

ROCKINGHAM BIRD CLUB CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I (Name)

- Section 1. The name of this organization is the Rockingham Bird Club (RBC) or hereafter "Club".
- Section 2. The Rockingham Bird Club is a local chapter of the Virginia Society of Ornithology, Inc.

ARTICLE II (Purpose)

- Section 1. The purpose and object of this Club shall be to promote interest in the study of birds, and in the conservation of birds and other natural resources.

ARTICLE III (Membership & Dues)

- Section 1. Membership is open to any person who is interested in promoting the purpose of this Club, upon the payment of dues required. All members in good standing have full voting privileges and may vote if present with the condition that all memberships may exercise only one vote.
- Section 2. Memberships are:
- Individual
 - Student: a Student member is a person enrolled full time in a secondary school or a school of higher education
 - Family: a family membership includes members of a family unit living in the same household
 - Lifetime: Lifetime memberships are conferred by the Executive Committee. Lifetime members pay no dues and are considered members in good standing.

ARTICLE IV (Officers)

- Section 1. Officers of the Club shall be President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers shall be elected annually.

- Section 2. In addition to the above named officers, two Member-at-large positions shall be elected for a two year term. These positions shall be elected in alternate years. No Member-at-large shall be permitted to serve more than two consecutive elected terms, however, there shall be no limit on the total number of terms served.
- Section 3. The Executive Committee shall include all the officers cited in Article IV, Section 1, the Members-at-large, and the chairpersons of all standing committees cited in the By-laws, Article V, Section 2. The immediate past president shall be a member (ex-officio) of the Executive Committee for a period of one year. All members of the Executive Committee are voting members.
- Section 4. Annual election of officers as listed in Article IV, Sections 1 and 2, shall be held at the May Club meeting. Officers elected at this meeting will take office in the ensuing fiscal year.

ARTICLE V (Meetings)

- Section 1. The Club shall schedule at least 9 meetings a year. The Club calendar shall open on September 1 and continue through June 30 of the following year. Additional Club meetings may be held as desired, either by vote of the Club or the Executive Committee. Any business that is specified for a given meeting that is in turn canceled, shall be carried out before or at the next scheduled meeting.

ARTICLE VI (Amendments)

- Section 1. The Constitution may be amended by a 2/3 majority of members voting, provided notice of the proposed amendment(s) has been furnished to all members two weeks prior to the meeting.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I (Meetings)

- Section 1. Voting on business may be transacted at any meeting of the membership after confirming a quorum. One-fifth (1/5) of the Club voting memberships will constitute a quorum.
- Section 2. All members in good standing shall be notified of all meetings of the Club.

ARTICLE II (Dues)

- Section 1. The dues of the Club shall be determined annually. All dues of the membership are on the Club fiscal year basis, and will not be pro-rated. Dues are payable in advance of the first meeting in September. The Club fiscal year will be July 1 through June 30.
- Section 2. Members who have unpaid dues as of November 1st, of the current year, will be dropped from the Club roster of members in good standing.

ARTICLE III (Duties of Officers)

- Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Executive Committee, may call meetings of the Executive Committee at any time and call meetings of the Club with the approval of the Executive Committee. The President shall appoint the chairpersons of all standing and special committees.
- Section 2. The First Vice President shall be in charge of programs and activities, except field trips. The First Vice President shall serve as chairperson of the Program Committee and will preside at the meetings when the President is absent or otherwise unable to act.
- Section 3. The Second Vice President shall be in charge of all field trips and give a report of such at each monthly meeting.
- Section 4. The Secretary shall keep a record of the minutes of the Club meetings and of the Executive Committee, and shall keep up-to-date copies of the Constitution and By-laws, as well as write such letters as may be necessary to conduct Club business.
- Section 5. The Treasurer shall receive, collect, and account for all monies of the Club and shall expend funds at the direction of the Executive Committee. All Club payments shall be made by check or bank transfer. The Treasurer shall prepare a roster of members in good standing and send this roster to the Newsletter Editor. The Club account shall be presented for audit once each year. The Treasurer is also a member of the Ways and Means Committee. The Treasurer is responsible for making memorial gifts to the Massanutten Regional Library in honor of a deceased member in good standing or recently lapsed.

ARTICLE IV (Duties of the Executive Committee)

- Section 1. The Executive Committee shall take the initiative in planning the general activities of the Club and determining policies.
- Section 2. The Executive Committee shall supervise the finances of the Club and authorize expenditures.
- Section 3. The Executive Committee shall make adequate reports to the membership through the President.
- Section 4. The Executive Committee shall meet a minimum of three (3) times per Club year.
- Section 5. At a meeting of the Executive Committee, one-third of the committee members must be present to constitute a quorum in order to conduct business. A simple majority of votes cast is required to pass motions.

ARTICLE V (Committees)

- Section 1. The President may designate standing committees and special committees approved by the Executive Committee (see By-laws Article III, Section 1).
- Section 2. The standing committees may include:
1. Club Historian – the historian shall preserve Club records, such as newsletters, pictures of Club activities, and articles of local interest.
 2. Christmas Bird Count – the compiler shall plan and direct the Christmas Bird Count each winter.
 3. Breeding Bird Census – the compiler shall plan and direct this study.
 4. Ways and Means – the chairperson shall organize all fundraising projects for the Club.
 5. Bird Records – the chairperson shall compile verified bird sightings made by members. This shall include the Hawk migration counts.
 6. Newsletter Editor – the Newsletter Editor shall be responsible for the publication of the Club newsletter for each month the Club is in session. The newsletter should be distributed to the membership 1 week prior to each meeting.
 7. Communications – the chairperson shall be responsible for the publication and/or revisions of any check-list, books, etc., that the Executive Committee may deem necessary.

8. Bluebird Monitoring – the chairperson shall be responsible for overseeing monitoring of Bluebird trails established by the Club. The chairperson shall also be responsible for summarizing yearly results and reporting to the Club, as well as to the Virginia Bluebird Society.

Section 3. Special committees are formed to carry out specific tasks and go out of existence when the task is completed.

ARTICLE VI (Annual Elections)

Section 1. At the March Club meeting, the President will announce the chairperson of the Nominating Committee. This chairperson will form the Nominating Committee by selecting other Club members. No current officer whose office is up for election may serve on the Nominating Committee. It will be the duty of the Nominating Committee to prepare a slate of one nominee for each office described in Article IV, Section 1 of the Constitution, plus one of the two Member–at–large positions (see Constitution Article IV, Section 2). This committee shall present a report to the membership at the May meeting. Nominees will be selected from the roster of members in good standing.

Section 2. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the meeting, provided each person whose name is placed in nomination shall, prior to voting, signify consent to serve if elected.

Section 3. Nominees receiving a majority of votes cast shall be declared elected and shall serve their term as described in Article IV of the Constitution.

Section 4. Vacancies on the staff of officers, including Members–at–large, may be filled by appointment by the Executive Committee for the unexpired term only.

ARTICLE VII (Amendments)

Section 1. The By-laws may be amended by a majority of members voting, providing notice of the proposed amendment(s) has been furnished to all members two weeks prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE VIII (Parliamentary Authority)

Section 1. Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, shall be the parliamentary authority for the Club.

ARTICLE IX (Dissolution)

Section 1. In the event of dissolution of this Club, no member, officer, or individual shall be entitled to a share in the dissolution of any of the assets and all assets shall be distributed for their stated purposes or to scientific, educational or other organizations with like purposes.