



**Constitution  
and  
Bylaws  
of the  
Oak Harbor  
Conservation Club, Inc.  
(Revised 11/2025)**

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## Article I

Name: The Oak Harbor Conservation Club, inc., 975 S. Gordon Road (clubhouse) Township Road 226, P.O. Box 364, Oak Harbor, Ohio 43449-0364

It is chartered as a non-profit organization under the laws of the state of Ohio. Date of incorporation : August 20, 1948.

## Article II

### Purpose/Objectives

The purposes for which this corporation is formed are:

1. To foster and promote friendship and fellowship among lovers of the outdoors; to promote understanding and harmony between sportsmen and landowners; to encourage the teaching of constructive conservation in our schools; to propagate and preserve wildlife and fish and to aid in the restoration of proper habitat for them.
2. To lend its influence to a strict observance of the fish and game laws of Ohio, to assist constituted authority in the enforcement thereof, and to insist on elimination of unfair means in the capture or destruction of Ottawa County wildlife and fish.
3. To encourage and support legislation along accepted practical lines; to eliminate agencies destructive to wildlife and its habitat; to inaugurate a campaign of education having for its purpose reforestation of suitable areas, control of erosion and elimination of pollution of streams

(pollution of air, littering) to encourage and cooperate in measures and methods to replenish our coverts and waters with wildlife and fish.

4. To create a fraternal spirit among the sportsmen of the county; harmonize their interests, unify their actions, and establish understanding and a spirit of friendship between sportsmen, landowners, and farmers.
5. To promote the wise use, conservation, and restoration of our natural resources in all forms.
6. To develop, promote, and support a comprehensive educational program; technical research for the advancement of conservation of wildlife and other natural resources.
7. To cooperate with other conservation and wildlife organizations.
8. To instill a sincere regard for the rights of all citizens.
9. To remember that this is a club whose interests are in conservation and the shooting sports.
10. To develop, promote, and support a comprehensive educational program for juniors to teach basic firearm safety and use, to teach and promote marksmanship, and provide competition opportunities in shooting sports.
11. To develop, promote, and support educational opportunities for juniors in hunting, fishing trapping, and conservation.
12. To develop, promote, and support a comprehensive educational program for the public in firearm safety, firearm use, and to encourage lawful exercise of firearm use.

### **Article III** **Membership** (Amended 10/9/2023)

1. Any individual, no less than 18 years of age, may become a member, by applying for membership by completing a membership application adopted by the trustees and payment of the annual membership fee and a new member fee. The new member fee shall be deposited in a fund for capital improvements for use as the trustees determine best. A new member joining on or after July 1, shall pay one-half (½) of the annual membership dues. If the new member wants to hunt the Darr, for which a hunting fee is required, the hunting fee for the entire year of will have to be paid, along with the dues and new member fee.
2. The person may include their spouse on the application and the spouse will pay the dues and new member fee established by the bylaws which will be applied the same as the members fee. The spouse membership will be concurrent with the members membership. Upon the death of the member, the spouse may continue membership by paying the regular members dues.
3. The application for membership will be considered by the trustees and may be approved or disapproved by vote of the trustees. If approved, the person is a member. If a person violates established rules of the OHCC regarding range usage, Darr usage, causes damage to club property, or for other egregious conduct, his/her membership may be revoked by a majority vote of the trustees. The member will be given written notice of the proposed action and will have an opportunity to a hearing with the trustees prior to termination of membership.
4. Renewal of membership will be by completing a membership application or by completing an on-line renewal if available and payment of the membership dues.
5. Renewal of membership must be paid no later than January 31. Late renewals will incur a late fee and their range FOB may be deactivated. Reactivation of the FOB may incur an additional fee. A member and spouse joint membership must be paid at the same time.

6. The fob of any member or spouse member who does not renew their membership by January 31, will be deactivated and reactivated only upon renewal of their membership and payment of a reactivation fee. If the membership is not renewed by the annual meeting, the fob deposit will be forfeited unless the fob has been returned.
7. Use of the Darr property shall be established by rules adopted by the trustees. The trustees may establish a fee for hunting at the Darr.
8. Honorary membership may be conferred on members who have rendered outstanding service to the club. Any member may propose honorary membership for a fellow member to the Board of Trustees. The Board shall consider the proposal and forward such, along with their recommendation, to the General Membership for action.
9. Club membership dues, fees, and penalties shall be determined at the Annual Meeting.
10. A member must complete the range safety orientation class established by the Chief Range Officer prior to use of the indoor or outdoor ranges. Upon satisfactory completion of the class, the person may receive an electronic key fob providing access to the meeting room and indoor ranges. A member may not loan his FOB to anyone for use of the ranges unless the member is physically present with the guest or member.
10. A person must be a member for one year before becoming eligible to run for any office.
11. A member may have no more than 2 guests at a time on the range. A person may be a guest no more than twice and then the guest is required to become a member. The member must be present at all times when a guest is using the club facilities or ranges.
12. A member may have family members who reside in the same household with them as guests without limitation of number of times before membership is required. The member must be present at all times when a guest is using the club facilities or ranges.
13. The trustees may allow for the awarding of a limited number of memberships or waive part of the new member dues and fee as door prizes or for new members joining the club at a club sponsored event, such as a dinner, gun show, etc.

#### **Article IV** **Annual Meeting**

1. This meeting shall be on the second Monday of October. The Annual Meeting of the members is for transaction of business, election of trustees and officers, setting of the annual budget, dues, and any other business which has been previously designated by the Trustees.
2. The members shall be notified by mail ten (10) days before the Annual Meeting of all business that will be conducted at the Annual Meeting.
3. Any proposal to be presented at the Annual Meeting shall be brought to the Board of Trustees no less than two regular meetings before the Annual Meeting.
4. For the Annual Meeting, a quorum shall consist of 10% of the membership of the current year with at least 12 members present.
5. Election of officers and trustees shall be by secret ballot: Nominations will be submitted by the Nominating Committee and will also be accepted from the floor.
6. Officers and Trustees will assume their offices at the first meeting in January.
7. Fiscal year is from January 1 to December 31.

**Article V**  
**Board of Trustees**  
(Amended 10/9/2023)

1. The corporate powers, property, and affairs of the O.H.C.C. subject to the limitations as set forth in this constitution and bylaws shall be exercised, conducted, and controlled by a majority of the Trustees and Officers.
2. The Trustees shall serve for a two year term. They shall be divided into two groups: one group called "even" shall be comprised of four trustees and their terms shall expire in even years; the second group, called "odd", will be comprised of three trustees and their term will expire in odd years. The term of office for the officers will be two years. The President and Secretary terms being the same as for the even trustees. The Vice President and Treasurer terms shall be the same as for the odd trustees.
3. The President, with the concurrence of the Trustees, shall fill any vacant office by appointment. Such appointments shall be valid until the next January meetings.
4. Expenditure of funds for those items in the budget approved at the annual meeting need not be approved at a monthly meeting, but itemized bills will be presented to the treasurer for payment and be included in the treasurers report.

**Article VI**  
**Duties of President and Vice President**

1. It shall be the duty of the President to: Preside at all meetings of members and trustees; appoint all committee chairpersons; be an ex officio member of all committees, and perform all such duties as are incumbent to the office.
2. In the event of the absence of the President, the Vice President shall act on the President's behalf.

**Article VII**  
**Duties of Recording Secretary**

1. It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to keep an accurate account of the acts and proceedings of both the Trustee's Meeting and the Regular Meetings of members, and a copy of these minutes shall be sent to each officer and trustee within two weeks after the meeting. The Recording Secretary shall keep a record of the minutes and proceedings of all meetings and keep a record of attendance of all officers and trustees. The Recording Secretary shall serve as archivist; the records of all meetings will be copied and the originals sent to Spiegel Grove, Fremont, Ohio and the Oak Harbor library at intervals of not more than two years.
2. The permanent record of minutes shall be made available to any member for examination at any reasonable time.
3. The Recording Secretary shall keep one book in which shall be written: the Constitution and Bylaws, Rules of Order, and Standing Rules (including Range Rules).
4. The Recording Secretary shall deliver all currently held books, papers, and property of the Corporation to the successor, or to the President before vacating the position.

**Article VIII**  
**Duties of Corresponding Secretary**  
**(Amended 11-07-2024)**

1. The Corresponding Secretary shall be appointed by the President. The Corresponding Secretary shall send out notices of meetings as directed by the President, conduct the correspondence of the Corporation, and keep records of that correspondence.
2. Under the direction of the Trustees, the Corresponding Secretary shall send out notices of the agenda for the Annual Meeting ten (10) days prior to the Annual Meeting. A roster shall be kept of all current members and new membership cards shall be provided to the members after dues are received. All monies received from members shall be turned over to the Treasurer.
3. The Corresponding Secretary shall mail a paper copy of the OHCC membership to all current members prior the end of the calendar year.

**Article IX**  
**Duties of Treasurer**

1. The Treasurer shall receive and safely keep all funds of the Corporation, placing them in such depository as may be designated by the Trustees. The Treasurer shall sign all checks of the Corporation in payment of current accounts as designated by the Trustees and the Corporation.
2. The President and Recording Secretary shall also be authorized to sign checks in the absence of the Treasurer, under the same restrictions as set forth for the Treasurer.
3. Bond costs shall be borne by the Corporation for the President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and others as authorized by the Board of Trustees.
4. An account of the finances of the Corporation shall be kept in proper books furnished by the Corporation. These books shall be open for inspection and examination by the Officers and Trustees and the Audit Committee of the Corporation.
5. The Treasurer shall deliver all monies, financial records, and other property of the Corporation into the hands of the successor, or to the President before vacating the position.
6. All money allocated to finance the various committees shall be paid by the Treasurer upon submission of bills and approval of the Trustees. All funds remaining after termination of a committee function shall be returned to the License Fund or the General Fund from which it was appropriated.

**Article X**  
**Attendance of Officers and Trustees**

Any officer or trustee not performing their duties shall be excused from office by a three-fourths majority vote of the Trustees and Officers.

**Article XI**

## **Amendments**

1. All proposed changes to the Constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Trustees' meeting at least two meetings before the Annual Meeting.
2. The adoption of such proposed changes shall require two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of those members present and voting. The vote shall be by secret ballot and counted by three (3) members appointed by the Nominating Committee. In order to receive a ballot and vote, a member must be validated by the Recording Secretary and/or show a current membership card.

## **Bylaws of the Oak Harbor Conservation Club**

The Trustees and Officers Meeting is held on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The Regular Meeting follows at 8:00 p.m. The Annual Meeting follows the October Regular Meeting.

### **Section 1**

A quorum at the Regular Meeting shall consist of not less than twelve (12) members. A quorum of trustees at the Trustees' Meeting shall be four (4). All parliamentary procedure shall be subject to Robert's Rules of Order.

### **Order of Business** (Amended 10-10-2022)

At the Trustees' and General meetings, the order of business shall be as follows:

- A. Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting;
- B. Reading of the minutes of the Trustees' meeting of the same night, and/or special meetings held previous to the regular meeting, and the recommendations considered;
- C. Financial report by the Treasurer;
- D. Reports of president, vice president, secretary, and committee chairpersons;
- E. Old business;
- F. New business;
- G. For the good of the Corporation (communications, extraordinary actions, etc.);
- H. Report of extraordinary expenditures of trustees.

### **Section 2** **Budget and Finance** (Amended 11-05-2025)

- A. There shall be a finance committee which submits an annual budget first to the Trustees and then to the club.
- B. The Finance Committee shall be comprised of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and a member appointed by the President.
- C. There shall be an audit committee, appointed by the President for the purpose of annually

auditing the books and accounts of the club and its committees. This audit shall be presented at the Annual Meeting.

D. Chairpersons shall submit their proposed annual budgets to the Finance Committee at least by the June Trustees & Officers Meeting.

E. The Annual Budget for the club may be by a block appropriation. The budget may establish an amount for a given part of the club for operation and activities for the year. The committee chair may prioritize the expenditure of the funds to perform the committees function. The chair does not need to seek approval from the Trustees for expenditure of funds up to \$5,000 for one expenditure. Unexpended funds from a yearly appropriation carry over to the next year. The next years allocation will not be diminished based on funds not being expended.

### **Section 3 Standing Committees**

A. There shall be the following standing committees: Finance; Constitution and Bylaws; Publicity; Nominating; Adopt-a-Road; Auditing; Fishing; Hunting; Property; Trap; Trapping; Scholarship; Membership; Rifle; Handgun; Shotgun; Land Conservation and Acquisition; Dr. L J. Darr Memorial Wetlands; Wood Duck; Archery; Proposed Projects, and Activity Coordinator.

B. The duties of such committees shall include the fixing of committee policy and all normal work, subject to trustees' review and approval.

C. All committees shall provide an annual summary report of the past year's activities at the Annual Meeting.

D. Definition of committees:

Finance Committee: Oversee and plan the budget

Constitution and Bylaws Committee: Review proposals for changes in constitution/bylaws, and make recommendations as to validity and relevance. Any changes to the proposed bylaw to improve readability or clarity will remain true to the intent of the proposer.

Publicity Committee: Prepare and send news releases to the local press; publish, address, and mail the newsletter.

Nominating Committee: Propose a slate of nominees for election to office; be assisted by a member-at-large to count the ballots. The nominating committee shall be comprised of those trustees whose terms of office continue for another year.

Adopt-a-Road Committee: Collect litter and other man-made debris/litter from designated areas of county and township roads.

Auditing Committee: Appointed by President.

Fishing Committee: Run the fishing derby; rod and reel distribution; fishing access and lease.

Hunting and Trapping Committee: Secure and release birds and lease land.

Property Committee: Oversee grounds and building maintenance, monitor propane, recommend to trustees any maintenance necessary or improvements required.

Wood Duck Committee: Build, install, and maintain nesting boxes.

Scholarship Committee: Be a liaison with trustees and scholarship applicants and recipients; maintain records of monetary awards and grades of recipients, maintain qualifications for applicants.

Trap Shooting Committee: Be responsible for maintenance, upkeep, and inventory of the trap shooting equipment. Write and post range safety rules for trap shooting.

Proposed Projects Committee: Accept all proposed projects from membership and report to the trustees for consideration.

Activity Coordinator: Coordinate all activities.

Rifle Committee: Indoor range officer is in charge of range and rules; outdoor range officer is in charge of range and rules.

Handgun Committee: Indoor range officer is in charge of range and rules; outdoor range officer is in charge of range and rules.

Land Conservation and Acquisition Committee: Plan for future development of the club.

Dr. L J. Darr Memorial Wetlands Committee: Oversee the maintenance and development of the wetlands in accordance with good conservation practices.

Junior Rifle Committee: Plan, promote, and conduct training for juniors in rifle and shotgun safety and marksmanship, seek funding sources, promote and sponsor the club youth in rifle and shotgun competitions at local, state, and national events.

Junior Pistol Committee: Plan, promote, and conduct training for juniors in pistol safety and marksmanship, seek funding sources, promote and sponsor the club youth in pistol competitions at local, state, and national events.

Junior Hunting, fishing, trapping, and Conservation Committee: Plan, promote, seek funding for, and conduct training and opportunities for juniors to learn and engage in hunting, fishing, trapping, and conservation activities.

## Section 4

**Dues**  
(Amended 11/7/2024)

- A. New members – \$125 per year plus a new member fee of \$100.
- B. New member with spouse \$225 plus \$75 dues and a new member fee of \$50 total \$350.
- C. Member renewal - \$125.
- D. Member renewal with spouse – \$200
- E. Hunting fee per year – Paid members add \$140. \$40 of the fee is earmarked for bird purchases.
- F. Spouse hunting fee – \$140. \$40 of the fee is earmarked for bird purchases.
- G. Child of present club member may join upon becoming 18 years of age without new member fee until they become 19.
- H. Late renewal fee - \$20.00
- I. FOB reactivation fee is \$10.00
- J. Expired members. Any member who has not renewed his/her membership for one year will be deemed to no longer be a member and will have to reapply as a new member, including the new member fee.
- K. Honorary members will not be assessed dues.
- L. Dues, fees, and new member fees, if paid by credit/debit card will have a card fee added.
- M. Persons participating in club sponsored leagues or club programs will be considered to be guests of the club without membership being required as a result of that activity.
- N. Any person age 25 or younger shall have all membership dues, new member fee, hunting fee at 50% rate as long as they are 25 years of age or younger during the calendar year of their membership.

**Section 5**  
**Special Meetings**

Special meetings of the Board of Trustees of the Corporation may be called by the President, Vice President, or a majority of the Trustees. A quorum must include at least four (4) trustees and the President or the Vice President

**Section 6**  
**Bill Payment**

- 1. The Treasurer shall pay all incidental operating expenses, taxes, and insurance premiums as they come due without prior approval of the Trustees. The monthly Treasurer's report will include the reporting of any such payments. The Treasurer will present all bills to the Trustees for approval.
- 2. All bills turned in for payment must be itemized.
- 3. Proper financial records will be kept by all committee chairpersons. Expenditures from previously allocated funds must be approved by the Treasurer.

## **Section 7 Amendments**

Any proposed change will be submitted to the Board of Trustees at least thirty (30) days prior to the Regular Meeting, at which time it may be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members present and voting. If approved, it is in force until the next Annual Meeting. Reaffirmation of the bylaw will be an agenda item at the next Annual Meeting.

## **Section 8 Standing Rules (Amended 11/05/2025)**

1. Any expenditure of funds by any of the committee chairpersons for personal gain or claims of friends is forbidden.
2. All committee chairpersons are responsible for educational programs pertaining to their committee.
3. Authority is hereby given to allow the Trustees to spend up to one thousand dollars (\$1000) without prior approval of membership.
4. Access to the clubhouse can be obtained by paying a deposit for an electronic fob. This deposit will be refunded upon the return of the fob.
5. The Chief Range Officer will be in charge of conducting range safety classes for members and contract agencies prior to their use of club ranges. Upon successful completion of the class, will issue an electronic door fob for access to the ranges.
6. All range rules shall be posted on appropriate ranges and available to members.
7. Approval has been given to lease land for purposes of hunting in Ottawa or Sandusky counties.
8. All solicitations from outside organizations must conform to the goals and objectives outlined in the Constitution and Bylaws of the O.H.C.C. If the requests do not conform to those guidelines, they will not be funded from club assets
9. At any meeting where a counted vote is directed, the Secretary shall record in the Minutes the number of 'Yea, Nay, and Abstention" votes.
10. No member or guest less than 21 years of age may possess or use a handgun on club properties or ranges unless under the supervision of a member who is 21 years of age or older, and in accordance with State laws.
11. No member or guest less than 18 years of age may possess or use a rifle or shotgun on club properties and ranges unless under the supervision of a member who is 21 years of age or older, and in accordance with State laws.