

Fisheries and Wildlife Club By Laws

Mission statement:

The Lake Superior State University Fish and Wildlife Club (LSSU FWC) is an academic organization for students engaged in the studies of, or interested in, fisheries and wildlife. The LSSU FWC strives to assist students in the highest possible professional standards. In addition, the LSSU FWC endeavors to provide an avenue for students to acquire field experience, meet professionals and other students in their discipline, and supplement their academic studies in fisheries and wildlife conservation.

Article I: Membership

Section 1: The members of the Club shall abide by the code of conduct set forth by the Fisheries and Wildlife Club.

Article II: Scholarship

Section 1: No member shall be elected or appointed to any executive position committee chairmanship in the Club if the member's cumulative grade point average is below that required for graduation (2.00).

Section 2: Any member wishing to be elected must be a full time student and be a full time student for the duration of his/her time in office.

Section 3: The Club Advisors shall serve as the Scholarship Director.

Section 4: The Club will offer financial support to allow members to attend professional meetings. Students must meet certain requirements to be eligible for financial support from the Club:

Minimum requirements to receive travel (e.g., car rental) support are:

- Must be a current Club member
- Must have a cumulative GPA > 2.0
- Must acquire at least one raffle prize for the MIAFS meeting or Club raffle

Minimum requirements to receive lodging support are:

- Must be an active club member, attending at least 50% of Club meetings or events
- Must have a cumulative GPA > 2.7
- Must acquire at least two raffle prizes for the MIAFS meeting or Club raffle

Minimum requirements to receive registration fee support are:

- Must be an active club member, attending at least 50% of club meetings or events
- Must have a cumulative GPA > 3.0
- Must acquire at least three raffle prizes for the MIAFS meeting or Club raffle
 1. • Must be presenting a poster or talk at the meeting

Because the cost of meetings and money available to the Club is variable, and because some students choose to attend multiple meetings in a year, the Club may deny funding any, or all, financial support in some circumstances. Denial of financial support will only occur by vote of the Officers and guidance of the Advisors.

Section 5: In the event that funds are too limiting to pay a reasonable portion of travel costs for all attendees, preference for who will be supported by the club proceeds as follows, from highest priority to lowest:

- Presenting at meeting
- Senior status and has never attended a meeting
- Class rank and requirements presented in Article II, Section 4

Article III: Meetings

Section 1: Meetings shall be held once every month of the school year. Exceptions may be made by the President, who may change or cancel the meeting time of the individual meetings by giving notice on the preceding week or before.

Section 2: Special meetings may be called by the President or any of the Club Advisors on two days notice.

Section 3: Members of the Executive Board and appointed chairpersons are required to attend all Club meetings. Failure of attendance shall be subject to Executive Board review.

Section 4: Minutes shall be taken at all board meetings and general meetings. These minutes shall be posted on the bulletin board no later than one week following the general meeting of that month.

Article IV: Club Member Recognition

Section 1: In an effort to recognize the scholarly, service, and social activities of the club members, the club shall name one student the “Outstanding Club Member of the Year” each academic year. This award will be decided by the Club Advisors and Officers and will be

announced at the meeting naming the next year's Officers. Current Officers are not eligible for the award.

Section 2: The "Outstanding Club Member of the Year" will be based on:

- Participation in Club events
- Organizing Club events
- Contributions to finances (raffle prizes, organizing fundraisers, cost saving)
- Participation with parent societies (AFS and TWS)
- Attendance at Club meetings
- Scholarly activity (e.g., presentations, GPA)

Section 3: The award will consist of a prize and the addition of the student's name to a plaque displayed in Crawford Hall that honors past recipients.

Article V: Officers

Section 1: Elected Officers of the Club shall be as follows: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2: The Vice-President and Treasurer must remain in position for a full year.

Section 3: In the event that a President leaves after one semester, the Vice-President shall fill that particular office of the President.

Section 4: Any vacancy in any elected office shall be filled within one month after the vacancy occurs by means of special election.

Section 5: The Club may pay the dues for Officer membership to the American Fisheries Society (AFS) or the Wildlife Society.

Article VI: Elections

Section 1: Elections shall be conducted once each year not later than the first regular meeting in September.

Section 2: Notice of the election shall be given by the President two meetings prior to the elections.

Section 3: Nominations shall be made on meeting prior to the elections.

Section 4: Voting shall be by secret ballot and in the same order as the offices are listed in Article V, Section 1. Before each vote, additional nominations may be made from those candidates defeated for office previously.

Section 5: Incoming Officers shall be installed at the first meeting following the election of the Officers.

Article VII: Recall

Section 1: Any Officer who proves negligent or ineffective in office may be recalled by a two-thirds vote of those voting in a regular meeting.

Section 2: The Chapter Advisor shall also have the power to obtain the resignation of any Club Officer if they deem the person negligent or ineffective.

Article VIII: Committees

Section 1: Committee Chairpersons shall make recommendations to the President for members of their represented committees. Chairpersons shall be appointed by the elected Officers.

Section 2: Committees shall meet every two weeks at the time specified by the committee Chairperson.

Article IX: Executive Board

Section 1: Members of the Executive Board shall be as follows: President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. Club Advisors shall serve as an ex-officio but non-voting member of the Executive Board. The President will be the Presiding Officer at meetings, but in the event that the President is not able to be the Presiding Officer at any meeting, the Vice-President shall sit in as Presiding Officer.

Section 2: The Executive Board and committee Chairpersons shall meet every week prior to the Club meeting. It shall consider any matters involving the good of the Club and make recommendations to the Club for considerations.

Section 3: The Executive Board may act as a disciplinary body. It may assess penalties less than suspension or expulsion; cases which are deemed to require suspension or expulsion shall be recommended to the President for appropriate action.

Article X: Finances

Section 1: The Treasurer shall prepare a budget each year before the beginning of the fall and spring semesters.

Section 2: Membership dues are set by the Executive Board at the beginning of every year.

Article XI: Amendments

Section 1: These bylaws may be amended or added to at any general Club meeting by a two-thirds vote of those present, provided this number shall not be less than half the number of the entire Club. Potential amendment changes must be submitted to the President along with written reason for the amendment change of addition. The President will then submit his/her approval or disapproval of any changes.

Section 2: Changes to the articles and sections of the bylaws must be brought to the Club at least two weeks prior to the vote.