

Caloosa Dive Club Constitution & Bylaws

Adopted January 20, 2005

ARTICLE I: NAME

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be the Caloosa Dive Club.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

Section 1: For the preservation, support, and promotion of the sport of SCUBA diving and its various forms of allied activities.

Section 2: To dedicate ourselves to the advancement of the sport together with sound conservation, good sportsmanship, and cooperation with federal, state, and local agencies, as well as other worthwhile groups and projects.

Section 3: To promote fellowship among underwater sportsmen by sponsoring contests, outings, and other educational, social and recreational programs.

Section 4: To obtain information on new diving equipment so as to inform our membership on the merits of said new equipment.

Section 5: This organization shall be non-profit.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Membership is open to any person, over the age of eighteen (18) years who will abide by the laws of the organization and who expresses a desire and willingness to be dedicated to the purpose herein stated.

Section 2: Regular membership shall be limited to all persons applying for membership after the date of ratification of this constitution. Regular membership will be entitled to one vote each and to any and all other rights and privileges according to Bylaws provided they are not in arrears in their dues as specified in Article IV, Section 3. Family membership to include one vote per adult member.

Section 3: Honorary membership will be limited to those persons upon whom this organization wishes to confer special recognition but who will not have vote or voice in its affairs and who will not be required to pay dues or initiation fees.

Section 4: Active members are those whose dues are paid and are in good standing in the club.

ARTICLE IV: DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

Section 1: The initiation fee shall be ten (\$10.00) dollars for each new applicant accepted for membership. Said fee must accompany the application for membership.

Section 2: Membership dues shall be thirty-five (\$35.00) dollars for single and sixty (\$60.00) dollars per family per year due September 1. All new members shall be prorated two dollars ninety cents (\$2.90) for single/five dollars (\$5.00) for family a month beginning October 1. Family membership is defined as member, spouse, and dependent children 17 or younger.

Section 3: Dues shall be due on September 1. Any member more than thirty (30) days in arrears in payment of dues shall lose membership and all privileges and rights appertaining thereto.

Section 4: A membership may be reinstated by reapplication, which must be passed by a two-thirds majority vote at any regular meeting. Reapplication must be accompanied by a ten (\$10.00) dollar fee.

Section 5: The board shall develop and approve a budget prior to November 1 to define the funds necessary to accomplish the objectives and discharge the expenses of this organization. The funds necessary shall be procured by the membership dues, initiation fees, donations, assessments, and voluntary contributions from its members or other persons. Special assessments shall be made by the officers as deemed necessary upon the majority vote of the members.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

Section 1: The affairs of this organization are to be managed by a President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary who shall be elected from the membership at large and who shall take office October 1.

ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES

Section 1: The standing committees of this organization are: Membership, Safety, Program, Dive, Publicity, Spearfishing Contest and Photography Contest.

Section 2: There shall be a Safety Director, a Program Director, Dive Director and a Publicity Director appointed by the President.

Section 3: There shall be a Spearfishing Contest Director and a Photography Contest Director who shall be elected by their respective committees.

Section 4: The committee directors may recruit members for their respective committees.

Section 5: The officers may create new committees, as they deem necessary for the welfare of the organization. Directors of said committees shall be appointed by the President.

Section 6: All committees will accept as members any member of the Caloosa Dive Club in good standing.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1: Regular meetings of this organization will be held at the time and place agreed upon by the majority of the active members.

Section 2: Special meetings may be called by the President or upon request of one-third or more members. The purpose of the meeting must be clearly stated in the notification. A special meeting may replace a regular meeting. Notice of a special meeting must be made to each member in good standing at least two days in advance.

Section 3: The annual meeting for the election of officers shall be held during the month of August.

Section 4: A quorum for the transaction of business shall consist those active members present.

Section 5: Unless otherwise specified in this Constitution or in the attached Bylaws, a simple majority shall decide all business.

ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1: This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the active members present or represented by a written proxy.

Section 2: No amendment shall be voted upon unless the proposed amendment has been submitted in writing to the secretary at least two weeks in advance of the meeting at which time it will be voted upon. The secretary will advise each active member in advance of the proposal.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

President: Shall preside at all meetings of the organization and shall perform such other duties consistent with the office of president.

Vice President: Shall exercise all functions of the President in his absence and shall head the membership committee.

Treasurer: Shall receive and duly process all monies payable to or from the organization, keep all the financial records, and present the financial reports at each of the regular meetings. The treasurer must be prepared for an audit at any time, requested by the board or a majority of members present at a business meeting.

Secretary: Shall maintain minutes of all meetings, handle correspondence, and maintain an accurate membership list.

ARTICLE II: DUTIES OF DIRECTORS

Safety Director: Shall actively promote diving safety.

Publicity Director: Shall make regular news releases to the local press and radio and TV stations pertaining to special occasions. He shall make the necessary arrangements to have suitable photographs taken for news and picture releases. The club newsletter and the club web site (www.diveclub.org) shall also fall under this committee.

Program Director: Shall arrange suitable educational, recreational, or entertainment programs for regular meetings.

Photography Contest Director: This committee will oversee the annual Photography contest. This is also where the responsibility for the rules for the annual Photography contest lay.

Spearfishing Contest Director: This committee will oversee the annual Spearfishing contest.

Dive Director: This committee shall coordinate club diving activities.

ARTICLE III: ELECTION OF OFFICERS

No officer may be elected for two consecutive terms in the same office or for more than two consecutive terms in any office, unless re-elected for subsequent terms by two-thirds majority of votes cast.

Voting shall take place at the annual meeting and shall be by secret ballot only. If more than two persons are nominated for a single office, the election shall be decided by a plurality.

Only active members are eligible to vote or hold office.

In the event an office becomes vacant during the term, the membership shall elect a member to fill the unexpired term.

ARTICLE IV: REMOVAL OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

Upon complaint of conduct on the part of any member, which might reflect unfavorably on the organization as a whole, said member may be expelled by majority vote of the active members present. Said member shall have the right to be heard in his own behalf.

Upon demand of a minimum of fifty (50) percent of the active membership and upon a two-thirds vote of all active members, an officer may be removed from office. Said officer must have the right to speak in his own behalf.

ARTICLE V: ATTENDANCE OF OFFICERS

Any officer missing two meetings in a row will be notified that unless he attends the next meeting, his office will be considered vacant. If there are extenuating circumstances, a temporary officer may be elevated by majority vote, to serve until the absent officer is able to resume his duties.

ARTICLE VI: ACCEPTANCE OF NEW MEMBERS

Potential members must attend three (3) club activities, two (2) of which must be business meetings in 90 days before becoming eligible for membership.

Application shall be submitted in writing, on forms provided by the club, to the membership committee.

If approved by the membership committee, the applicant will become a member upon receiving a majority vote of the active members at a business meeting.