

HOSSFLY Charter and Bylaws - December 2005



PREAMBLE

We hereby join as an association to further fly-fishing as a sport, to understand to the fullest extent possible the form and function of the sport, and through it promote protection and enhancement of angling resources and embody the sportsmanship, fellowship, comradery, and courtesy with all anglers in this true sport of gentlefolk.

ARTICLE I

This association shall be called the **"HISTORIC OCEAN SPRINGS SALTWATER FLYFISHING CLUB"** and may be, on occasion, be referred to with its acronym, **"HOSS FLY"**. Having first etched its shell in the summer of 1968 and being in the most historic town of the original Louisiana Colony, the Club has earned its moniker.

ARTICLE II Purpose

It is the purpose and goals of this club to:

- Section 1. Gain wisdom through fellowship
- Section 2. Promote the grace, integrity, honesty and courtesy of all anglers
- Section 3. Encourage and assist all anglers to become fly fishers
- Section 4. Advocate pollution abatement
- Section 5. Improve our skills and those of others in the sport of flyfishing
- Section 6. Practice resource conservation through catch and release as practicable

ARTICLE III Membership and Dues

- Section 1. Membership shall be gained by an open invitation. Applications are accepted through the Treasurer.
- Section 2. This club shall be a Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) club and make all effort to be a 100% FFF club (all active members should also be members of the FFF). Local chapter dues are set at \$12/individual and \$18/family per annum. An active member is one that has paid current dues for the local chapter and has attended at least 6 of the last 12 meetings.



ARTICLE IV Meetings and Voting

- Section 1. Meetings shall be held at a time and place determined by the Leader and/or Vice Leader. An official meeting shall consist of at least three active members present. The scheduled meeting day is tentatively set for the second Wednesday of each month at a place determined by the current officers.
- Section 2. A quorum shall be present to vote on raising dues for membership. A quorum shall consist of a simple majority of the active members not including those members living outside coastal Mississippi. Absentee voting is acceptable provided that the absent member has given proxy vote to an attending active member. Only active members may vote. Proxy votes are acceptable.
- Section 3. Decisions pertaining to club activities such as tournaments, functions, or changes to these articles shall normally be made by consensus of all active members. Consensus may be reached by using methods other than an official meeting such as via e-mail. If consensus cannot be reached, a vote shall be taken. Decisions by vote shall be a simple majority vote of the active members with at least half the active members voting. Proxy votes are acceptable. A decision by vote may be reached by using methods other than an official meeting such as via e-mail.
- Section 4. Election to office will be by simple majority vote of active members with at least half the active members voting. Proxy votes are acceptable.

ARTICLE V Officers

- Section 1. The elected offices of the Club shall be the Leader, Vice Leader, Secretary, Treasurer, and Conservation chair. The terms of the officers shall normally be 1 year except that the Conservation Chair has been appointed as lifetime or until resignation. An officer shall be an active member. There are no limits on reelection to any office.
- Section 2. Other club officials appointed by the Leader with their concurrence and consensus of the active members may include: Program Chair; Youth Director and Fly Tying-N-Dinner Coordinator; and Tippet Editor.



Section 3. One or more active member shall make nomination for office.

Section 4. Duties of elected officials

- A. Leader
Final approving official for the club meeting program and presides over each meeting and each banquet; determines the club agenda; the final approving authority for club awards or tournaments; and normally represents the club or assigns a representative for the club to any functions outside the monthly club meeting.
- B. Vice Leader
Assist the Leader. In the absence of the leader, the Vice Leader serves as Leader. The vice leader also acts as the trip coordinator working with the program chair to arrange, coordinate and implement club trips
- C. Secretary
Serves as the main correspondent for the club and shall take minutes of all club meetings and outings and report to the members at each meeting and through the Tippet.
- D. Treasurer
Responsible for all club monies and reports to the general membership at each club meeting as to the status of club funds and expenditures; also responsible for collecting dues for the local club membership.
- E. Conservation Chair
Central contact for functions relating to conservation, ecology, environmental or public health matters. Also, serves as main contact for Federation of Fly Fishers.



Section 4. Duties of appointed officials

- A. Program Chair
Develops the program for each club meeting or banquet and makes arrangements for visiting speakers and venues. Assists the Vice Leader to arrange, coordinate and implement club trips.
- B. Youth Director and Fly Tying-N-Dinner Coordinator
The Youth Program Coordinator develops and presides over all programs for youth and reports the progress of such activities at each club meeting.
- C. Tippet Editor
Assembles and edits The Tippet and is responsible for final proper content, format, grammar, and spelling.

ARTICLE VI Contests and Tournaments

- Section 1. There shall be an annual on-going contest each year for casting, fly-tying, best catch and sportsmanship. The present and past presidents (Leaders) will determine the angler of the year award based on these qualities.
- Section 2. Flyfishing tournaments sponsored by the club shall be fly-fishing only and no other fishing tackle should be present or used by a tournament angler.
- Section 3. There shall be an annual tournament held at a time and place determined by consensus of active members but should be of three days duration if possible. The winner of the tournament shall be named "*Poisson Gras*" and will hold that title until next annual contest.
- Section 4. A committee of at least four consisting of the Leader, Vice Leader, Treasurer, Secretary and Conservation Chair shall normally determine other awards to be given.



Section 5. Normal operating expenses of less than \$20⁰⁰ are the prerogative of the Secretary and Treasurer.

ARTICLE VII Logo and CORRESPONDENCE

Section 1. Logo

The official Logo for the Ocean Springs Saltwater Fly-Fishing Club consists of a flying fish encircled with the club name as follows:



Section 2. THE TIPPET

The Tippet is the monthly club newsletter, which contains minutes of each previous meeting, announcements, trip reports and other news of interest to the club members and potential club members.