

ERIE PA CHARTER BOAT ASSN



By-Laws 2015

“The EPACBA is a network of professional licensed captains operating on the Pennsylvania waters of Lake Erie to promote environmental advocacy, education and awareness of today’s fisheries issues. By working closely with the PAF&BC and other Lake Erie fishery stakeholders, the EPACBA will lend a helping hand from a professional standpoint that will be in the best interests of ALL Lake Erie boaters.”

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ARTICLE I – NAME AND MISSION

Section 1: Name

The name of this not-for-profit association shall be the: ERIE PENNSYLVANIA CHARTER BOAT ASSOCIATION.

Section 2: Mission

The purpose of this not-for-profit association is to encourage and promote sound fisheries management in Lake Erie, advance the charter boat sport fishing industry, promote sportsman-like conduct, create a better working relationship between the Association, sport fishing public and the PFBC, provide methods for improved and safe boating and fishing techniques, and a means of working toward these goals.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1: Membership

Section 1.1: Captain Membership

Active membership in this organization shall be limited to those persons who are duly licensed to operate a charter boat for hire on The Great Lakes or Inland Waters of the United States of America. You will receive the "On the Troll" newsletter, may run for or hold office in EPACBA and get two votes for all purposes. You will be listed in the Captains Directory on the EPACBA's website. As an active member you may attend any monthly board meeting and bring forth or present issues. You may also chair or serve on committees. Active members shall be responsible for their own drug program according to USCG rules.

Section 1.2: Mate Membership

Active membership in this organization shall be limited to those persons who work on a charter boat for hire on The Great Lakes or Inland Waters of the United States of America. You must comply with all USCG requirements for your position on a fishing vessel for hire. You may attend meetings and events. As an active member you have voting rights, as one vote, and can be elected to the board of directors as a Mate director. You will have access to the "On the Troll" newsletter and be listed in the Mates Directory on the EPACBA's website. You will also qualify to enter the annual election for the Bob Romanishin scholarship fund. The recipient of the scholarship fund will be required to serve a 1 year term as a Director on the Board, effective immediately, upon the day of the award. Active members shall be responsible for their own drug program according to USCG rules.

Section 1.3: Business Membership

Any business desiring to assist in extending the plans of the Association shall be

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eligible as a Business Member. You will receive the "On the Troll" newsletter and will be listed in the yearly membership directory and on the EPACBA's website. You may attend any meetings and events, but may not cast votes.

Section 1.4: General Membership

You may attend meetings and events, but may not cast a vote.

Section 1.5: Organizational Membership

Any Organization desiring to assist in extending the plans of the Association shall be eligible for an Organizational membership. An Organizational Member must be another Charter, Sport Fishing Group or Organization. We will include Organizations in our directory and on our website. If the Organization has a website, EPACBA requires a courtesy link to EPACBA's website.

Section 2: Attendance and Dues

Annual dues are to be paid by the January meeting of each year. Members who have not paid their dues on or before the April general membership meeting shall be dropped from the rolls, online website listings removed and forum privileges suspended until dues are paid.

ARTICLE III – CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Membership Form

A candidate for active or associate membership in this association shall apply by filling out an approved application form. Form and dues must be submitted to the association.

Section 2: Action on Application for Membership

We reserve the right to ask for any required credentials for membership. Please refer to the appropriate sections for further details.

Section 3: Revocation of Membership

Section 3.1: Delinquent Dues

Annual dues are to be paid by the January meeting of each year. Members who have not paid their dues on or before the April general membership meeting shall be dropped from the rolls, online website listings removed and forum privileges suspended until dues are paid.

Section 3.2: Unethical Behavior

Any member will come before the Board of Directors for review of behavior that is not in accordance with the purpose of the Association. The board will review the case and recommend suspension or removal to the membership at the next stated meeting, where the membership, including officers and directors, will

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engage in a closed ballot vote. Action will be taken based on the outcome of the vote at said meeting.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS AND MANAGEMENT OF ASSOCIATION

The Management of this association shall be vested in the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

Section 1: Officers

Officers of the Association shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer and shall be elected by the active members in good standing. Officers in the Association shall be an active member in good standing.

The President, with the approval by the Board of Directors, shall appoint a qualified active member to fill any office or Board of Directors positions which shall become vacant. Said appointee shall serve the remainder of said term and may become eligible for election for the next regular term. Where no active member can be found, any member may be considered to serve the remainder of said term.

Section 1.1: Duties of President

- (1) The President shall chair all Membership and Board of Directors meetings in a business-like manner, based on the EPACBA By-laws and Roberts Rules of Order.
- (2) To follow, enforce and abide by the EPACBA By-laws.
- (3) The President shall vote only to break a tie at all meetings.
- (4) To promote the Erie Pennsylvania Charter Boat Association and Lake Erie sport fishing.
- (5) To keep in contact with the P.F.B.C and State Legislators, as to new proposals, or new laws that would affect Great Lakes sport fishing, and/or the charter boat industry.
- (6) To attend Membership and Board of Directors meetings.

Section 1.2: Duties of Vice-President

- (1) The Vice-President shall chair all Membership and Board of Directors meetings in a business-like manner, based on the EPACBA By-laws and Roberts Rules of Order when called upon by the President.
- (2) The Vice-President shall help fulfill any of the President's duties when called upon by the President.
- (3) To follow and abide by the EPACBA By-laws.
- (4) To promote the Erie Pennsylvania Charter Boat Association and Lake Erie sport fishing.
- (5) To attend Membership and Board of Directors meetings.

Section 1.3: Duties of Secretary

- (1) To attend and keep a written attendance record at all Membership and Board

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of Directors meetings.

- (2) To keep legible written minutes at all meetings.
- (3) To timely file all typed/written records and minutes in the EPACBA files.
- (4) To timely file correspondence in the EPACBA files.
- (5) To give verbal Secretary minutes report at all membership meetings.
- (6) To type and mail all EPACBA correspondence for the President.
- (7) To attend Membership and Board of Directors meetings.
- (8) In the Secretary's absence, the President shall appoint a Board member to fill the position temporarily.

Section 1.4: Duties of the Treasurer

- (1) To supply the President, Officers and Board of Directors a written and verbal itemized Treasurer's report at all membership meetings.
- (2) To handle and collect all monies associated with the EPACBA meetings, donations, etc.
- (3) To pay approved EPACBA bills in a timely manner, approved at the meeting.
- (4) To follow and abide by the EPACBA By-laws.
- (5) To promote the Erie Pennsylvania Charter Boat Association.
- (6) To attend Membership and Board of Directors meetings.

Section 1.5: Duties of the Webmaster

- (1) To send the membership a written dues reminder each year and to collect annual membership dues. All membership checks will be cashed within fifteen days. Maintain club website and all matters related to it.

Section 2: Board Members

The Board shall consist of a minimum of 6 members elected for the following terms: Four Captains and two Mates, each of these to hold a one year term. The positions will be nominated at the preceding meeting before the annual January meeting and the vote will take place at the January meeting. Vote will be by closed ballot.

The President, with the approval by the Board of Directors, shall appoint a qualified active member to fill any office or Board of Directors positions which shall become vacant. Said appointee shall serve the remainder of said term and may become eligible for election for the next regular term. Where no active member can be found, any member may be considered to serve the remainder of said term.

Section 2.1: Duties of the Board of Directors

- (1) To follow and abide by the EPACBA By-laws.
- (2) To promote the Erie Pennsylvania Charter Boat Association.
- (3) To promote Lake Erie's sport fishing.
- (4) To attend Membership and Board of Directors meetings. Any member of the Board of Directors who cannot attend a scheduled board meeting shall notify the Secretary 3 days prior to the day of the meeting, when possible.

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- (5) To serve on various committees as designated by the President.
- (6) Said membership shall be notified within 30 days of the meeting locations.

ARTICLE VI – MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

The Membership shall meet at least 7 times a year. The date shall fall on the second Saturday at 7:00 P.M. Said membership shall be notified within 30 days of the meeting location or time changes. The second Saturday in September shall be the annual association Picnic.

Section 1: Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the President (Executive Session) or at the special request of four members of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII – DIRECTOR MEETINGS

The Board of Directors shall hold 12 monthly meetings during the year and may hold as many additional meetings as deemed necessary by a majority of the Board or by the President. The date will be determined at the January meeting of each calendar year. These meetings will be held prior to each General Public meeting in person, online or by conference call.

Section 1: Quorum

Five (5) Members and/or Officers of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2: Absence

Any Officer or Member of the Board of Directors who cannot attend a scheduled board meeting shall notify the Secretary three (3) days prior to the day of the meeting.

Any Officer or Member of the Board of Directors who shall be absent for three (3) consecutive board meetings or a total of three (3) meetings in a fiscal year shall be deemed to have resigned said position and his place shall be filled as provided by Article V, Section 2 of these By-laws.

ARTICLE VIII - ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business of all meetings of the association shall be:

- (1) President shall call meeting to order.
- (2) Secretary shall read minutes of previous business and Board of Directors meetings.
- (3) Complete Treasurer's report on financial condition.
- (4) Membership shall approve Minutes by motion and vote.
- (5) Communication and bills.

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- (6) Reports of all committees.
- (7) Old Business.
- (8) New Business.
- (9) Elections.
- (10) Motion for adjournment.

ARTICLE IX - RULES OF ORDER

The conduct of the meetings of the association shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order when not in conflict with the Charter and By-laws.

ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these By-laws shall be posted on the club website and read at the general meeting with at least 30 days advance notice to the entire active membership before a vote is taken at the next general membership meeting.

Dissolution - The final disbursement of the funds in the treasury if closed will be distributed equally, 50% to Save Our Native Species and 50% to 3CU trout association.