

THE  
VIRGINIA PENINSULA SPORTSMEN'S  
ASSOCIATION,  
INCORPORATED

CONSTITUTION

&

BY-LAWS

MARCH 24, 1984 REVISION

AMENDMENT DATES: 3/31/88, 3/13/91, 9/4/91, 9/2/92, 5/5/2014

FOUNDED MARCH 13, 1940

VIRGINIA PENINSULA SPORTSMEN'S  
ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED  
P.O. BOX 1860  
WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA  
23187-1860

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

PREAMBLE

FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROMOTING SPORTSMANSHIP THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF VIRGINIA AND TO FOSTER SOUND GAME CONSERVATION PRACTICES. SPONSOR A VIRGINIA BIG GAME CONTEST ANNUALLY TO RECOGNIZE THE SPORTSMEN WHICH HARVESTED THE TOP DEER, BEAR AND TURKEY DURING THE PREVIOUS HUNTING SEASON. REV. 09/02/92

ARTICLE I

NAME # 3 / 31 / 88 REV. 1

THE NAME OF THIS ASSOCIATION SHALL BE THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED OR ABBREVIATED V.P.S.A., INC. THE NAME OF V.P.S.A., INC. SHALL BE IRREVOCABLE.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE # 3 / 24 / 84

THE PURPOSE OF THIS ASSOCIATION IS: TO PROMOTE SPORTSMANSHIP; TO IMPROVE HUNTING CONDITIONS; TO INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF GAME ANIMALS AND GAME BIRDS; TO CONTROL PREDATORS; TO WORK WITH FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN THE CONTROL OF WATER POLLUTION AND LAND CONSERVATION; TO ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH AND KEEP INFORMED ON ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES AND OTHER SIMILAR STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES; TO ESTABLISH A SOURCE OF RELIABLE INFORMATION OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION; AND TO WORK TOWARD THE ENACTMENT OF BETTER LAWS AND ENFORCEMENT THEREOF.

## ARTICLE III

### MEMBERSHIP

#### SECTION 1 # 3 / 31 / 88 REV. 1

MEMBERSHIP OF THIS ASSOCIATION SHALL BE LIMITED TO RESIDENTS "EAST OF THE BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS" AS DEFINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES, OF GOOD REPUTATION WITH A WILLINGNESS TO ABIDE BY THE GAME LAWS, AND THIS CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS THEREOF. APPLICATION FOR INITIAL MEMBERSHIP MUST BE APPROVED BY THE ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS. EXCEPTION TO THIS SECTION IS ANYONE WHO IS AN ASSOCIATION MEMBER RESIDING OUTSIDE OF THE "EAST OF THE BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAIN" BOUNDARY ON THE DATE OF ADOPTION OF THESE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS MAY CONTINUE MEMBERSHIP IN THE ASSOCIATION. ANY PERSON THAT BECOMES A MEMBER OF THIS ASSOCIATION AFTER THE DATE OF ADOPTION OF THESE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS AND THEN MOVES FROM THE "EAST OF THE BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS" BOUNDARY MAY ALSO CONTINUE MEMBERSHIP IN THE ASSOCIATION. TO HOLD AN ELECTED OFFICE OR DIRECTOR POSITION A MEMBER MUST RESIDE IN EITHER THE CITIES OF: NEWPORT NEWS, HAMPTON, POQUOSON, WILLIAMSBURG, OR THE COUNTIES OF; JAMES CITY, YORK, ISLE OF WIGHT, GLOUCESTER, OR MATHEWS.

#### SECTION 2 # 5/5/2014 REV. 1

THE ASSOCIATION SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP: HONORARY LIFE MEMBER, ANNUAL MEMBER, HONORARY ANNUAL MEMBER, AND AFFILIATE SPORTSMAN ASSOCIATION MEMBER. A VIRGINIA PENINSULA SPORTSMAN'S ASSOCIATION, (VPSA) LIFE-TIME MEMBERSHIP (LTM) MAY BE PURCHASED FOR THE SUM OF \$375.00 PROVIDED THE PERSON MEETS THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA: 1. NEVER BEEN CONVICTED OF A FELONY OR GAME VIOLATION. 2. MUST BE A VIRGINIA STATE RESIDENT. THE APPLICATION MUST BE APPROVED BY THE VPSA BOARD. UPON ACCEPTANCE AS A LTM, THE MEMBER IS AFFORDED THE SAME RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES AS A REGULAR MEMBER. THE LTM MEMBER MUST ABIDE BY THE SAME RULES AND REGULATIONS AS A ANNUAL MEMBER. THE LTM FEE IS NON-REFUNDABLE.

#### SECTION 3 # 3 / 24 / 84

THE ASSOCIATION, SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL, MAY GRANT AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP TO SPORTING ASSOCIATIONS "EAST OF THE BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS," COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS THE "EASTERN REGION OF VIRGINIA," WITH COMMON CAUSE AND PURPOSE AS THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED; AND AGREE TO ACCEPT THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THIS ASSOCIATION.

#### SECTION 4 # 3 / 24 / 84

THE ASSOCIATION MAY, BY A MAJORITY OF MEMBERS PRESENT AND VOTING, GRANT HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AND HONORARY ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

TO INDIVIDUALS. HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS AND HONORARY ANNUAL MEMBERS WILL NOT PAY DUES. HONORARY ANNUAL MEMBERS WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON ASSOCIATION MATTERS.

SECTION 5 # 3 / 24 / 84

SUBJECT TO ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE ASSOCIATION, A MEMBER WILL BE DEEMED TO BE IN GOOD STANDING AND ELIGIBLE TO VOTE WHEN HIS DUES ARE PAID UP TO DATE. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SHALL BE FROM JULY 1, TO JUNE 30, EACH YEAR.

SECTION 6 # 3 / 24 / 84

ANY MEMBER CHARGED WITH CONDUCT PREJUDICIAL TO THE BEST INTEREST OF THE ASSOCIATION, SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO A HEARING BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. THE ACCUSED MEMBER SHALL BE SERVED WITH A COPY OF THE CHARGES AGAINST HIM BY THE SECRETARY. THE BOARD SHALL REPORT ITS FINDINGS TO THE ASSOCIATION AT WHICH TIME A VOTE OF AT LEAST TWO THIRDS (2/3) OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT AND VOTING, IS REQUIRED TO EXPEL THE ACCUSED.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

SECTION 1 # 9 / 02 / 92 REV. 3

THE OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION SHALL BE A PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER, IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT AND SERGEANT-AT-ARMS. THERE WILL ALSO BE NINE ELECTED DIRECTORS, THE CHIEF JUDGE AND RECORDS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, WHO ALONG WITH THE OFFICERS, SHALL CONSTITUTE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. THE CHIEF JUDGE, AND RECORDS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE BOARD ANNUALLY IN OCTOBER. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MUST RESIDE WITHIN THE CONFINES OF THE ASSOCIATION AS OUTLINED IN ARTICLE III, SECTION 1.

SECTION 2 # 3 / 31 / 88 REV. 1

THE PRESIDENT SHALL APPOINT ANNUALLY AT THE FALL MEETING A NOMINATING COMMITTEE WHICH SHALL PRESENT AT THE SPRING ANNUAL MEETING NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS. NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTIVE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS MAY ALSO BE MADE FROM THE FLOOR. ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD AT THE SPRING ANNUAL MEETING, AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS SHALL BE THE FIRST MONTH FOLLOWING THE BIG GAME CONTEST, STARTING 1989.

TERM OF OFFICE FOR ALL ELECTIVE POSITIONS SHALL BE: (2) TWO YEARS FOR OFFICERS AND (3) THREE YEARS FOR DIRECTORS.

SECTION 3 # 3 / 24 / 84

IF THERE IS ONLY (1) NOMINEE FOR ELECTIVE OFFICE, THE CHAIR SHALL DECLARE THE NOMINEE ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION.

SECTION 4 # 3 / 24 / 84

IF THERE IS MORE THAN (1) ONE NOMINEE FOR AN ELECTIVE OFFICE, THEY SHALL BE VOTED ON. A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT AND VOTING SHALL BE REQUIRED TO CONSTITUTE AN ELECTION.

SECTION 5 # 3 / 24 / 84

THE PRESIDENT SHALL APPOINT ADDITIONAL COMMITTEES AS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

SECTION 6 # 3 / 24 / 84

AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, A MAJORITY OF THE DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS SHALL CONSTITUTE A QUORUM.

SECTION 7 # 3 / 24 / 84

IF DURING THE YEAR A VACANCY OCCURS IN ANY OFFICE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL MEET AND APPOINT SOMEONE TO FILL SUCH VACANCY FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM.

## ARTICLE V

### DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1 # 3 / 24 / 84

THE PRESIDENT SHALL BE THE OVERSEER OF THE ASSOCIATION, AND SHALL PRESIDE AT ALL ITS BUSINESS MEETING WHENEVER HE IS PRESENT. THE PRESIDENT WILL BE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND WILL VOTE ONLY IN CASE OF A TIE. IT IS HIS DUTY ALONG WITH THE OTHER OFFICERS TO ENFORCE THE RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION AND TO PERFORM SUCH OTHER DUTIES AS PROPERLY APPLY TO HIS OFFICE.

SECTION 2 # 3 / 24 / 84

THE VICE PRESIDENT SHALL IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESIDENT, CONDUCT MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION AND SUPERVISE ASSOCIATION AFFAIRS. HE SHALL PERFORM SUCH OTHER DUTIES RELATIVE TO ASSOCIATION MATTERS AS MAY BE DESIGNATED BY THE PRESIDENT.

SECTION 3 # 3 / 24 / 84

THE SECRETARY SHALL RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS, ATTEND TO CORRESPONDENCE, AND MAINTAIN RECORDS AND DATA FOR THE ASSOCIATION.

SECTION 4 # 3 / 24 / 84

THE TREASURER SHALL RECEIVE AND DISBURSE ALL MONIES AS INSTRUCTED

BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. HE SHALL KEEP AN ACCURATE RECORD OF ALL RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS AND MAKE A FINANCIAL REPORT AT EACH BUSINESS MEETING. ALL DISBURSEMENTS SHALL BE MADE BY CHECK AND COUNTERSIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT OR VICE PRESIDENT.

SECTION 5 # 3 / 13 / 91

THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT SHALL SERVE AS A DIRECTOR OF THE BOARD WITH FULL VOTING RIGHTS. HE SHALL PERFORM DUTIES AS DIRECTED BY THE PRESIDENT.

SECTION 6 # 9 / 02 / 92 REV.2

THE SERGEANT-AT ARMS SHALL SERVE AS AN OFFICER OF THE BOARD WITH FULL VOTING RIGHTS. HE SHALL MAINTAIN ORDER THROUGHOUT ALL V.P.S.A. MEETINGS, AND ANY FUNCTIONS WHICH THE V.P.S.A. IS PRESIDING OVER.

SECTION 7 # 3 / 13 / 91

THE CHIEF JUDGE SHALL SERVE AS A DIRECTOR OF THE BOARD WITH FULL VOTING RIGHTS. HE SHALL BE THE CHIEF JUDGE AT THE ANNUAL BIG GAME CONTEST AND SHALL PERFORM OTHER SUCH DUTIES AS DIRECTED BY THE PRESIDENT.

SECTION 8 # 3 / 13 / 91

THE RECORDS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON SHALL SERVE AS A DIRECTOR OF THE BOARD WITH FULL VOTING RIGHTS. HE SHALL MAINTAIN ACCURATE RECORDS OF THE BIG GAME CONTEST RESULTS. HE SHALL PERFORM OTHER SUCH DUTIES AS DIRECTED BY THE PRESIDENT.

SECTION 9 # 3 / 24 / 84

THE DUTIES OF THE DIRECTORS ARE TO HELP ENFORCE ASSOCIATION RULES AND REGULATIONS, TO HELP PLAN ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES, AND ACT AS A "GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE" TO INVESTIGATE ANY PROBLEMS OR CHANGES AS MAY ARISE AGAINST ANY MEMBER AND REPORT ITS FINDINGS TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ASSOCIATION AT ITS MEETINGS.

SECTION 10 # 3 / 24 / 84

IT SHALL BE THE DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO MANAGE THE AFFAIRS OF THE ASSOCIATION. THEY SHALL NOT ASSUME FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY BEYOND MONIES AVAILABLE IN THE TREASURY. THERE SHALL BE AN ANNUAL AUDIT AND REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL STATUS AND RECORDS CONDUCTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRIOR TO THE SPRING MEETING AND THEIR REPORT SHALL BE PRESENTED TO THE ASSOCIATION AT THE SPRING MEETING.

## ARTICLE VI

### MEETINGS

SECTION 1 # 3 / 31 / 88 REV. 1

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS. IN ADDITION TO THE ANNUAL BIG GAME CONTEST, THERE SHALL BE A MINIMUM OF (2) TWO GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS EACH YEAR, ONE IN THE MONTH OF MARCH, AND ONE IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST, THE FORMER OF WHICH SHALL BE THE ANNUAL MEETING FOR THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS. IN ADDITION, THERE SHALL BE SUCH OTHER MEETINGS AS MAY BE CALLED BY THE PRESIDENT OR BY A MAJORITY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

SECTION 2 # 3 / 31 / 88 REV. 1

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL MEET AS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE PRESIDENT OR A MAJORITY OF THE BOARD MEMBERS.

SECTION 3 # 3 / 24 / 84

BOARD MEETING ABSENCES OFFICERS AND/OR DIRECTORS MAY NOT MISS MORE THAN (2) TWO BOARD MEETINGS PER CALENDAR YEAR WITHOUT A LEGITIMATE EXCUSE. TO DO SO, THE OFFICER OR DIRECTOR WILL IMMEDIATELY RESIGN THEIR OFFICER OR DIRECTOR POSITION. WRITTEN EXCUSES WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE ASSOCIATION SECRETARY WITHIN (10) TEN CALENDAR DAYS OF THE ABSENCE. THE SECRETARY WILL PRESENT THE WRITTEN EXCUSE AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING FOR APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL AS TO WHETHER THE ABSENCE WAS VALID.

## ARTICLE VII

### DUES AND FEES

SECTION 1 # 3 / 24 / 84

MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR ANNUAL MEMBERS AND AFFILIATE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION'S WILL BE DECIDED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING AT A GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

SECTION 2 # 3 / 31 / 88 REV. 1

DUES MUST BE PAID-UP AT LEAST ONE (1) DAY PRIOR TO THE DATE THAT ANY GAME ANIMAL IS TAKEN TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR ASSOCIATION AWARDS AND TROPHIES IN THE V.P.S.A. MEMBERS ONLY CONTEST.

SECTION 3 # 3 / 24 / 84

AFFILIATE ASSOCIATIONS WILL PAY A ONE TIME ONLY INITIATION FEE PER MEMBER PLUS ANNUAL DUES FOR EACH MEMBER OF THEIR ASSOCIATION. THE MEMBER OF THE AFFILIATE ASSOCIATIONS WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO WIN ANY

OF THE PERPETUAL TROPHIES OF THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

ARTICLE VIII

ASSOCIATION PROPERTY

SECTION 1 # 3 / 13 / 91

ALL MATERIALS, MONEY, RECORDS, AND OTHER PARAPHERNALIA ACQUIRED BY ANY MEMBER OR OFFICER OF THE ASSOCIATION WHILE ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE ASSOCIATION SHALL BE PROPERTY OF THIS ASSOCIATION AND MUST BE FORFEITED AT ANY TIME AS REQUESTED BY THE PRESIDENT OR BY A MAJORITY OF THE BOARD.

ARTICLE IX

VIOLATIONS AND CONVICTIONS

SECTION 1 # 9 / 02 / 92 REV.1

ANY VPSA MEMBER, SHALL UPON CONVICTION OF THE FOLLOWING VIOLATIONS, AS STATED IN THE 1989 EDITION OF THE VIRGINIA GAME, INLAND FISH AND BOAT LAWS, AND REGULATIONS, FORFEIT HIS/HER MEMBERSHIP IN THE V.P.S.A. HOWEVER, IF EVIDENCE OF/OR EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES ARE BROUGHT BEFORE THE VPSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THEN A HEARING BEFORE SAID BOARD MAY BE GIVEN THE MEMBER INVOLVED AND THE SAID BOARD SHALL THEN PRESENT ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP FOR APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL. THE VIOLATIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- 18.2 - 56.1 RECKLESS HANDLING OF FIREARMS WHILE HUNTING
- 18.2 - 285 HUNTING WITH FIREARMS WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE
- 29.1 - 521 SELLING WILD GAME
- 29.1 - 523 KILLING DEER BY USE OF LIGHTS
- 29.1 - 525A USE LIGHT WHILE POSSESSING WEAPON
- 29.1 - 338 HUNTING/LICENSE REVOKED
- 29.1 - 548 PORTION SAYING "KILLS DURING CLOSED SEASON"
- 29.1 - 552 KILLING WILD TURKEY DURING CLOSED SEASON
- 29.1 - 563 TAKING OF ENDANGERED OR THREATENED SPECIES

SECTION 2 # 9 / 02 / 92 REV. 1

ANY VPSA MEMBER, FOUND GUILTY BY THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, OF ANY OTHER GAME VIOLATIONS, MAY BE GIVEN A HEARING BEFORE THE VPSA BOARD IF EVIDENCE AND/OR EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES EXIST THAT DEEM SAID HEARING AS NECESSARY. RECOMMENDED ACTION MAY INCLUDE PROBATION OR EXPULSION FROM VPSA, TO BE APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED BY THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP.



ARTICLE X

THE ANNUAL BIG GAME CONTEST

SECTION 1 # 3 / 31 / 88 REV. 1

THE ANNUAL BIG GAME CONTEST SHALL BE HELD ON THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA.  
THIS ARTICLE IS IRREVOCABLE.

ARTICLE XI

NON DISCRIMINATORY AMENDMENT

SECTION 1 # 3 / 24 / 84

THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC., WILL NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ANY INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATION DUE TO RACE, CREED, COLOR, RELIGION, AGE OR SEX.

ARTICLE XII

AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1 # 3 / 24 / 84

THIS CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS MAY BE AMENDED BY A TWO-THIRDS (2/3) MAJORITY VOTE OF THOSE MEMBERS, PRESENT AND VOTING, PROVIDED ALL MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT AND DATE OF VOTING ON IT.

SECTION 2 # 3 / 24 / 84

ANY PROPOSED AMENDMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING AND SIGNED BY AT LEAST FIVE (5) MEMBERS.

ARTICLE XIII

RATIFICATION

SECTION 1 # 3 / 24 / 84

THIS CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS ARE TO BECOME EFFECTIVE AND REMAIN IN EFFECT, SUBJECT TO AMENDMENTS AS HEREIN PROVIDED FOR , AFTER ITS ADOPTION BY THE ASSOCIATION.