**BOWFISHING ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC. BY-LAWS**

**Updated 10/10/2017**

**ARTICLE I:  NAME -**The name of the organization shall be the BOWFISHING ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA INC. (BAA)

**ARTICLE II:  PURPOSE OF CORPORATION -**The purpose of the Corporation is to provide an organization to foster, expand, and perpetuate bowfishing and the spirit of fellowship among all archers and sportsmen, to encourage the use of the bow and arrow in hunting all legal fish, and to conduct bowfishing tournaments.

**ARTICLE III:  PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS and REGISTERED AGENT**

1. The principal office of the Corporation shall be in the City of Vine Grove, County of Meade, State of Kentucky.
2. The resident agent of the Corporation may be changed at any time by the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE IV:  STOCK, MEMBERSHIP AND FEES**

1. No stock shall be issued by the Corporation.
2. The general membership at Annual Meeting or special called meeting shall have the power and authority to establish classes of membership and fees. Each membership shall have one vote in the election of Officers, Directors and on other matters brought to the members for vote. A member may not vote whose membership is less than thirty days.
3. General Membership (Member, spouse and children under 18) with one vote per membership. As voted on during the 2016 annual meeting, memberships are now **FREE** to increase membership.
4. Dues prior to 2016 were:
	1. $40.00 per year/household
	2. $175.00 for a 5-year membership
	3. $500.00 for a lifetime membership
5. Duties include committee service as appointed by the President. It is also the inherent duty of all members to enlist new members and promote the BAA.
6. The membership reserves the right to suspend, or expel from the BAA any member who, in their opinion, is guilty of acts unbecoming a sportsman. No refund will be given at time of expulsion if deemed necessary. A two-thirds majority vote of the members in attendance at any regular meeting or special meeting is necessary.

**ARTICLE V:  OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES**

1. Officers shall be President, Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer.
2. The President shall conduct all BAA meetings, appoint all committees, and be responsible for initiating and developing the activities of the BAA, including coordinating sanctioned tournaments.
3. The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President if the President is unable to act, chair the tournament committee.
4. The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep all records of the BAA, serve all notices of meetings, keep the minutes of all meetings, present a copy of said minutes to each member and the Board of Directors within 30 days of the meeting, maintain historical data, and present a written membership report at the annual meeting. In addition, the Secretary/Treasurer shall receive and disburse all monies of the BAA, keep current and accurate records of the receipts and disbursements, give written financial reports at all meetings, and submit a written annual financial report at the annual meeting, and in general perform the duties incident to the office.

**ARTICLE VI:  BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

1. The Board of Directors consists of the Officers, State Representatives Director, Points Chairman, Sanctioning Director, Marketing Director, Records Keeper, and Social Network Director.
2. The business and affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by its Board of Directors.
3. A quorum shall be two-thirds of the officers plus any Director in attendance, for the transaction of business of the Board of Directors.
4. Management and control of all affairs, annual dues, funds and property, including the name of the association shall be vested in the Board of Directors on behalf of the Bowfishing Association of America, Inc., except as delegated by the association President. Use of the association's name for any purpose other than the promotion of the association, the benefits due the association to its members and the benefit to the purpose of the association separately or entirely is forbidden.
5. The Board of Directors shall meet as deemed necessary by the President, or by any two other Officers or Directors with 30 days advance notice being sent to all officers and directors by the Secretary/Treasurer. The annual meeting shall also constitute a meeting of the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE VII:  POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS -**The Board of Directors shall have the power to manage the internal affairs of the Corporation consistent with the majority decision of the general membership and consistent with the provisions of the laws of the State of Kentucky.

**ARTICLE VIII:  ELECTIONS AND TERMS OF OFFICE**

1. Nominations of officers shall begin at the annual meeting.
	1. Nominations can also be solicited by mail, e-mail, and/or at the World Championship Meeting in late July, but received no later than August 15th prior to the election year.
	2. Accepted nominations shall be presented to the membership in writing on the BAA Facebook page by Sept 1st prior to the election year.
	3. Voting will occur from October 1st-November 1st through the BAA website, by mail, or through an email to an Officer. Results will be posted on the BAA Facebook page November 2nd, prior to Annual Meeting for following year.
	4. Newly elected officers shall take office at the upcoming Annual Spring Meeting.
	5. All officers and directors shall serve two-year terms.
2. In the event an officer or Director position becomes vacant for any reason, the President, or acting President shall appoint a replacement to serve the remainder of the term subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.
3. Any officer or director may be removed from office upon determination by and approval of the Board of Directors at a special called meeting, if said officer or director is not performing the duties of the position upon a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE IX: FISCAL YEAR AND MEETINGS**

1. The fiscal year of the Corporation shall begin January 1st of each year and end December 31st of the same year. All memberships will run January 1st to December 31st of the same year.
2. The Board of Directors shall meet at the discretion of the President, or by call of any two other Officers or Directors.
3. At least once each year and at a regular time fixed by the President, a meeting of the general membership shall be held. Notice of the date, time, and place of the Annual Meeting shall be given to each member in writing at least 30 days prior to the meeting.
4. Special meetings called for the purpose of amending the By-Laws require notice of the date, time and place of the meeting be given to each member in writing at least thirty days-prior to the meeting.
5. An informal meeting shall be held within 36 hours of the BAA World Championship each year.

**ARTICLE X: SANCTIONED EVENTS**

1. The BAA shall sanction tournaments throughout the United States by organizations and individuals willing to pay the sanctioning fee and administer the tournament.
2. The sanctioning fees are $75.00 per event for an affiliated organization, $200 for up to 5 events and $300 for 6 or more events, subject to adjustment based on the cost of the insurance policy.

**ARTICLE XI: END OF YEAR AWARDS**

1. **BOWFISHER OF THE YEAR** – Amended in 2017, there will no longer be a points system for individual awards.
2. **JUNIOR BOWFISHER OF THE YEAR** - Amended in 2017, there will no longer be a points system for individual awards.
3. **TEAM OF THE YEAR**

Teams need to register for the Team of the Year competition by April 1st of each year following the directions posted on the BAA website.

The BAA will award the Team of the Year to the bowfishing team that accumulates the highest point total for participation and placement in sanctioned events and the BAA World Championship tournament according to the point schedule in effect for the respective year as adopted at the annual meeting.

**ARTICLE XII: WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP**

1. The BAA Board of Directors shall award the World Championship location at the Annual Meeting to the organization, or individual that receives the most votes.
	1. Each bid shall contain information concerning the site, functions, responsibilities and monies the organization is willing to provide for hosting the World Championship.
	2. After the bid is awarded the BAA and host will enter into a contract outlining the agreed upon site, functions, responsibilities and monies. Neither party may cause indebtedness to the other without approval of the BAA President and the host.
2. Amended in 2017, members wishing to vote for the World Championship location will be required to pay a $10 fee to vote. All collected money will be distributed as part of the prize money for the tournament. The BAA World Championship shall be held on either the 3rd or 4th weekend of July and the tournament cannot be held on the same body of water within 3 years.
3. BAA World Championship voting:
	1. Bids shall be submitted by either mail, email, or hand delivered written letter by August 15th of each year for the following year’s event.
	2. Members shall receive written notice on the BAA Facebook page and/or the BAA website within 30 days of the BAA World Championship of all submitted bids.
	3. Consideration by members of their household vote shall take place immediately. Voting will commence October 1st and shall conclude November 1st.
	4. BAA World Championship winners shall be announced by November 2nd.
	5. If the organization, or individual winning the bid is unable to fulfill their obligations for the BAA World Championship after it has been awarded to them the organization, or individual receiving the 2nd highest amount of votes shall be awarded the BAA World Championship.
	6. If a catastrophe occurs within the area of the winner of the BAA World Championship and the location needs to be moved, the location, place, date and all other arrangements will be decided on by vote of the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE XIII: PARTICIPATION -** Participation in any BAA function is strictly voluntary and with assumed liability by the participant with no recourse toward the Officers, Directors, and other members of the BAA.

**ARTICLE XIV: AMENDMENT OF ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION AND BY-LAWS -** The Articles of Incorporation and the By-Laws of the Corporation may be amended at any time by majority vote of the members of the Corporation present at the Annual Meeting, or through a special called meeting.

**ARTICLE XV: DISSOLUTION OF THE CORPORATION**The Corporation may be dissolved upon the concurrence of two-thirds of the general membership and the Board of Directors will proceed without delay to complete the affairs of the Corporation, liquidate its assets and distribute them according to the desires of the general membership.