

# **PUGET SOUND FLYFISHERS CLUB**

## **CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

Revised and Adopted in April 1987  
(Amended in January 1994 & July 1996 & July 2004)

### **ARTICLE 1**

This organization shall be known as the Puget Sound Flyfishers Club of Tacoma, Washington.

### **ARTICLE 2**

The aims and purposes of this club shall be:

- Section 1. To improve and encourage the sport of flyfishing by social, educational, and political means.
- Section 2. To encourage flyfishing and other selective fishing techniques as a means of conservation and of increasing fishing opportunity.
- Section 3. To encourage the conservation, enhancement, and quality of sport fishing.
- Section 4. To promote "Sportsmanship" in all aspects of club and individual activity.
- Section 5. To aid in the eradication of pollution and other practices destructive to fisheries.
- Section 6. To actively assist and encourage the public to become flyfishers and to adopt the club's philosophies.

### **ARTICLE 3**

#### **Officers and Directors**

- Section 1. Directors  
The board of directors shall consist of three Directors and the immediate past President. The Directors are each elected for three year terms, one Director terminating his office each year. The immediate past President's directorship is for one year only. Directors will assume office at the September meeting following their election.

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### ARTICLE 3 (Continued)

#### Section 2. Officers

The Officers of the club shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Ghillie. The Officers will serve one year terms, commencing at the September meeting following their election.

a. President

The President shall preside at all meetings of members and meetings of the Officers and Directors and shall have general charge and supervision of the club, subject to direction of the Officers and Directors.

b. Vice-President

The Vice-President shall perform and be vested with all the duties and powers of the President in case of the disability or absence of the President and he shall be chairman of the membership committee. He shall be in charge of elections and he shall perform such additional duties as may be assigned to him by the President.

c. Secretary

The Secretary shall have charge of such books, documents, correspondence and papers as the Officers and Directors shall determine and he shall keep a record of the meetings of Officers and Directors and general membership. He shall give notice as required of all meetings and he shall keep a record of the club archives, including a depository copy file of the newsletter, the current master copy of the club constitution and bylaws, and a list of gold button awards, certificates and trophy fish entries (See Appendix B).

d. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall have custody of all monies of the club to be deposited in such banks and to be subject to withdrawal on such conditions as the Officers and Directors may designate and he shall be responsible for the billing and collecting of all dues. He shall maintain the official list of members and he shall keep an accurate account of all monies received and disbursed, render statements thereof, and perform such other duties incident to the office as may be prescribed by the President.

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### ARTICLE 3 (Continued)

e. Ghillie

It shall be the duty of the Ghillie to see that the orders of the President are carried out at all meetings and to collect authorized fines. He shall be responsible for the safekeeping and availability of the fly box, club pins and patches. The Ghillie shall have charge of the "Ghillie Fund" and shall make a monthly accounting to the Treasurer of the proceeds, disbursements and balance of the fund following each monthly meeting.

Section 3. General Duties of Officers and Directors

The Officers and Directors shall together transact the general business of the club.

Section 4. Elections

a. Eligibility

No one shall be eligible to represent the club in any official capacity unless paid up and in good standing. Such representation includes, but is not limited to, voting and serving as an Officer, Director, or committee member.

b. Nominations

1. The Officers and Directors will prepare a ballot consisting of six willing members to serve on the nominating committee. The members present at the April meeting will vote by written ballot on these six and the three receiving the largest number of votes will comprise the nominating committee.
2. Except for the President and Directors, incumbent Officers are ineligible to serve on the nominating committee.
3. One or more willing nominees shall be selected for each office for the succeeding year and their names shall be presented for election by the general membership at the May meeting.
4. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the May meeting.

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### ARTICLE 3 (Continued)

- c. Election  
Election of Officers and Directors shall be made by written ballot of members present at the May meeting each year. The nominee receiving the largest number of votes for each office shall be elected.
- d. Vacancies  
A vacancy in any office or Directorship shall be filled by action of the Officers and Directors. The appointee shall serve for the remainder of the year. Should a Directorship vacancy occur with more than one year remaining, the board will fill that vacancy (as above) for the remainder of the current year. The additional remaining year(s) will be filled by a vote of the general membership at the next regular election.

### ARTICLE 4

#### Officers and Directors Meetings

- Section 1. The Officers and Directors meetings shall be open to the general membership. At such meetings, only the following Officers and Directors are eligible to vote: the three elected Directors; the immediate past president; the Vice-President; the Secretary; and the Treasurer. In the event of a tie vote, the President will vote to break the tie.
- Section 2. A quorum of Officers and Directors must be present at all Officers and Directors meetings for the conduct of any business. A quorum is defined as four Officers and Directors eligible to vote, or three Officers and Directors eligible to vote and the President.
- Section 3. Any matter pertaining to club policy, management and administration shall be referred to the Officers and Directors by the initiating members for the Officers' and Directors' action.
- Section 4. The Officers and Directors shall not change or amend the bylaws or take public positions on issues without the approval of the general membership.

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### ARTICLE 4 (Continued)

- Section 5. The Officers and Directors, at their discretion, may request a vote of the general membership on any issue.
- Section 6. Payment of vouchers against the club and withdrawal of club funds shall be made on the approval of the Officers and Directors and on the signature of the Treasurer.
- Section 7. Officers and Directors shall not authorize the encumbrance or any payment of any obligation in excess of \$500.00. Obligations in excess of that amount shall be approved by the club at a general membership meeting; except in the event of a true emergency situation, the Officers and Directors, and only by unanimous decision of those present, may exceed that amount.
- Section 8. The Officers and Directors are empowered to recommend to the general membership that a Director, an Officer, or a general member be removed from his office and/or the club for cause; that is, failure to live up to the responsibilities of his position, conduct unbecoming of a sportsman, or any other action detrimental or opposed to the principles of the club. Only by majority vote of the general membership may such action be taken.

### ARTICLE 5

#### Club Year and Meetings

- Section 1. The operating year shall be September 1st through August 31st (See Appendix A).
- Section 2. General meetings of the membership will be held monthly on the second Thursday of each month, except that there will be no regularly scheduled meeting in August. Meetings will adhere to the following schedule:
- |           |                   |
|-----------|-------------------|
| 6:00 p.m. | "Wet Fly" Session |
| 7:00 p.m. | Dinner            |
| 7:30 p.m. | General Meeting   |

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### **ARTICLE 5 (Continued)**

- Section 3. The annual picnic will be held in August in lieu of a general meeting.
- Section 4. Open meetings of the Officers and Directors will be held monthly in addition to the regular membership meeting. There will, however, be no such meeting regularly scheduled in August.
- Section 5. Any Officer or Director may call a "special" meeting of the Officers and Directors at any time to conduct any necessary business. Each Officer and Director, however, must be notified at least 5 days in advance, either orally or in writing, of the time, location and purpose of such meetings and a quorum of the Officers and Directors must be present to conduct any business.
- Section 6. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all business of the club.

### **ARTICLE 6**

#### **Membership**

- Section 1. Any person over the age of 18 years who is interested in flyfishing and subscribes to Article 2 of these bylaws is eligible for membership.
- Section 2. All applications for membership shall be on a regulation application blank provided by the membership committee and signed by the applicant. The completed form will be returned to the Vice-President, President or other member of the membership committee.
- Section 3. Before being admitted as a member, the applicant must fulfill the following requirements:
- a. Pay new member dues according the chart shown in Appendix C.
  - b. Be assigned a "Guide", who shall be a club member in good standing, and who shall assist the new member in fulfilling these requirements;

### **ARTICLE 6 (Continued)**

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- c. Attend one Officers and Directors meeting;
- d. Attend one general meeting; and
- e. Join one of the club's committees.

Section 4. Once the activities in Section 3 above are completed, the membership committee shall submit the application to the board for its acceptance. Only by majority vote of the Officers and Directors will new members be admitted to the club. The election of new members will be announced in the following month's newsletter.

Section 5. The annual dues for club members shall be \$25.00 and are due and payable September 1 of each year. New members shall pay dues and fees as described in Article 6, Section 3, a. and in Appendix C.

If dues have not been received by end of October, unpaid members will be given a notice in their November News Letter. If at the end of November they have not paid, they will receive a blank December newsletter or notice of delinquency. At the end of December, the membership committee shall recommend to the Officers and Directors that any delinquent members should be dropped from the membership role. A reasonable effort shall be made by an Officer or Director to contact that member prior to that person being removed. If that person wishes after that time, to become a member again, it would be as a new member and any administration fees shall apply. Members in good standing, who withdraw from the club and later wish to rejoin, may do so, with approval of the Officers and Directors, by paying the regular dues provided they don't need a new nametag.

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### **ARTICLE 6 (continued)**

Section 6. There shall be a class of membership known as spousal members whose dues will be \$35.00 per club year (September 1 - August 31) and who shall apply for membership and shall be accepted in the usual manner. To be eligible a couple must live at the same address. Such couples shall receive only one copy of all club notices and communications and shall be eligible to attend all meetings and to participate in all club activities and both shall have the right to vote, to hold office and to serve on committees.

New members joining under this classification will pay based on the new spousal member schedule shown in Appendix C. This cost includes nametags for both members.

### **ARTICLE 7**

#### **General Membership**

Section 1. Twenty members in good standing shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a general meeting.

Section 2. A two-thirds majority vote of the members present shall be necessary to amend or add to the bylaws of the club, provided oral notice of intention has been given at the preceding meeting of the club and published in the newsletter.

Section 3. A simple majority vote (50% + 1) shall be necessary to approve all other issues brought before the general membership for its vote.

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### ARTICLE 8

#### Committees

##### Section 1. Membership

The membership committee shall be chaired by the Vice-President. He shall select one or more members of the club to serve on this committee.

- a. This committee shall review all membership applications and make recommendations for membership to the Officers and Directors. A favorable majority vote of the Officers and Directors will allow an applicant to become a new member once his application obligations are completed.
- b. This committee shall be responsible for appraising the nature of the membership of the club. This responsibility shall include, but is not limited to, consideration of the optimum size of the club, recruitment policies and limitations on membership.
- c. The chairman of this committee shall be responsible for the welcoming into the club of all new members and he will introduce all new members to the club.
- d. This committee shall ensure that all guests and visitors are welcomed and introduced at all general meetings.
- e. This committee will assist prospective new members in fulfilling their membership obligations (Article 6, Section 3).
- f. This committee shall be responsible for follow-up action in concert with new members to see that new members are properly assimilated into the activities of the club.
- g. The chairman of this committee, in cooperation with the club Secretary and Treasurer, shall be responsible for keeping current the club membership list, mailing list, and the publication of a club roster of members.
- h. The club roster will be published prior to the January meeting each year and contain the names of all members paid up and in good standing at that time.

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### ARTICLE 8 (Continued)

#### Section 2. Legislation

The legislative committee shall consist of the chairman, who shall be appointed by the President, and one or more members. This committee shall be responsible for initiating action on matters of specific concern to the aims and purposes of the club. This committee shall consider and recommend action by the club on pending resolutions and other legislative efforts on conservation matters affecting club concerns.

#### Section 3. Education

This committee shall consist of the chairman, who shall be appointed by the President, and one or more members. This committee shall be responsible for the instruction of flyfishing, fly tying, rod making and related skills and activities. This committee shall coordinate club participation in meetings of other groups requesting information about flyfishing. This committee shall be responsible for the safe keeping of teaching aids, such as rods, reels, lines, posters, and other instructional equipment.

#### Section 4. Propagation, Protection and Conservation

This committee shall consist of the chairman, who shall be appointed by the President, and one or more members. This committee shall be responsible for initiating and executing action on projects of fishery management and conservation consistent with the aims and purposes of the club. This will include cooperation with other flyfishing or outdoors clubs on such projects.

#### Section 5. Outdoor Activities

This committee shall consist of the chairman, who shall be appointed by the President, and one or more members. This committee shall plan, arrange and encourage participation of members and their guests in organized angling and related social activities approved by the Officers and Directors. This committee shall also plan and organize the annual picnic.

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### ARTICLE 8 (Continued)

Section 6. Programs

This committee shall consist of the chairman, who shall be appointed by the President, and one or more members. This committee shall be responsible for the programs of the club at all of its meetings. The chairman of this committee can call on any member of the club to assist, as required, to provide a stimulating program. The Program Chairman shall be responsible for determining the recipients of awards provided for in Appendix B of these Bylaws and shall coordinate the awarding of such awards as the club may authorize.

Section 7. Newsletter Editor

The Editor of the newsletter shall be appointed by the President and may select additional members of the club to assist him. He is responsible for the writing and publishing of the monthly newsletter and can call on any member of the club for assistance.

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### APPENDIX A

#### Club Year Major Events (Typical Year)

January	Roster Published and Distributed First General Meeting
February-March	Instructional Classes (Fly tying, Rod Building, etc.)
March	Auction
April	Nominating Committee Elected at General Meeting PSFF Spring Clinic Outing - Lowland Lake Opener
May	Annual Elections at General Meeting
July	Awards Banquet
August	Picnic
September	Membership Dues are Due and Payable

NOTE: Conservation projects, outings, parties, and other activities may be scheduled at any time throughout the year.

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### APPENDIX B

#### Rules Governing Trophy Fish

- Section 1. All fish for trophy pin qualification must be taken on a cast fly (wet or dry).
- Section 2. All fish must be legally taken in the State of Washington in either fresh or salt water.
- Section 3. In keeping with the philosophy of limiting the kill and returning the fish for another day, killing the fish is not required. Any means of verification is acceptable (i.e., weight, photo, witness, estimated, etc.).
- Section 4. Only applications from Puget Sound Flyfisher members in good standing at the time of catch will be accepted.
- Section 5. The Program Chairman of Puget Sound Flyfishers will be the judge of all entries.
- Section 6. Awards will be presented at the July meeting of each year. This meeting night will be designated "Awards Night".
- Section 7. The qualifying fish must be caught during the club year, July 1 through June 31, both dates inclusive.
- Section 8. The qualifying fish are to be judged on weight alone. Should no fish meet the minimum weight requirements, no award will be made in that category.
- Section 9. The awards in each category below shall be an award pin for each fish exceeding the minimum weight requirement.
- Section 10. A trophy plaque will be awarded to the member submitting the most outstanding fish regardless of category. This trophy shall be known as the President's Trophy. The Officers and Directors shall make the judgment, from the fish submitted, which one will receive the President's Trophy. This award is a perpetual trophy, inscribed with the recipient's name. It shall be awarded annually, held by the Treasurer, and displayed at each meeting.

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## APPENDIX B (Continued)

### NEW TROPHY PIN FISH MEASUREMENTS

<u>SPECIE</u>	<u>MINIMUM</u>
Rainbow Trout	20"
Searun Cutthroat	16"
Lahotan Cutthroat	25"
Eastern Brook	18"
Brown Trout	20"
Chinook Salmon	34"
All Other Salmon	24"
Bass	16"
Steelhead	34"

Caught anywhere. To be awarded at July Awards Banquet.

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### APPENDIX C: NEW MEMBER PAYMENT SCHEDULE

MONTH	<u>DUES</u>	<u>Administration Fee</u>	<u>Total Individual</u>	<u>New Spousal Membership</u>
September	\$25	\$10	\$35	\$55
October	\$25	\$10	\$35	\$55
November	\$25	\$10	\$35	\$55
December	\$25	\$10	\$35	\$55
January	\$20	\$10	\$30	\$50
February	\$20	\$10	\$30	\$50
March	\$15	\$10	\$25	\$45
April	\$15	\$10	\$25	\$45
May	\$10	\$10	\$20	\$35
June	\$10	\$10	\$20	\$35
July	\$05	\$10	\$15	\$25
August	PAY FOR THE NEXT YEAR		\$35	\$55