

BCKFC Bylaws & Constitution

Bylaws

Section 1. Membership Applications

Application for membership shall be made to the Secretary / Treasurer on a form provided via the BCKFC Website for such purpose. Annual dues may be paid in the form of a check and mailed along with a completed membership application to the Secretary / Treasurer or paid on the club website via a PayPal or other electronic link provided for such purpose with completed membership application mailed as required. A small processing fee shall apply to all on-line payments.

Section 2. Membership Fees Annual Dues

Annual membership dues shall be Twenty Five Dollars (\$25.00) for an individual or Forty Dollars (\$40.00) per family for the first year and payable again on the membership anniversary date each subsequent year thereafter. Membership dues may be increased by a majority vote of the Executive Board and will take effect thirty (30) days after posting said notice of increase on the club forum for member notification.

Section 3. Meetings

A. Regular Meetings

Regular meetings shall occur at least four (4) times per year. Any additional meetings will be "TBA" until a location and date is established.

B. Special Meetings

The President shall call Special Meetings at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Notice of Special Meetings shall be via a posting on the club forum in the Members Section to all Members at least two (2) weeks in advance of the meeting date. No business shall be transacted at a Special Meeting except that for which notice is given.

Section 4. Order of Business

The order of business at all meetings shall be in accordance with an accepted rule of order as delineated in Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 5. Elections

A. Officer Elections

The President, Vice President, Secretary / Treasurer, Tournament Director and Assistant Tournament Director shall be elected via on-line voting as described in Section 5C and confirmed with no objections at the annual general membership meeting to be held no later than December 15th. Term of office shall be for one (1) year beginning with the first calendar day of the new year. All BCKFC officer nominees shall have been a member and in good standing for a minimum of twelve (12) months prior to nomination.

B. Nominations

Qualified candidates for all elected offices shall be nominated by at least two (2) other Members in good standing via the club forum in the Members Section. Said nominee shall confirm their acceptance to run for stated office via a post on the forum to be placed in the Members Section.

C. Voting

Voting shall be performed via an on-line voting poll in the Members Section of the Forum for a period of seven (7) days. After the expiration of seven (7) days, the candidate(s) with the majority of affirmative votes will be elected and take office as described above in Section 5A. In the event of a tie the candidate / member with the most seniority in the club shall prevail. If a candidate is unopposed for a given office, then voting will not be required.

D. Vacancies

Nominations to fill the unexpired term of a vacant office shall be made in the Members Section of the Forum by at least two (2) other Members in good standing. If more than one (1) candidate, the voting for stated vacancy will take place on-line in the Members Section for a period of five (5) days. After the expiration of five (5) days, the person with the majority of affirmative votes will take office immediately and serve the remainder of the unexpired term. If the nominee for the vacant office is unopposed, then voting will not be required. See section 5a for qualification of officers.

Section 6. Operating Funds

Funds in excess of One Hundred Dollars (\$100) shall be deposited by the Secretary / Treasurer in a depository approved by the Executive Committee. These funds shall be the Operating Funds of the Club. Funds less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100) may be kept as cash on hand to meet minor expenses.

Section 7. Forum Membership

Forum membership is granted as a privilege and is not a right as a dues paying member of Club membership. A member may be censured or banned from the forum for a specific period of time as decided by the board for unprofessional or obscene conduct on the forum although club membership would still be retained. If a member is banned from the forum as described above then no refund, either partially or otherwise, would be due to the member as a result of lost forum privileges. Possible club membership could be revoked if a member continues to abuse forum privileges.

Section 8. Expulsions

If any member or officer is charged with improper conduct or with violating the provisions of the Constitution or By-Laws of the Club, such charges shall be brought before the Executive Committee for review. If such charges are found to have sufficient weight, the Secretary / Treasurer shall notify the member of the charges at least one week before the next meeting of the Organization. The Member shall be required to appear at such meeting and show just cause, why he/she should not be censured, deprived of the privileges of the Organization, or expelled from membership in the Club. If the Member fails to appear at such meeting or is found guilty of the charge, the Member shall, upon a majority vote of the Members present, be censured, be deprived of the privileges of the Club, or be expelled from membership in the Club. No refund of any paid membership dues or portion thereof shall be refunded if expelled.

Section 9. Organization Termination

In the event of termination of the Club any remaining Club funds and assets shall be dispersed to a charitable organization selected by a majority decision of the Executive Committee.

Section 10. Enacting Clause

These By-Laws or any amendment there of shall take effect immediately following ratification by the membership at a meeting called for such purpose.

Constitution

Section 1. Name

The Organization shall be called **Bayou Coast Kayak Fishing Club (BCKFC)** and shall operate as a non-profit recreational club with a 501C7 status.

Section 2. Purpose

To support and promote the sport of kayak fishing from paddle / pedal craft in Coastal Areas.

Sections 3. Goals

As a recreational organization, the Club's goals shall be to:

1. Organize area kayak fishermen in Coastal Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida and Texas.
2. Support and promote the safe and responsible pursuit of the sport of kayak fishing.
3. Promote fellowship and provide a fun meeting place for kayak fishermen.
4. Provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, fishing information and rigging tips.
5. Sponsor events, group outings, demonstrations and kayak fishing tournaments.
6. Provide a public presence to protect the interests of kayak fisherman.

Section 4. Membership

A. Age

Any person over the age of twelve (12) years who fishes from a canoe, pirogue, or kayak may become a Member of the BCKFC by complying with provisions specified in the By-Laws. Those members age eighteen (18) years or older who are in good standing with the club are eligible to vote and to hold office.

B. Honorary Membership

Any person over the age of twelve (12) years who the Club desires to honor may be elected an Honorary Member by a majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting. Honorary Members will enjoy for the current year the same privileges as regular members except for voting and holding office.

C. Honorary Life Membership

A member who has performed truly outstanding service for the Club may be granted an Honorary Life Member by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at any regular meeting. Honorary Life Members will enjoy for life the same privileges as regular members but at no charge for membership dues. Tournament entry fees would still be due and in effect for any tournaments / events entered.

Section 5. Officers

The elected officers are charged with making the decisions required for operation of the Club, subject to review and consensual approval of the membership. The Officers of the Club will be President, Vice President, Secretary / Treasurer, Tournament Director and Assistant Tournament Director.

Section 6. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall be comprised of the President, Vice President, Secretary / Treasurer, Tournament Director, Assistant Tournament Director. The Past President **may** serve voluntarily but is not required.

Section 7. Duties

A. President

It shall be the duty of the President:

- a. To preside at meetings and conduct those in accordance with accepted rules of order (Robert's Rules of Order).
- b. to schedule and preside over meetings of the Executive Committee
- c. To appoint temporary vacancies subject to approval by the membership.
- d. To appoint various committees as necessary.
- e. To guide the club in a manner to promote the sport of kayak fishing.

B. Vice President

It shall be the duty of the Vice President:

- a. To be responsible for a program at Regular Meetings.
- b. To assist the President in the discharge of his/her duties.
- c. To preside in the absence of the President.
- d. To handle member issues in a professional manner.

C. Secretary / Treasurer

It shall be the duty of the Secretary / Treasurer:

- a. To keep a log of proceedings of the Club Meetings.
- b. To maintain custody of all reports and documents connected with the Club.
- c. To keep a current and correct Membership roster.
- d. To conduct the Club's Correspondence.
- e. To collect all monies due, to have charge of the funds of the Club, and to keep a correct record and account of all monies received and paid out for the fiscal year which shall start on January 1st each year and end on December 31st.
- f. To deposit the funds of the Club, in the name of the Club, in a depository or depositories approved by the Executive Committee.
- g. To present at each Meeting a report stating the financial condition of the Club.
- h. To present a written annual financial statement for the prior calendar year at the first Regular Meeting of the year.

D. Tournament Director

It shall be the duty of the Tournament Director:

- a. After consultation with the Board, to organize and officiate the two (2) major tournaments hosted by Bayou Coast Kayak Fishing Club.
- b. To work with Sponsors and other entities to promote the sport of Kayak Fishing.

E. Assistant Tournament Director

It shall be the duty of the Assistant Tournament Director:

- a. After consultation with the Board, to organize and officiate the regular tournament series of the club for the year.
- b. To work in conjunction with the Tournament Director to host fishing tournaments and other club sponsored activities.

F. Past President

Upon the new President taking office, the outgoing President **may** serve (at their discretion) as Past President on the Executive Committee for a period of one (1) year. It shall be the duty of the Past President to provide guidance and consultation to the President and Executive Committee and to preside in the absence of both the President and Vice President at any meetings.

Section 8. Nominations

Nominations for Officers of the Club shall be made as provided in the By-Laws Section 5B.

Section 9. Election

The Officers of the Club shall be elected annually by majority vote of the Members via on-line voting as described in the By-Laws Section 5.

Section 10. Term of Office

The term of office for each Officer shall be one (1) year unless re-elected for another period.

Section 11. Vacancy

In the event of a vacancy occurring in any office, the vacancy shall be made known, and a successor for the remaining term of office shall be elected as stated in the By-Laws Section 5.

Section 12. Compensation

Officers shall receive no financial compensation, no decrease in membership dues and no other fiscal benefit of the Organization for their service.

Section 13. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall be the policy making body of the Club, with the recommended policies being subject to the final approval of the Membership. Club Officers will constitute the Executive Committee, each having one vote. The Club President will serve as Director of the Executive Committee. The Past President may be asked to serve on the Executive Committee voluntarily with no voting authority but to provide guidance and consultation to the President and Executive Committee and to preside in the absence of both the President and Vice President at any meetings.

Section 14. Quorum**A. Membership Quorum**

A quorum for the transaction of business at a regular scheduled members meeting shall consist of twelve (12) Members or greater of the voting membership.

B. Executive Committee Quorum

A quorum for the transaction of business at Executive Committee meetings shall consist of three (3) of the five (5) Members – past president (if serving) is not considered in this count for a quorum.

Section 15. Removal and Expulsions

Any elected Officer may be removed from office and any Member of the Organization may be expelled from the Organization, for cause, in the manner prescribed in the By-Laws Section 7 and / or Section 8 as described.

Section 16. Amendments

The Constitution and Bylaws of the Club may be amended by a majority vote of the Members voting On-Line, Regular meeting or Special Meeting provided that the proposed amendment has been distributed via the Forum or email electronically to Members at least two (2) weeks prior to being voted upon. The Constitution and By-Laws, once amended, shall be revised and reposted on the Club Website as public record.

Section 17. Enacting Clause

This Constitution or any amendments there of shall take effect immediately following the ratification by the membership at a meeting called for such purpose.

