

# CENTRAL ILLINOIS CRAPPIE CLUB BYLAWS



## **ARTICLE I** **NAME**

This organization shall be known as the Central Illinois Crappie Club and the following articles shall be called bylaws.

## **ARTICLE II** **HISTORY**

This organization came into existence on April 2, 2015 when a small group of fishermen, sharing the same interest, gathered together and decided to create a competition style crappie fishing club. The Central Illinois Crappie Club was born from this inaugural meeting and continues to grow. Since its' inception, the club has hosted several tournaments, participated in habitat programs and hatchery releases with the state, conducted informational seminars, and staged several family/kids oriented events.

## **ARTICLE III** **MISSION STATEMENT**

- 1) To establish an organization that serves both the beginning recreational angler as well as the seasoned tournament professional. Most of all we want to create an environment that encourages all of our members to share crappie fishing knowledge and techniques with a goal of making every member a more productive crappie angler.
- 2) We want to promote fellowship and good sportsmanship among anglers and to promote wholesome competition in a kid-friendly atmosphere.
- 3) We want to improve the skills of all our members by exchanging techniques and ideas.
- 4) We want to be sure to nourish our sport by introducing young people to crappie fishing and to preserve the sport by being involved in conservation programs and habitat restoration.

## **ARTICLE IV** **MEMBERSHIP**

- 1) Qualifications
  - a) Any U.S. citizen in good standing can become a member.
  - b) There is an annual membership fee that is due before any member can participate in any club event. Annual membership runs January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year.
- 2) Standards: The standards of behavior necessary to remain a member are as follows:
  - a) Member must demonstrate good sportsmanship and courtesy anytime they are associated with a club event or representing the club.
  - b) Member must demonstrate a willingness to participate in club functions and abide by the rules of conduct set forth in these bylaws.
  - c) Ethical and courteous behavior is expected both on land and on the water.
  - d) Loud, public, vulgar or abusive language reflects negatively on the club and will not be tolerated and can be cause for expulsion.
- 3) Expulsion of a member
  - a) Accusations of cheating in a tournament or disregard for tournament rules can result in a dismissal hearing.
  - b) Examples of refusal to abide by ethical and moral standards of conduct and behavior can result in a dismissal hearing.

- 4) Dismissal Hearing
  - a) Violations of bylaw policies can be brought before the members present at any meeting where a quorum is met. Examples will be cited and each party involved will be heard. A hearing request must be initiated by first notifying any Executive Board member. Any member having violations brought will be notified prior to the meeting. Lack of attendance at a hearing forfeit's the right to be heard.
  - b) Club dismissal requires a 2/3 majority of members present at a meeting where a quorum is present. A quorum requires nine (9) members as well as three (3) executive board members to be present.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **OFFICERS**

- 1) Executive Board: The executive boards responsibility is to communicate with each other to help define any issues that need to be presented to the full membership in order to keep the club functioning at its' highest level. The executive board will consist of the following positions:
  - a) President
  - b) Vice President
  - c) Secretary
  - d) Publisher
  - e) Treasurer
  - f) Tournament Director
- 2) Election of Officers
  - a) Officers for the upcoming year shall be elected by simple majority vote at the last meeting of each calendar year.
  - b) Elected officers shall serve their term for one calendar year, beginning January 1 and ending December 31.
  - c) Officers may be elected for an indefinite number of terms.
- 3) Duties of Officers
  - a) President
    - i) Responsible for organizing the agenda for all club meetings.
    - ii) Conducts and presides over all meetings. Responsible for maintaining order and keeping the meeting moving forward in an organized manner.
    - iii) Shall be the spokesperson for the club. All outside communications shall be filtered through the president. After consultation with the executive board, the president shall be responsible for addressing all outside issues.
    - iv) Can create chairman positions to assist the executive board.
    - v) Serves as a member of the tournament rules/protest committee.
  - b) Vice President
    - i) Assumes all presidential duties in his absence.
    - ii) Succeeds the president in case of vacancy or resignation.
    - iii) Responsible for helping to execute the agenda for meetings, children events, and club cookouts.
    - iv) Responsible for organizing and coordinating any public awareness event, habitat programs, lake clean up assistance, or any other program of assistance to the state or local lake manager.
    - v) Serves as a member of the tournament rules/protest committee.
  - c) Secretary
    - i) Prepares and presents the minutes of each meeting of the general membership and/or executive board.
    - ii) Provides accurate records of all motions made and votes taken at meetings.
    - iii) Channels all club correspondence to the proper executive officer for follow up if needed.
    - iv) Provides timely Email notifications concerning club news and announcements.
    - v) Responsible for proper acknowledgement and appreciation of all extra effort put forth from a member or outside source.
    - vi) Serves as a member of the tournament rules/protest committee.

- d) Treasurer
  - i) Responsible for all monetary transactions. Keeps accurate records of all club receipts and expenditures, deposits all fees collected and pays all bill in a timely manner.
  - ii) Provides periodic reports to the membership and presents an annual report at the first meeting of the year and the end of his tenure.
  - iii) Coordinates and oversees any fundraising activities and/or raffle sales.
  - iv) Responsible for the administration of website sponsorship sales.
  - v) Prepares necessary reports for Local, State, and Federal Government.
  - vi) Serves as a member of the tournament rules/protest committee.
- e) Tournament Director
  - i) Works with the executive board to establish rules, times, dates and locations for all tournaments.
  - ii) Acquires all necessary permits and permission from lake authorities in regards to hosting tournaments. Follows up with tournament result reports as required by the State.
  - iii) Conducts and oversees all aspects of the tournament. Includes promotion, sign-up and live well checks, starting time and check-in time and area, control of the weigh-in scales and procedure.
  - iv) Provides oversight and enforcement of tournament rules.
  - v) Serves as a member of the tournament rules/protest committee.
- f) Chairman Positions
  - i) This is not an executive board position but rather a temporary position of assistance in matters that are unusual and not covered by ordinary means. This is a position that is appointed by the president to provide extra assistance to the board. This position can be removed at any time by executive board vote. Possible Chairman positions include Kids Rodeo Chair, Habitat Chair, Sponsorship Chair, Fundraiser Chair, etc.
  - ii) Publisher
    - (1) Works closely with all members of the executive board to provide flyers, posters, and announcements to help promote the activities of the club.
    - (2) Responsible for the development and maintenance of the club's website.
    - (3) Advises the club on matters necessary for professional delivery of pertinent ideas and promotional possibilities.
- 4) Removal of an Executive Board Member
  - a) Should unexcused lack of participation by an executive board member begin to hinder the club's progress or prove to be counter-productive to the club, the executive board member will be advised and asked for remedial solutions. If unsatisfactory effort is made to rectify the issue, the executive board will vote to remove the member.
- 5) Resignation of an Executive Board Member
  - a) Written notice should be given to any executive board member, stating the reason and specific date.
  - b) President shall appoint a replacement to serve the remaining tenure.

**ARTICLE VI**  
**QUORUM**

- 1) Any vote necessary to amend these bylaws or address major issues that impact the operation of the club shall require a 2/3rds majority of a quorum to be present.
- 2) A quorum shall consist of nine (9) members and three (3) executive members (twelve total).

**ARTICLE VII**  
**DISSOLUTION**

This club may be dissolved by the affirmative vote of the majority of the executive board. Should dissolution occur, after all expenses and obligations are paid, any remaining assets of the club shall be

donated to an appropriate crappie fishing charity as decided by the executive board. Furthermore, any physical asset held by the club upon dissolution shall be sold at fair market value and that sum added to the total earmarked for donation.

**ARTICLE VIII**  
**ADDENDUM**

- 1) Exclusions from Bylaws
  - a) Since tournament fees, tournament rules, and tournament payouts are more dynamic and require more flexibility, they will not be included in our bylaws.
  - b) Any addendum can be changed or adjusted by a simple majority vote at any meeting.

**ADDENDUM I - FEES**

- 1) Club Membership
  - a) Current annual membership dues are \$25.00. Membership runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year.
  - b) Family memberships are available for \$40.00 per year. (Family memberships include individuals and spouses and any children living in the same household.)
  - c) Any child of a member that is under the age of 16 can participate for free.
- 2) Tournament Fees:
  - a) Club Tournament entry fees will be \$40.00 (\$35.00 tournament fee plus \$5.00 earmarked for big fish). This fee may be modified occasionally for special promotions by a vote of the membership present at any meeting
  - b) Open Tournament entry fees will be decided by a vote of the executive board. Open Tournaments (club membership is not required) entry fees can vary depending on the venue. Entry fee will always include a "Big Fish" portion that will be paid back at 100%. Example: \$100.00 entry fee will be made up of \$90.00 tournament fee plus \$10.00 earmarked for Big Fish.