

**Libertyville Fishing Club
Constitution**

**FINAL
Effective January 1, 2008**

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Welcome to the Libertyville Fishing Club. We're pleased that you have decided to join us and share in the fun and service as we pursue our mutual interest in sport fishing and conservation.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CLUB

The Libertyville Fishing Club (LFC) was formed in 1979 by Jay Hall and Mike Volino. The first LFC meeting was on April 18, 1979, and the first LFC outing was on April 23, 1979. The LFC began with 15 members, went to 17 in 1980, to 24 in 1981, and filled to 35 in 1982.

Over the club's history, the LFC has held numerous outings, participated in, and won several inter-club tournaments, organized a lake stocking program, sponsored successful fund raising campaigns, held numerous seminars, instituted a Junior Anglers Program, held numerous picnics, and has offered several successful kids outings for youngsters in our community.

We are proud of the tradition that has emerged over the years of our club's existence. If it were not for the active interest and support of the membership, none of this would have been possible.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Libertyville Township Center off of Winchester Road in Libertyville. The membership fee is \$50.00 per year due in March. Members joining after October 1 are assessed a \$25.00 membership fee for the remainder of the year. Men and women who are 18 years or older and have attended two meetings as guests are eligible for membership consideration. Our total active membership may not exceed 40 members without an amendment to our Constitution.

A club remains strong and viable only as its members continue to remain active in its gatherings and activities. Furthermore, a club is only welcome in a community when its members represent proper ethical and social behavior. In this spirit, we have standards for participation in the LFC. Each member is expected to conduct himself/herself in an ethical manner with respect to state

and local laws and ordinances and acceptable social practices. More information can be found at our website: www.libertyvillefishingclub.com.

LFC AWARDS

Although the main interest of the LFC is to educate its members in the rudiments of sport fishing, there is a competitive nature in all of us to excel. At the same time, competition among LFC members should never get in the way of friendship among LFC members, or helping one another become better fishermen. With that said, the LFC offers awards for the following accomplishments.

Five awards are given:

1. Fisherman of the Year - All Outings
2. Fisherman of the year Second Place – All Outings
3. Fisherman of the Year – Local Outings
4. Big Fish of the Year
5. Sportsman of the Year

Fisherman of the Year - All Outings

Winner of the this award will receive a trophy plus a check for \$50.00. The winner of this award must have the largest total of fish points at the end of the year. Also, his dues will be waived for one year.

Fisherman of the year Second Place – All Outings

Second place will receive a trophy or a plaque. The winner must have the second highest total of fish points for the year. Also, his dues will be waived for one year.

Fisherman of the Year – Local Outings

The recipient will receive a trophy or plaque. The winner of this award must have the highest number of fish points for local outings for the year. Also, his dues will be waived for one year.

Big Fish of the Year

Big fish of the year will be awarded to that member who catches the biggest fish of the year by length of any species during an LFC outing. The fish does not have to be a species covered under the LFC fish point system. The winner will receive a plaque.

Sportsman of the Year

Sportsman of the Year is a special award given to that member of the LFC who, in the eyes of the membership, has done the most to enhance the LFC over the past year. This award has nothing to do with points. Members will nominate candidates at the November meeting. A secret ballot will be voted on by the members present at the December meeting. The candidate receiving the majority of the cast ballots will receive his/her plaque at the January banquet.

LFC OUTING RULES

All members participating in a scheduled LFC outing should make all efforts to launch at the designated site as set by the outings chairman. In the event that there is no parking available, you may launch elsewhere.

All members who fish a scheduled outing, regardless of where they launched, must check in at the designated launch site at the time specified on our outings schedule.

In the event that members arrive late to and/or must to leave early from a scheduled outing, they must check in or out with the chairman either by phone, marine radio, or via another member who agrees to notify the chairman. This is done to ensure that fish points are recorded properly and that everyone has returned safely off of the water.

All fish caught that are worth points must be measured on a bump board. The outing chairman may or may not decide to have a big fish contest. If the chairman decides to have a contest, the chairman will set the rules and be the final arbiter of any disputes arising concerning the contest. The honor system will prevail at these contests. Disputes will not be discussed at meetings.

The LFC fish point card does not reflect all the state legal size limits for fish caught for that particular state and/or lake. Any fish caught or kept by a participating member at an outing that is below or within slot limits of the state and/or lake will not be eligible for fish points. However, if that fish is released and is within the LFC fish point card guidelines, points will be awarded.

In case of inclement weather, the outing chairman will have the authority to terminate an outing early and shall make every effort to contact all participants as soon as the decision is made.

PARTNER DRAWS

The LFC shall have at least three partner draw outings per year for the benefit of the non-boating members of the LFC. The dates and places will be set by the outings committee. The following rules shall apply:

1. All members who wish to participate in partner draws must be present at the meeting when partners are drawn, or must, prior to the meeting, tell a member who is present at the meeting that they wish to participate if they are going to be absent;
2. Members with boats capable of safely navigating waters fished during a partner draw outing will always be considered boaters in the partner draw. Participating boaters will put their names in a hat, and non-boaters will draw partners from the hat;
3. In the event that there are extra boaters names remaining in the hat after non-boaters have drawn, the President (or officer running the meeting) shall select boaters to be paired up two at a time from the hat until all names are drawn;
4. Junior anglers may not participate in partner draws. They may fish the outings, but they may not accumulate any fish points;
5. Members who missed the meetings when partners were drawn may fish the outing but may not accumulate any fish points;
6. Expectations of non-boaters for partner draws:
 - a. Pay all launch fees; and
 - b. Offer to share expenses of the trip.

The Constitution Of the Libertyville Fishing Club

PREAMBLE

The purpose of the Libertyville Fishing Club (LFC) shall be the coordination of individual effort toward the instruction and learning of effective fishing techniques; observance of all conservation laws; the formation of practical fishing regulations; and the spreading of the doctrine of wildlife conservation at every opportunity.

The LFC will also be devoted to furthering fishing for all species of fish, not just one species. We will also help young people become interested in fishing.

The LFC will promote camaraderie amongst its members, and encourage the sharing of fishing information.

ARTICLE I: NAME

The LFC shall be named the Libertyville Fishing Club.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purpose of the LFC shall be to encourage the preservation of all game fish; help procure the enactment of desirable legislation insuring better protection for all fish; promote a closer unity and fellowship among all true sport fishermen and lovers of nature; protect against the polluting of all waters; and protect all fishing waters and boundaries to preserve them for future anglers.

ARTICLE III: LOCATION

The permanent headquarters of the LFC shall be in the Village of Libertyville, County of Lake, and State of Illinois.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1:

Any person of good moral character, 18 years of age or over who has pledged active support of the objectives and purpose of the LFC, shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2:

Every member shall pay dues which shall be set annually by a majority vote of the members present at the annual meeting. Payment of dues is mandatory by the March meeting. Any member joining after October shall pay dues of \$25.00.

Section 3:

The total membership shall be 40 members in good standing. No more than 40 will be admitted to the LFC without an amendment to the constitution.

Section 4:

All new members are on a six month observation period from the start of their membership.

Section 5:

All potential new members must attend two meetings before they are eligible to join the LFC. Guests who attend meetings with intentions to join may only attend two meetings; at which time they must make a decision to join the LFC or not.

ARTICLE V: MEETINGS

Section 1:

The regular meetings will be held on the third Tuesday of each month at the Libertyville Township Center, 359 Merrill Ct., Libertyville, IL, at 7:30 p.m. Any change of time or location will be designated by the LFC officers.

Section 2:

The annual meeting will be the meeting held in January of each year.

Section 3:

Special meetings may be called at any time by the President or upon request of five or more members.

Section 4:

Notice of the time and place of any special meeting shall be given by e-mail, mail, or phone to each member at least five days prior to the date of such meeting.

Section 5:

At the annual meeting, the officers of the LFC shall be elected to serve for a period of one year or until their successors are chosen by special elections, if they are unable to fulfill their terms.

ARTICLE VI: LIST AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

The officers of the LFC shall be President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Section 1:

It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the LFC, and to be an ex-officio member of all committees. The President shall also appoint chairmen of the various committees.

Section 2:

It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to carry out the duties of the President in the President's absence. The Vice-President is also an ex-officio member of the LFC committees. The Vice-president shall keep track of the LFC point system.

Section 3:

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all monies paid into the LFC, render a just account of the same, and to make a report at each meeting.

Section 4:

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a correct record of all transactions (with the exception of monies) of the LFC and the members thereof; send out notices at the order of the President; perform such clerical work as may be required from time to time; and publish the news letter.

Section 5:

The officers mentioned together shall have supervision and direction of the affairs of the LFC between business meetings and shall make recommendations on any matters concerning the membership. A report shall be made to the members of any such meeting and the membership shall vote on any recommendations.

Section 6:

The President shall not cast a vote on any matter unless this vote is needed to break a tie vote.

Section 7:

Any officer who misses three meetings in a row or who is unable to continue regular duties shall be replaced by a special election held at a regular meeting.

Section 8:

Officers may not hold office for a lifetime.

ARTICLE VII: SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

Section 1:

For good cause shown, or upon written complaint of two or more members addressed to the President and members of the LFC, a member may, after investigation be suspended or expelled by a majority secret ballot vote at any regular or special meeting, provided that in each case, the member in question be given the privilege of a hearing. The hearing will be chaired by the President with the executive committee and at least three members in good standing in attendance.

Section 2:

Any member who resigns, forfeits membership, or is expelled from the LFC in any of the ways herein provided, shall also forfeit any dues or other monies that may have been paid into the LFC.

Section 3:

Any member whose dues shall remain unpaid for a period of 90 days shall be considered as having resigned from membership unless circumstances warrant that after investigation and approval by the LFC officers, allowance may be made for such a member.

ARTICLE VIII: NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1:

The officers shall install a nomination committee comprised of three members, who shall accept nominations from the floor and publish to all members a slate of candidates for office. Publication of the slate of nominations must be at least one full week in advance of the January meeting.

Section 2:

The election of officers will be conducted by secret ballot. A plurality of votes shall elect all officers. Ballots for the election shall list the slate of nominees, plus one space under each office for write-in nominees. Nominees must be asked if they wish to hold office. Ballots indicating a vote for more than one candidate for each office will not be counted. Absentee or proxy ballots will not be allowed. The nomination committee will supervise the conduct of elections and the custody and counting of ballots. Announcement of the results will be made by the committee chairman.

ARTICLE IX: QUORUMS

Seven members shall constitute a quorum. This does not include the LFC officers.

ARTICLE X: ORDER OF BUSINESS

The following are items to be covered at the regular meetings of the LFC:

1. New members or guest introduced;
2. Member fishing report;
3. Old business;
4. Committee report;
5. New business;
6. Outing results;
7. Upcoming outings; and
8. Treasurer's report.

ARTICLE XI: DISBURSEMENTS

All disbursements shall be paid by check which shall be signed by either the President or Treasurer. Any disbursements greater than one hundred dollars (\$100) must be approved by the membership.

ARTICLE XII: FINANCIAL RECORDS

The Financial Records of LFC must be reviewed annually at the end of the term of the officers. The checkbook and any other financial records will be made available at the January meeting so that every member has access to these records.

ARTICLE XIII: AMENDMENTS AND REPEALS OF CONSTITUTION

The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of members present at any regular meeting of the LFC.

ARTICLE XIV: JUNIOR ANGLER PROGRAM

The Junior Angler Program will not be part of the Constitution. Details of the Junior Angler Program will be outlined and updated each year at the January meeting.

**ARTICLE XV: LIBERTYVILLE FISHING CLUB
POINT SYSTEM**

GAME FISH	5 POINTS	10 POINTS
LARGEMOUTHBASS	13"	18"
SMALLMOUTHBASS	12"	18"
WALLEYE	14"	22"
SAUGER	13"	19"
NORTHERN PIKE	24"	36"
MUSKELLUNGE	30"	40"
TROUT AND SALMON	16"	24"
CATFISH	16"	24"
STURGEON	30"	40"
PAN FISH	1 POINT	5 POINTS
BLUEGILL/ PUMPKINSEED	7"	9"
ROCK BASS	9"	12"
PERCH	9"	12"
CRAPPIE	10"	14"
WHITE BASS/STRIPER	11"	14"
YELLOW BASS	9"	13"

ATTENDANCE AT AN OUTING = 20 POINTS

ATTENDANCE AT A MEETING = 10 POINTS

SUGESTED MINIMUMI ANNUAL POINTS FOR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION -200

Maximum of (5) Game fish per species per outing day

Maximum of (25) Pan fish per species per outing day with a maximum of 50 points per species per outing day

Catch and release is acceptable in recording points. The honor system applies. The outing chairman may adjust early finish of outing.

ARTICLE XVI: DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT POLICY FOR OUTINGS REQUIRING OVERNIGHT LODGING

Section 1:

Two months prior to a scheduled LFC event, the outing chairperson will circulate a sign up sheet to get an approximate count of the members attending the outing. If accommodations are necessary, the outing chairperson will investigate lodging availability at one or two economical locations and make a report at the next meeting.

Section 2:

It will be each member's responsibility to make any reservations when required. Members are encouraged to make their reservations at the establishments designated by the outing chairperson in keeping with our LFC philosophy of promoting a social environment at our outings. Part of the purpose of an LFC organized outing is to provide social interaction among our membership.

Section 3:

In cases where a fishing boat or area reservation is necessary to assure a successful outing, the outing chairperson may request that the LFC treasurer pay a deposit using available LFC funds. Each member who has committed to the event is responsible for his or her portion of the deposit paid and will be expected to reimburse the LFC treasury at the earliest convenience, and at least prior to the outing event. It shall not be the treasurer's job to pursue delinquent depositors. If an outing participant wishes to reconsider participation in the outing, a refund of his or her deposit will be made only if said deposit is refunded to the LFC by the service provider.

Section 4:

On overnight outings, the chairperson shall determine how the sleeping arrangements will be determined, whether on a first come-first served basis, or some other method of the chairperson's choice.