

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
of the
PATCHOGUE FISHING CLUB**

Preamble and Resolutions

**ARTICLE I
Name**

The name of the Club shall be... Patchogue Fishing Club

**ARTICLE II
Object**

- Section 1** The object of this Club shall be to promote and educate the art of safe rod and reel fishing as a sport.
- Section 2** To maintain a Club that is educational, fraternal in organization where members enjoy the sport of fishing and boating.
- Section 3** To encourage, promote and foster the conservation of the fish and bird life, which abound in and around the waters, estuaries and wetlands of Long Island.
- Section 4** To encourage, promote and foster the preservation of the ecological balance, which the fish and bird life depend upon in and around the waters, estuaries, and wetlands of Long Island.
- Section 5** To encourage, promote and cooperate with those Conservation groups who have as their goals the purposes enunciated in it items #3 and #4 above, in Suffolk County.

**ARTICLE III
Officers, Directors and Their Election**

- Section 1** The officers of this Club shall be the President, First and Second Vice Presidents, a Recording Secretary, a Financial Secretary and a Treasurer. These officers shall be elected annually by ballot for a term of one year and shall serve until their successors are elected and take office.
- Section 2** Five directors and a chairman will act in conjunction with the officers, and be known as the Board of Directors of this Club. The five directors shall be elected for a term of one year. The Chairman of the Board shall be the retiring President of the Club, and is not elected. The Board of Directors shall elect its own chairman in case of death or resignation of the incumbent Chairman and the membership shall elect another director.
- Section 3** The regularly scheduled December meeting shall be known as the Election Meeting at which time the election of all officers and directors shall take place. The newly elected officers and directors shall be installed at the next regularly scheduled meeting following the Election Meeting.

Section 4 A Nominating Committee of three (3) members, elected by the Club two months preceding the Election Meeting, shall make nominations for officers and directors. The Nominating Committee shall choose a chairman and shall report at the October regular meeting, the names of the candidates for each office to be filled. No discussion of candidates shall take place at that time. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the Election Meeting. Voting shall be limited to nominees made by the committee and nominees, which have been proposed by the membership at the Election Meeting.

Section 5 Any vacancy occurring in an office of the Officers or Directors shall be filled by vote of the membership of the Club at the next regular meeting for the unexpired term of the vacated position.

Section 6 When two or more candidates are nominated to fill the same vacant office, voting shall be by secret ballot.

ARTICLE IV Duties of the Officers and Directors

Section 1 The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and shall be, ex officio, a member of all committees except of Nominating Committee; shall appoint special committees, except the Nominating Committee, and shall perform all the duties pertaining to his office.

Section 2 A Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in the absence or inability of that officer to act and shall assist the President when called upon.

Section 3 The Recording Secretary shall keep an accurate record of Club and Board meetings and shall perform such other duties as may be necessary. The Recording Secretary shall give notice of all meetings to the members and attend to all correspondence.

Section 4 The duties of the Financial Secretary shall be; To receive all monies for the Club; to keep accurate record of same; and turn over same to the treasurer at every meeting.

Section 5 The Treasurer shall keep an accurate record of all receipts and expenditures; shall pay all authorized bills.

Section 6 The Board of Directors shall be invested with the Governing Authority of the club on all club matters of whatsoever kind. The Board's decisions on such matters shall be considered recommendations to the membership in the form of a motion, and shall be subject to approval by membership vote.

- Section 7** The Board of Directors has power to:
1. Appoint delegates to the different associations of which this club may be member; or for the purpose of conferring with any association or Club respecting any matter in which this Club may be concerned.
 2. Call a special meeting of the Club to consider special subjects or business.
 3. Appropriate funds not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for the payment of bills requiring immediate attention; and for any single Club activity.
 4. To prescribe additional duties for any of the officers in addition to those herein set forth.
 5. To make, alter, and amend the rules for the Board's own government and to fix and enforce penalties for the violation of such rules.

ARTICLE V
Meetings and Memberships

- Section 1** The Annual Meeting of this Club shall be held on the fourth Thursday in January.
- Section 2** The Regular Meeting of the Club shall be held on the fourth Thursday of January, February, March, April, May, June, September, October and December. Exceptions to this rule may occur based on holidays, school schedules, etc. and shall be voted upon at the January meeting.
- Section 3** The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors shall be on the third Wednesday preceding the regular Club meeting at eight o'clock p.m.
- Section 4** The stipulation of Sections 1, 2 and 3 above, may be altered for convenience by majority vote of the Club members present at a previous regular meeting.
- Section 5** The privilege of holding office, making motions, debating and voting shall be limited to members of the Club who are in good standing.
- Section 6** All club dues are due January 1st each year. A member who has not paid his/her dues on or before the April meeting of each year will automatically become a member not in good standing.

- Section 7** Failure to attend two meetings during the current year, even though in good standing, will bar said member from being eligible for an annual prize or prizes. Ladies Night, Dinner Dance, and Picnic shall be considered as a regular meeting.
- Section 8** Any member that is a full time student or serving in the armed services during the current year is exempt from the two meeting rule.
- Section 9** Six members shall constitute a quorum for a regular Board of Directors meeting.
- Section 10** Nine members shall constitute a quorum for any regular Club meeting.
- Section 11** A special meeting may be called at any time by the President, or upon the written request of nine or more members.
- Section 12** In the absence of the President and both Vice Presidents, the Club will select a chairman pro tem.
- Section 13** No sectarian, political or personal matter shall be introduced before the Club or the Board of Directors meetings.

ARTICLE VI

Membership

- Section 1** All persons interested in the objectives of the Club, and whom the Club accepts for membership become active members upon payment of the dues
- Section 2** The annual dues for members for the following year shall be voted on by the general membership at the December meeting. A dues proposal shall be made by the budget committee prior to voting.
- Section 3** Any member that is a full time college student or currently serving in the armed forces is exempt from paying dues.
- Section 4** A proposed member must be present, live on Long Island, have dues paid with the application and proposed by a member in good standing. Upon meeting the above criteria, admission to the club is automatic.
- Section 5** Applicants for membership accepted at or prior to the September meeting, become paid-up members of that year, and are eligible for club prizes or club trophies after they become members.
- Section 6** Applicants for membership accepted at the October meeting or thereafter in the current year may become paid-up members of the following year if the member so stipulates; but such member may not compete for any prizes offered by the Club until January 1st of the following year.

Section 7 **Expulsion of Member:** Any request for expulsion of a member by another member must be made in writing and submitted to the Board of Directors in person. The Board shall decide on the validity of the request and may, at its discretion, bring the request to the attention of the Club membership for a vote. A four-fifth majority will be necessary for expulsion.

Section 8 A member of the Patchogue Fishing Club, who competes against said club, shall forfeit his/her good standing in the Club including his/her eligibility for club prizes; contests or any other duly authorized club function.

Section 10 Total membership shall not exceed one hundred senior members. When there is a waiting list the Board of Directors shall order the membership to discuss the question of the limitation of membership

ARTICLE VII
Committees

Section 1 There shall be such standing committees created by the Club as may be required to promote the objectives and interests of the Club. The chairmen of such standing committees shall be appointed by the President. Such Chairmen, duly appointed, shall select their own committee members.

ARTICLE VIII
Rules of Order

Section 1 The rules contained in Roberts Rules of Order (Revised) shall govern the Club.

ARTICLE IX
Junior Members

Section 1 Any person who is less than 18 years of age anytime during the current year may become a junior member of this Club if they meet all other criteria of membership.

Section 2 Proposed junior members need not be present at the meeting where their application and dues are submitted.

Section 3 Junior members are eligible for all prizes.

Section 4 They can attend all regular meetings provided they are accompanied by a senior member in good standing.

Section 5 Junior candidates for membership must be sponsored by a senior member in good standing and must have the written approval of his parent or guardian.

Section 6 Junior members may not vote at any time at any meeting.

Section 7 Junior members have no attendance requirement at regular meetings in order to be eligible for an annual prize.

**ARTICLE X
Amendments**

Section 1 The by-laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Club by a two-thirds vote of the members present provided:

Section 2 The proposed amendment is first submitted at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors, and then,

Section 3 The membership must then be notified of the amendment one month prior to which date it is presented for a “Yes” or “No” vote at the next scheduled regular meeting of the Club.

**ARTICLE XI
Disbanding**

Section 1 If, for any reason, this Club disbands, all existing funds and Club properties shall be divided equally among the paid-up members, except that the Board of Directors shall determine the awarding of the permanent Club trophies.

Section 2 The matter of disbanding the Club must be submitted to the members of the Board previous to the regular Club meeting and if acted upon favorably by the Board, shall be submitted at the next regular meeting of the Club for a “Yes” or “No” vote, after discussion.

Section 3 A Four/Fifths vote of the membership present at this meeting shall determine the matter.

**PATCHOGUE FISHING CLUB
CONTEST RULES**

- 1) The term of each annual contest shall begin and end at midnight of December 31 each year.
- 2) Fish must be weighed in on a certified scale.
 - a) Scales must be read in increments as specified by certification.
 - b) All readings must be backed up to the previous increment.
- 3) The contestant must be a member in good standing.
- 4) All entries must either be:
 - a) Mailed to: **Patchogue Fishing Club**
P.O. Box 808
Patchogue, New York 11772-0808
 - b) Delivered to the Weigh Master of the Patchogue Fishing Club.
- 5)
 - a) All mailed entries must be *postmarked* not later than (10) days after capture of the fish.
 - b) All delivered entries must be *received* by the Weigh Master not later than (10) days after capture of the fish.
 - c) Weigh Master is only obliged to accept weigh-in slips during meetings of the Patchogue Fishing Club.
- 6) Contestant must bring fish to gaff unaided.
- 7) A fish shall be disqualified for the following reasons:
 - a) Hand lining a fish.
 - b) Any person other than the angler touching any part of tackle, except kite line or outriggers in salt water fishing and leader while fighting fish.
 - c) The use of any other line snapped on or in any way attached to double line or leader.
 - d) Shooting fish, except at Captain's discretion.
 - e) Use of harpoon, lance or billy iron.
 - f) The assistance of more than one person in gaffing or killing a fish.
 - g) Any salt water fish weighing less than one pound.
- 8) Contestants must conform to all local, State and Federal laws in taking of his fish.
- 9) Protests regarding weigh-ins must be submitted in writing to Patchogue Fishing Club by January 31 following the close of the preceding annual contest.

10) Only one prize will be awarded to a contestant in each fish category.

11) Prizes:

A. **Annual Categories**

TYPE OF FISH	SURF	BOAT
Striped Bass	1, 2, 3	1, 2, 3
Bluefish	1, 2, 3	1, 2, 3
Weakfish	1, 2, 3	1, 2, 3
Fluke	1, 2, 3	
Cod, Pollack	1, 2, 3	
Blackfish	1, 2, 3	
Flounder	1, 2, 3	
Tuna	1, 2, 3	
Porgy	1, 2, 3	
Sea Bass	1, 2, 3	
Kingfish	1, 2, 3	
Freshwater: Trout	1, 2, 3	
Bass	1, 2, 3	
Pickerel	1, 2, 3	

B. **Monthly Category** (Fish-of-the-month). Most significant fish (weight percent of NYS Record) of any species listed in section. Fish-of-the-month prizes will be awarded to both senior and junior members each month, if applicable. If a junior member catches the largest fish overall for the month, the junior member wins the senior fish-of-the-month prize. The second largest fish weighed in by a junior member during the month will then win the junior fish-of-the-month prize.

C. **Trophies:** Where trophies are in competition each year, they are permanent challenge Trophies belonging to our Club and must be returned each year by the current holder. The winner's name will be inscribed on each trophy. Contest rules of the Patchogue Fishing Club shall be followed. Contests will be decided on a point basis. A proposal to the club to add a memorial trophy shall be considered by the Board of Directors.

Surf: Stripers 2 pts. per pound for fish weighing a minimum of 10 pounds.
Bluefish 2 pts. per pound for fish weighing a minimum of 5 pounds.
Weakfish 2 pts. per pound for fish weighing a minimum of 4 pounds.

Boat: Stripers 1 pt.	per pound for fish weighing a minimum of 10 pounds.
Bluefish 1 pt.	per pound for fish weighing a minimum of 5 pounds.
Weakfish 1 pt.	per pound for fish weighing a minimum of 4 pounds.

TROPHIES

AWARDED FOR

Kalivas Bowl	Most Club Points-Surf
McGarvey Bowl	Most Club Points-Boat
August Dietz Memorial Trophy	Largest Striped Bass
Past Presidents Trophy	Largest Sport Fish of the Year
Victor Yannacone Memorial Trophy	Largest Bluefish
Sol Levine Memorial Trophy	Largest Flounder
George Dietz Memorial Trophy	Largest Fluke
Carl Dippel Memorial Trophy	Service
50th Anniversary Trophy	Largest Combined Weight-Striped Bass, Bluefish and Weakfish
Travelers Trophy	Most Significant fish (weight percent of IGFA Record) caught out of LI waters

D. Sport Fish to Mean:

All the fish of our annual contest plus the fish listed below: (L.I. waters only)

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. Swordfish | 6. All Mackerel |
| 2. All Sharks | 7. Tile Fish |
| 3. All Marlin | 8. Haddock |
| 4. Dolphin | 9. Kingfish |
| 5. Hake | |

- 12) In case of tie, contestants will toss a coin for places; decision of the prize committee will be final.
- 13) Boundaries:
- A. Surf fish must be caught from Long Island shores.
 - B. Boat fish must be caught from boats launched from and returned to Long Island ports without making non-Long Island landfall.
- 14) Record fish rules:
- A. All weigh-ins must comply with club rules.
 - B. To break a club record you must catch a fish larger than the current record fish.

- C. If a record is tied, the angler will get recognition by having his or her name with particulars appearing on the club records sheets.
 - D. Record plaques will only be awarded to anglers breaking an existing record.
 - E. Eligibility for a record fish is limited to fish listed in Section 11A, 11D, and those in the existing PFC Record Fish list.
- 15) Weigh-in slips:
- A. Only one angler's weigh-in to appear on a weigh slip.
 - B. All fish entered on the back of a weigh slip must be of the same species as the fish appearing on the face of the weigh slip.
 - C. Each weigh slip must identify a specific scale.
 - 1.) Club certification # must be given for club scale.
 - 2.) All non-club scales must be identified by type, location and increments of measure.
 - D. All weigh slips must be witnessed by one of the following:
 - 1.) Another P.F.C. member
 - 2.) Captain of a charter or party boat
 - 3.) Official weigh station representative
 - 4.) See Section 16C for non-member witness
- 16) Club point fish:
- A. A maximum number of ten (10) point fish *per category* are eligible for an angler's score within a calendar day. If the number of point fish weighed in *per category* exceeds 10, only the heaviest 10 are eligible for score.
 - B. "Surf" and "Boat" caught fish are separate categories. Therefore, a maximum number of twenty (20) point fish *per species* are eligible for an angler's score within a calendar day, if State and Federal regulations are obeyed.
 - C. Released fish may be witnessed by a non-member for club points only.