

THE NEW HAVEN HIKING CLUB INC. CONSTITUTION AND BY – LAWS

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

The name of this organization shall be THE NEW HAVEN HIKING CLUB INC.

ARTICLE II

The object of this Club shall be to promote and encourage hiking, camping and similar outdoor activities among the people of New Haven and vicinity; and in furtherance of this purpose shall sponsor organized hikes and similar projects. It shall have an active interest in establishing and maintaining Connecticut's trails, and shall make an effort to work to this end in conjunction with the Connecticut Forest and Park Association and like organizations.

ARTICLE III

Membership in this organization shall be open to interested persons by payment of the current year's dues.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE IV

ADMINISTRATION

1. The officers of this Club shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The four elected officials shall be ex officio members of all committees. There shall also be chairs of these permanent committees: Membership, Trails, Publicity, Club History, Recording, and World Wide Web. The officers and chairpersons of the various committees shall constitute the Executive Committee.
2. The Executive Committee shall be elected annually by the presentation of a slate by a Nominating Committee, who shall have been appointed by the President with the advice of the Executive Committee; and members present may also nominate from the floor.
3. The President shall have the power to appoint additional committee chairpersons, as they seem essential to the proper administration of the Club's purposes; these committee chairpersons shall appoint their own committees with the advice of the Executive Committee.
4. The annual meeting of the Club shall be held in November, with written notice to all members in good standing, for the purpose of electing officers and chairpersons, who shall take office immediately at the close of the annual meeting.

5. A Quorum at any business meeting of the Club shall be one-third of the active members.
6. Meetings shall be called by the President, the Vice President, or a majority of the executive committee. A majority of the membership of the Club may petition the President to call a meeting. Such meeting shall be called within thirty days of the presentation of such petition to the President.
7. The duties of the officers and committee chairpersons shall be as follows:
 - a. The President shall preside at all meetings, and appoint such committee chairpersons as may seem wise for the proper execution of the Club's aims and purposes.
 - b. The Vice President shall act in the absence or disability of the President.
 - c. The Secretary shall attend all meetings and shall make record of the proceedings and give notice of meetings to members. In the absence of the Secretary at any meeting, some other member of the Executive Committee must make notes of the proceedings so that the Club's records may be complete.
 - d. The Treasurer shall collect, take charge of, and disburse all funds of the Club, and shall keep proper accounts and report to the annual meeting, or as often as required. All expenditures, other than postage and stationery, must be approved by a majority of the Executive Committee prior to purchase. Vouchers shall be required by the treasurer before paying out any money.
 - e. The Membership Chairperson shall maintain the list of members and their contact information, and shall make mailing labels as needed.
 - f. The Trails Chairperson shall be in charge of maintenance and improvement of trails assigned to the Club, and shall make every effort to expand the trails in this area with a view to opening new territories to the Club's benefit.
 - g. The Publicity Chairperson shall see that due publicity is given to the activities of the Club, with a view to attracting new prospective members.
 - h. The History Chairperson shall keep records of the Club's activities, such as clippings, snapshots, and other data; and shall be the custodian of the past records of the Club.
 - i. The Recording Chair (Recorder) shall send to event leaders the event sign-up/waiver forms, receive the completed forms from the leaders, and archive the forms. Yearly the forms shall be given to the historian for long-term archive. Additionally, the Recorder may publish yearly the number of miles hiked by the leading hikers.
 - j. The World Wide Web Chair (Webmaster) shall maintain the club website, email all events to members, and post on the website the club's events which are designated OK to publish by the event leader.

8. Dues shall be determined yearly by vote at the annual meeting, payable when an individual is accepted as a member, and annually thereafter at the annual meeting. Failure to pay the annual dues by January 1 shall automatically cancel active membership in the club.

ARTICLE V HIKES AND SCHEDULES

1. The Executive Committee shall schedule at least one hike or other outdoor activity weekly, and at the discretion of the Executive Committee there may be occasional substitution of canoeing, swimming, camping or other suitable activities.
2. Each schedule shall contain at least one half-day hike per month for the purpose of making it possible for prospective members to participate.
3. Schedules shall be mailed to all interested persons and shall contain the following points:
 - a. Date of hike
 - b. Location of hike
 - c. Length of hike
 - d. Class of hike
 - e. Time of meeting
 - f. Trail tips
 - g. Hike legend
 - h. Leader's name with contact telephone number
4. The Club reserves the right to refuse attendance by persons who call in and may not seem experienced; also to limit the number of persons for trips where reservations are required, if so stated in the schedule.
5. Leaders shall be appointed and shall be qualified by having covered the ground either on a previous hike or by scouting it before taking the club over the trail. The leader shall select from any hiking group an assistant to act as sweep to make sure the group does not become separated.

The Club assumes no responsibility for transportation, beyond acting as an information source as to the names of car drivers desiring to take guests and persons desiring rides.

ARTICLE VI AMENDMENTS

Amendments may be made by a vote of two-thirds of the active members of the Club. Amendments may be submitted at a meeting of the Club, a copy shall be sent by the Secretary to each member, and voting shall take place at the next meeting.

Revised and accepted November 2010, November 1982.