENSION AND RE-STATEMENT**

**Section 1.** A member who fails to pay his dues within the time limits specified in ARTICLE VI Section 2, is automatically suspended as of the end of the first regular meeting January unless a grace period is granted by the Board of Directors. He suspension shall be promptly entered in the club records.

**Section 2.** A member suspended for non-payment of dues may be re-installed within that calendar year by paying the initiation fee and all unpaid dues and special assessments for that calendar year.

**Section 3.** Any member may be suspended or expelled from membership by a majority vote of the members of the Board of Directors present at any regular or special meeting, for any cause deemed sufficient by the Board of Directors of the Fox Valley Muzzle Loaders provided that such member and all Directors shall have been served with written notice of the accusations against him, and of the time and place of the meeting at which such member shall be given the opportunity to be heard. Such notice shall be served at least fifteen (15) days prior to the time of the meeting. Such member may appeal the decision of the Board of Directors by requesting a vote by the membership to overturn that decision at the next regular meeting. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present is required to overturn the Board's decision.

**Section 4.** Any regular member whose membership has lapsed for a period of one year or more will be considered a new applicant for membership.

## **ARTICLE VIII – ELECTION OF OFFICERS – DUTIES**

**Section 1.** Officers shall be nominated, and elections held at the last regular meeting of the calendar for that term of office.

**Section 2.** Nominations of candidates shall be made by a nominating committee consisting to two members in good standing, appointed by the President. No member may be nominated without his permission. Nominations may also be made from the floor. Voting shall be by ballot. A majority of a Quorum is necessary for election.

**Section 3.** The Officers of the club shall consist of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Range Officer, and one Assistant Range Officer. It is here stated within that the Past President must serve on the Board of Directors for a period of two (2) years in the capacity of Consultant Officer in order that unfinished business and other transactions may be followed through more clearly.

**Section 4.** The term of office shall be staggered to ensure a more orderly transition after election. This shall be accomplished in the following manner. Following the election to be held in December 1992 the term of office for the Vice President and the Treasurer shall be one (1) year. Every term after that shall be two (2) years. Elections for President, Secretary, Range Officer, and Assistant Range Officer shall be held in December of even years. Elections for Vice President and Treasurer shall be held in December of odd years. Any office vacated during term shall be filled by presidential appointment.

## **ARTICLE IX – DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

**Section 1.** President – The President shall preside at all regular and special meetings. He shall interpret the by-laws and settle disputes between members. His decisions shall stand until reversed by appeal to the body of the club at a regular meeting.

**Section 2.** Vice President – The Vice President shall assist the President in any way directed and shall preside in the event the President is absent, and shall be responsible for all club properties except the range proper.

**Section 3.** Secretary -- The Secretary shall be responsible for sending information of Matches and Meetings to the editor of the Muzzle Blasts Magazine. He shall keep the minutes of the meetings and conduct all correspondence for the club

**Section 4.** Treasurer — The Treasurer shall keep all legal and financial record and papers pertaining to the club, and pay reasonable and proper outstanding accounts.



**Section 5. Range Officer** — The Range Officer is in charge of all shooting matches and the range proper. He has the authority to inspect any or all guns at a shooting match. Guns must be surrendered to him upon his request. In the event the Range Officer or Assistant Range Officer is unable to supervise a match, he shall appoint a substitute. His instructions must be promptly complied with in every case. After all matches the Range Officer will report on scores and winners at the following regular meeting. He shall give suggestions as to improvements of range facilities or any other suggestions he deems necessary.

**Section 6. Assistant Range Officer** — The Assistant Range Officer shall assist the Range Officer in any way directed and shall carry out the duties of the Range Officer in the absence of the Range Officer.

**Section 7. Succession of Office** — Each Officer shall deliver to his successor, when qualified to assume office, all funds, books, records, and property pertaining to the club.

**Section 8. Board of Directors** — The Board of Directors shall consist of all current elected officers and including the immediate past President.

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#### **ARTICLE X - APPOINTED POSITIONS**

**Section 1. Club Historian** — The Club Historian will gather information, club mementos, and all past history of the Fox Valley Muzzle Loaders Club and take the proper steps to preserve same. The person holding this position will legally assigned by the Board of Directors. The assignee must clearly accept his entrusted job. There will be no expiration date for this office. A successor to this office can be made only by the vote of the Board of Officers.

#### **ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS**

**Section 1.** These By-Laws may be amended or changed at any regular meeting, a Quorum being present, by a two-thirds (2/3) of all members present, provided that notice of such proposed amendment shall have been mailed to each member at least ten (10) days before such meeting. Voting shall be by ballot.

**Section 2.** Any permanent ground or elevated blind including the existing blinds on all Fox Valley Muzzle Loaders land or any future Fox Valley Muzzle Loaders land is prohibited.