

# VIRGINIA TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED

## BYLAWS AND ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

JULY 2011

This document includes all General Membership approved amendments/additions and Executive Board resolutions to date.

### PREAMBLE

We, the trappers of Virginia, prompted by a feeling of profound respect and gratitude toward the many valiant fur trappers who have gone before us, whose courageous deeds and exploits will forever embellish the pages of our Nation's early history, and being duly grateful for the rich legacy of wildlife bequeathed by our predecessors, do associate ourselves for the following purposes: to promote sound conservation, legislation, and administrative procedures; to save and faithfully defend from waste the natural resources of the Commonwealth of Virginia; and to promote a continued annual harvest of furbearing animals using the best tools available for that purpose.

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**BYLAWS OF THE VIRGINIA TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION, INC.**

## **ARTICLE I**

### **NAME**

#### **SECTION 1**

- A. The name of the organization shall be known as the Virginia Trappers Association, Incorporated, sometimes named in these bylaws as the VTA or the Association.

#### **SECTION 2**

- A. The purpose of the Virginia Trappers Association shall be to promote the interests of trappers, trapping, fur management, and fur handling in the Commonwealth of Virginia through education and membership, in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

#### **SECTION 1**

- A. Membership in the Virginia Trappers Association shall be open to any individual or organization upon filing an application for membership and paying the required dues. Membership dues rates are established by the Executive Board.

## **SECTION 2**

### **A. TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP**

#### **1. Regular Membership**

- a. Regular membership in the VTA is membership for persons 16 years of age and older. Regular members will receive any and all publications offered by the VTA and have full voting rights on issues brought before the General Membership.
  
- b. Regular membership without publication (w/o pub) is membership for persons 16 years of age and older. Regular members w/o pub will not receive any subscription publications offered by the VTA as a benefit of membership but will have full voting rights on issues brought before the General Membership.

#### **2. Junior Membership**

- a. Junior membership in the VTA is membership for all persons under the age of 16 years. Junior members are not eligible to vote on issues brought before the General Membership. Subscription publications are included in Junior memberships.
  
- b. Junior membership without publication (w/o pub) in the VTA is membership for all persons under the age of 16 years. Junior members w/o pub will not receive any subscription publications offered by the VTA

as a benefit of membership. Junior members w/o pub are not eligible to vote on issues brought before the General Membership.

### 3. Life Membership

- a. Life Membership is a regular membership in which the member applies and pays the required dues. Upon application and full payment of life membership dues that member shall be called a Life Member and will not be required to pay dues for the rest of his or her lifetime. This class of membership will include subscription to any and all subscription publications offered in membership and life members will receive any and all publications offered by the VTA and have full voting rights on issues brought before the General Membership.
  - b. Life Membership without publication (w/o pub) is a regular membership in which the member applies for a life membership without publication and pays the required dues. Upon application and payment of life dues w/o pub the member shall be called a Life Member and will not be required to pay dues for the rest of his or her lifetime. Life members w/o pub will not receive any subscription publications offered by the VTA. Life members w/o pub will have full voting rights on issues brought before the General Membership.
  - c. The Executive Board will offer to the membership and applicants for Life Membership a payment plan to ease the one-time cost of Life Membership dues for those who wish to apply. This payment plan will be set by the Executive Board. Any member who applies for this payment plan shall not enjoy the benefits of life membership until the dues are paid in full.
4. The VTA may offer multiple year memberships. Should this occur, dues shall be set by the Executive Board.
  5. Organization membership is open to all organizations and companies who have an interest in trapping, fur handling, or other related issues in the Commonwealth

of Virginia. Association subscriptions are included with Organization memberships. Organizations and companies who become members in the Virginia Trappers Association may use the VTA logo and VTA name in their advertising. Voting rights do not exist with this class of membership.

6. Honorary membership may be accorded selected individuals chosen by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Board at any annual meeting. This class of membership carries no rights of publication or voting.

### **SECTION 3**

#### **A. SUSPENSION OF MEMBERSHIP**

After a hearing of the Executive Board and upon recommendation and a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors, a member may be suspended for cause. The Executive Board shall determine the cause for a hearing and the grounds for suspension. The Board of Directors may reinstate a member by full two-thirds vote. Members suspended from membership will not be allowed a refund of paid dues. Lifetime Members who are suspended and not reinstated may have a portion of their paid dues refunded, upon application by the suspended member within ninety (90) days of such a decision, at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

### **SECTION 4**

#### **A. DUES**

The dues (or affiliation for membership fees) shall be set by the Executive Board and are contained in Addendum 1.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **OFFICERS**

#### **SECTION 1**

##### **A. GENERAL ELECTED OFFICERS**

Any voting member in good standing in the VTA shall have the right to hold an elected office. The elected officers of the VTA elected by the general membership shall be as follows: President, Vice President, Treasurer, General Organizer, Membership Secretary, Recording Secretary, and National Trappers Association Representative. The office of National Trappers Association Representative shall be held by a member of the VTA who is also a member of the National Trappers Association. Each officer's term shall be three years and all elected officers will take office on January 1 of the ensuing election year.

##### **B. LOCALLY ELECTED OFFICERS (DISTRICT DIRECTORS)**

The VTA, to ensure all members' voices are heard, has geographically divided the Commonwealth of Virginia into districts as set by the Board of Directors (July 2008). Each district shall be represented by a locally elected representative, District Director, who shall be a resident of his or her district. Term of office shall be three years. In the event of a vacancy occurring in a district, the President may appoint a member to fill the position until such a time as a member is elected by that district to fill the vacated position.

#### **SECTION 2**

##### **A. APPOINTED OFFICERS**

Any voting member in good standing in the VTA shall have the right to hold an appointed office. The appointed officers of the VTA shall be as follows: Training Coordinator, Archivist, Nominating Committee Chairman, Fur Takers of America Representative, Legislative Committee Chairman, Ways and Means Committee Chairman, and Web Site Administrator. These officers shall be appointed by the President of the VTA. The Nominating Committee Chairman's term of office is two years. There is no term of office for the other positions. They serve at the will of the President.

### **SECTION 3**

#### **A. PRIVACY OF INFORMATION**

Upon acceptance of the position, all officers agree to protect the privacy of the Association and membership. All VTA materials and documents are used expressly for the conduct of the official business of the Association. Any other use must be approved by written consent from the President.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### **SECTION 1**

##### **A. EXECUTIVE BOARD**

The Executive Board shall consist of the following Officers: President, who will also serve as Chair, Vice President, General Organizer, Recording Secretary, Membership

Secretary, Treasurer, National Trappers Association Representative, Training Coordinator, and the immediate Past President. Five members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum.

## **SECTION 2**

### **A. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors shall consist of all District Directors and the Executive Board members of the VTA. Eleven members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

## **SECTION 3**

### **A. DUTIES OF ELECTED OFFICERS**

#### **1. PRESIDENT**

- a. Preside at all meetings of the Executive Board, the Board of Directors, and General Membership. The President shall, in the event of a tie vote at any Executive Board or Board of Directors meeting, cast the deciding vote.
- b. Represent the VTA in all official capacities, acting as spokesperson for the VTA on establishing policy and any contingency which may arise.
- c. Schedule meetings and conferences of the Executive Board; arrange facilities for those meetings and prepare agendas.

- d. Appoint all officers as directed in these Bylaws, with advice and assistance of the Executive Board.
- e. Coordinate the work of all officers and committees and is an Ex Officio member of all committees.
- f. With the assistance of the Treasurer, prepare the annual budget for approval by the Executive Board. This approval shall be obtained at the first meeting of the Executive Board of the calendar year. The budget shall have been provided to the Executive Board no less than three days prior to the Board's meeting.
- g. Countersign all checks for payment of \$200.00 or more from the Treasurer excepting any check made to the publisher of the subscription periodical for the monthly payment of such subscriptions. The payment of the subscription periodical shall not be subject to this restriction.
- h. Appoint an audit committee to perform an internal annual audit which shall report said audit results to the BoD at the first meeting held after February 15.

## 2. VICE PRESIDENT

- a. Assume all the duties of the President in the absence of that officer.
- b. Serve as program chairman for the Annual Meeting.
- c. Maintain an inventory of all equipment owned by the VTA.

- d. In the event the office of President becomes vacant, serve as that officer for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- e. Perform any other duty which may be within the scope of his/her office or as directed by the President.

### 3. GENERAL ORGANIZER

- a. Organize, promote, and coordinate all recurring Association events.
- b. Schedule vendors, demonstration providers, and obtain auction donations for the annual convention.
- c. Liaison between the President/Vice President and District Directors for all information dissemination and other communications.
- d. Perform any other duty which may be within the scope of his/her office or as directed by the President.

### 4. TREASURER

- a. Receive all monies paid to the VTA, depositing all funds into the appropriate accounts, and maintaining all appropriate fiscal accounting reports.
- b. Pay all bills, when presented to the VTA and approved by the President, in a timely manner.

- c. Prepare financial reports and present all records for an annual internal audit.
- d. Prepare all financial records for an external audit whenever the Treasurer vacates the office.
- e. Perform other duties as assigned by the President.
- f. Is authorized to issue payment, without co-signature by the President, for all properly presented bills not to exceed \$199.99 excepting any check made to the publisher of the subscription periodical for the monthly payment of such subscriptions. The payment of the subscription periodical shall not be subject to this restriction.
- g. Perform any other duty which may be within the scope of his/her office or as directed by the President.

## 5. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

- a. Maintain all membership records.
- b. Direct all membership recruitment activities.
- c. Provide District Directors with quarterly membership lists and notification of new members.

- d. Provide all new and renewing members with a membership card and any other administrative support they may warrant by virtue of their membership status.
- e. Maintain publication records for all members.
- f. Perform any other duty which may be within the scope of his/her office or as directed by the President.

## 6. RECORDING SECRETARY

- a. Record the minutes of all meetings of the Executive Board, Board of Directors, and General Membership maintaining them on file for three years and until turned over to the Archivist.
- b. Send the minutes of all meetings to members of the Board of Directors no later than thirty days after the meeting.
- c. Conduct all correspondence of the VTA.
- d. Perform any other duty which may be within the scope of his/her office or as directed by the President.

## 7. NATIONAL TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

- a. Is the official representative of the VTA to the National Trappers Association (NTA).

- b. Represent the NTA at all VTA functions.
- c. Solicit membership for the NTA.
- d. Disseminate information from the NTA to the VTA.
- e. Perform any other duty which may be within the scope of his/her office or as directed by the President.

## 8. DISTRICT DIRECTOR

- a. Is the official representative of the members in his/her respective district at the state level. They are not elected in the General Election held bi-annually but at the district level. Term of office is three years.
- b. Is elected by a simple majority of the district membership present at a called district meeting. This meeting must have been advertised in the subscription publication, the VTA newsletter, or by direct mail to the district members a minimum of thirty days in advance of said meeting. A quorum for this meeting shall be ten percent of the district membership or six members, whichever is more.
- c. In the event of a vacancy occurring in a district, the President may appoint a member to fill the position until such a time as a member is elected to fill the vacated position. The term of the appointment may not exceed one year.
- d. Assist in setting General Policy for the VTA.

- e. At the request of the Executive Board or Board of Directors, poll district members on issues requiring immediate action or membership vote. Polling requires each District Director to make contact with all available members to obtain a vote on the issue(s) and report results in writing to the Executive Board, Board of Directors, or applicable Committee Chairperson.
  
- f. Assist in the administration of VTA functions conducted in that district.
  
- g. Appoint Assistant(s) as needed to aid in the performance of his/her duties.
  
- h. Preserve and pass on to his/her successor a careful record of district work and activities.
  
- i. Provide to the Archivist any information available if requested.
  
- j. Perform any other duty which may be within the scope of his/her office or as directed by the President.

## **SECTION 4**

### **A. DUTIES OF APPOINTED OFFICERS**

## 1. TRAINING COORDINATOR

- a. Is responsible for all VTA sponsored training programs conducted in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- b. Will develop and maintain a training program serving the needs of the beginner trapper.
- c. Is responsible for periodic updates to the Virginia Trappers Manual.
- d. Is responsible for certification of all Trapping Education Instructors.
- e. Is the VTA liaison to the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF), Outdoor Education Division.
- f. Recommends to the President, VTA, for appointment, those Trapping Training instructors selected to fill the Regional Training Coordinator positions. (There are five VDGIF regions in the Commonwealth of Virginia.) These Regional Coordinators will be responsible to the Training Coordinator for all VTA sponsored training in their region.
- g. Perform any other duty which may be within the scope of his/her office or as directed by the President.

## 2. ARCHIVIST

- a. Act as the official repository for all VTA historical information and records.

- b. Collect, organize, and maintains all records and documents in a neat and orderly manner.
- c. Provide any historical materials to the President or Executive Board upon request.
- d. Perform any other duty which may be within the scope of his/her office or as directed by the President.

### 3. NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

- a. Assemble a committee of three to five members to prepare a slate of candidates for Executive Officer elections.
- b. Conduct elections in accordance with Article VI.
- c. Perform any other duty which may be within the scope of his/her office or as directed by the President.

### 4. FUR TAKERS OF AMERICA REPRESENTATIVE

- a. Serve as VTA liaison to the Fur Takers of America, Inc.
- b. Perform any other duty which may be within the scope of his/her office or as directed by the President.

## 5. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

- a. Act as the VTA liaison with all legislative bodies (Federal, State, and Local) on all matters pertaining to trapping reporting directly to the President.
- b. Assemble a committee of up to six members to aid in the performance of his/her duties.
- c. Coordinate with the President/Executive Board appropriate responses to legislative proposals affecting trappers and trapping in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- d. Perform any other duty which may be within the scope of his/her office or as directed by the President.

## 6. WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE CHAIR

- a. Act as the VTA fund raising Chair for all fund raising events not directly delegated to another authority.
- b. Select and appoint a committee to assist the Chair in the duties of his/her office.
- c. Act as the retail outlet for the VTA.
- d. Purchase and maintain a physical inventory of all VTA retail merchandise.

- e. Ensure that VTA merchandise is available at all VTA functions and elsewhere as directed by the President.
- f. Perform any other duty which may be within the scope of his/her office or as directed by the President.

## 7. WEB SITE ADMINISTRATOR

- a. Maintain the VTA web site in a professional manner.
- b. Maintain an inventory of all VTA retail merchandise assigned to him/her for retail by the Ways and Means Chair.
- c. Act as e-retail marketer for all VTA retail merchandise.
- d. Perform any other duty which may be within the scope of his/her office or as directed by the President.

## **SECTION 5**

### A. CONSECUTIVE TERMS OF ELECTED EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

- 1. All members elected to the executive board shall be restricted to two consecutive terms in office.

2. Any Executive Board member assuming his or her office by virtue of appointment or succession as set forth in these bylaws shall not be eligible to run for a second term of office if he or she will have been in that office more than four years on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the ensuing year.
3. Any member(s) of the Executive Board, not eligible to run for re-election by virtue of this section may, after a period of one election cycle (three years), again offer themselves as candidates for the previously held office.
4. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent a qualified member from presenting him or herself for election to any office that person is not currently constrained from by virtue of term limits.

#### B. SUCCESSION TO OFFICE OF UNEXPIRED TERMS OF ELECTED OFFICE

1. If for any reason the President shall leave his unexpired term of office, the duly elected/appointed Vice President shall assume the duties of President.

### **ARTICLE V**

#### **ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATION**

##### **SECTION 1**

The Board of Directors may vote to recognize any organization having purposes similar to those of the VTA and may create an affiliation with such organizations. If the Board

of Directors action is challenged by the General Membership, termination of the action or affiliation requires two-thirds General Membership vote in favor of termination.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **ELECTIONS**

#### **SECTION 1**

- A. This article will set into place the operation of General Elections. This procedure will be used to conduct all elections held for the General Membership.
1. The General Election for the elected officers of the VTA shall be held every three years.
  2. Any member of the VTA identified in Article II, Membership, as eligible to vote in a General Election shall be deemed eligible to stand for election to office in the VTA.
  3. The General Election shall be held in the month of September.
  4. Any member presenting him or herself to the Nominating Committee as a candidate for an elected office prior to August 1st of the election year shall, upon verification of voting eligibility, have his or her name placed upon the ballot. No names will be added to the ballot after August 1<sup>st</sup>.
  5. The Nominating Committee Chair will provide the final slate of candidates to the Board of Directors for review and confirmation of eligibility.

6. No member may stand for election to more than one office in any election.
7. All candidates shall provide to the Nominating Committee Chair a brief Biography for publication in the Subscription Publication and/or the periodic VTA newsletter.
8. All voting members will be assigned a control number. This number shall be affixed to the ballot return envelope.
9. Ballots will be distributed by US Mail to all voting members during the last week of August of the election year and no later than 31 August of the election year.
10. Voting members shall be instructed to return their ballots by US Mail sealed in the ballot return envelope and mailed by midnight September 25. All ballots must be received by October 5. No ballot received by mail after October 5 or received with a postmark after September 25 will be accepted.
11. Any ballot hand delivered to a Nominating Committee member at the Annual Convention, if held after September 25, or at any other state-wide VTA event held in the month of October will be accepted and counted if said ballot is delivered in the sealed, numbered, ballot return envelope.
12. All disqualified ballots will be held on file for one election cycle. The check-off list showing which ballot envelopes were returned shall also be retained with the counted ballots.
13. Within ten days of October 5 the Nominating Committee will meet and count the ballot.

14. All ballot envelopes will be verified by the control number assigned prior to unsealing. Once the envelope is unsealed and the ballot is removed from the envelope, the envelope shall be immediately disposed of. The Nominating Committee will count and certify the election results. All ballots will subsequently be turned over to the archivist for file for one election cycle.
  
15. For any office where there are two candidates, a simple majority of votes cast shall be required to elect. For any office where there are three or more candidates, a plurality shall be required to elect.
  
16. In the event of a tie the Board of Directors shall meet and decide the election by secret ballot.
  
17. All elected officers shall assume the duties of that office on the ensuing January 1st.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **DISCIPLINE OF OFFICERS**

#### **SECTION 1**

##### **A. CRIMINAL OFFENSES**

1. If any elected or appointed officer or District Director of the VTA is found guilty of any felony in the Commonwealth of Virginia, or in any other state in the United States, he or she shall immediately forfeit that office. Additionally, this member shall be barred from holding any future office in the VTA.

2. Any elected or appointed officer or District Director of the VTA found guilty of any wildlife violation shall be subject to a Board of Review in accordance with Article VII Section 2.
  
3. Any member of the VTA found guilty of any felony may not seek any elected or appointed offices or District Director positions in the VTA.

## **SECTION 2**

### **A. NON-CRIMINAL VIOLATIONS**

1. If any officer, elected or appointed, violates any section of these bylaws or is charged by a member of the Board of Directors with a violation of the ethical code of the Virginia Trappers Association, that officer shall be brought before a Board of Review (BoR) appointed by the President.
  - a. If the charge is brought against the President, the Vice resident shall appoint the BoR unless the charge is brought by the Vice President against the President. In the event the charge is proffered by the Vice President against the President, the General Organizer shall appoint the BoR.
  
  - b. No member of the Executive Board or the Board of Directors who causes such charges to be brought may sit on the Board of Review.
  
2. The Board of Review shall consist of two members of the Executive Board and three District Directors, who shall meet, review the facts of the case, and report to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall hear the findings and recommendations, if any, and make final disposition of the case. A two-thirds majority decision of the Board of Directors shall be required to take action. Lacking this, no action shall be taken.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **MEETINGS**

#### **SECTION 1**

##### **A. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP**

1. The membership of the VTA shall meet at least once per calendar year to conduct the business of the Association. This meeting, if held only once per year, shall be held at the VTA Annual Convention.
2. A quorum shall exist when ten percent of the eligible voting membership is present or there are forty eligible voting members present, whichever number is smaller.
3. Any action of the Executive Board or the Board of Directors may be set aside by a two-thirds vote of the General Membership present at any meeting or by a majority vote of the General Membership taken by US Mail in which at least fifty percent of the voting membership cast their vote.
  - a. Any issue put before the General Membership for a vote by US Mail will be conducted as directed in ARTICLE VI, SECTION 1, governing elections by mailed ballot. The dates cited in ARTICLE VI, SECTION 1 shall not apply for the purpose of any vote taken by mail other than elections.

- b. Any issue put before the General Membership for a vote by US Mail shall be posted (mailed) as directed by the Board of Directors when said issue is approved for a general vote.

## **SECTION 2**

### **A. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS**

1. The Executive Board shall meet at least once per calendar year and as often as needed throughout the year to administer and transact the business of the VTA.
2. The electronic media (to include, but not limited to, email and telephone contact) shall be an approved method for holding votes on matters of immediate action as deemed necessary by the President. Polling of the General Membership for issues requiring immediate action will be conducted through the District Directors. Polling requires each District Director to make contact with all available members to obtain a vote on the issue(s) and report results in writing to the Executive Board or applicable Committee Chairperson. A written record of all such action shall be kept by the President and forwarded to the Recording Secretary for inclusion into official records.
3. The Executive Board shall approve the President's proposed budget prior to its submission to the Board of Directors for adoption.

## **SECTION 3**

### **A. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS**

1. The Board of Directors shall meet at least once per calendar year and as often as needed throughout the year to administer and transact the business of the VTA.
2. The Board of Directors establishes matters of policy for the VTA.
3. The Board of Directors approves the annual budget submitted by the Executive Board.
4. The Board of Directors approves all administrative decisions by the Executive Board.
5. The Board of Directors considers all matters referred to it by the membership or the Executive Board.
6. The Board of Directors may delegate responsibility for special activities or projects to the Executive Board or to the appropriate committee.
7. The electronic media (to include, but not limited to, email and telephone contact) shall be an approved method for holding votes on matters of immediate action as deemed necessary by the President. Polling of the General Membership for issues requiring immediate action will be conducted through the District Directors. Polling requires each District Director to make contact with all available members to obtain a vote on the issue(s) and report results in writing to the Board of Directors or applicable Committee Chairperson. A written record of all such action shall be kept by the President and forwarded to the Recording Secretary for inclusion into official records.

#### **SECTION 4**

## A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

1. It shall be the responsibility of each District Director to hold at least one district meeting per year. It is highly recommended each District Director hold regularly scheduled meeting to disseminate information and gain insight into the issues affecting the members in his or her district.

## **SECTION 5**

### A. VTA FUR SALE

1. The General Organizer shall schedule at least one statewide fur sale each year at a location convenient to the General Membership.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS**

## **SECTION 1**

### A. AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS

1. Amendments and additions to these bylaws shall be made in the following manner:

- a. Proposed amendments or additions must be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors for review.
- b. If affirmed, the Board of Directors will direct the proposed amendment or addition be published in the subscription publication or in a membership publication offered by the VTA to be available in print at least thirty days prior to the next scheduled General Membership meeting. If the issue is deemed of major importance the Board of Directors may direct a voting form mailing to the membership.
- c. If a mailing is deemed necessary, it shall be done in accordance with the rules provided in ARTICLE VI, SECTION 1 of these bylaws, governing elections by mailed ballot. Voting forms will be mailed to the membership no less than thirty days after the publication date of the formal notification of the matter to the General Membership. All voting forms must be returned to the appropriate committee chair within forty five days of the mailing date.
- d. At General Membership meetings, amendments/additions shall come before the floor and be voted upon. A two-thirds affirmative vote is required for adoption. If the vote is directed by the Board of Directors to be conducted by US Mail a fifty percent return with a two-thirds affirmative vote is required for adoption.
- e. Any proposed amendments/additions arising from the floor of a General Membership meeting shall be referred to the Board of Directors for action as stated herein.
- f. All approved amendments/additions to these bylaws will be enacted by Executive Board resolutions. Resolutions will be supplemental documents to the bylaws and remain in effect until the bylaws are revised incorporating the resolutions. There are no provisions for the setting aside of these bylaws to enact any amendments or additions.

## ADDENDUM 1

### A. Dues

1. The Executive Board established the following rates for Association membership.

Regular 1-Year\_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00

Regular 2-Year\_\_\_\_\_ \$48.00

Regular 1-Year without publication\_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00

Junior 1-Year\_\_\_\_\_ \$18.00

Junior 1-Year without publication \_\_\_\_\_ \$9.00

Life \_\_\_\_\_ \$300.00

Life without publication \_\_\_\_\_ \$150.00

Organization 1-Year \_\_\_\_\_ \$40.00

Organization 2-Year \_\_\_\_\_ \$75.00

Organization Life \_\_\_\_\_ \$350.00

## **ADDENDUM 2**

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF THE  
VIRGINIA TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

We, the undersigned, do hereby associate ourselves as incorporators to form the hereinafter named corporation pursuant to the provisions of the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia known as "The Virginia Non-Stock Corporation Act", and so set forth the following:

- A. The name of the Corporation is the Virginia Trappers Association, Inc.

- B. The purpose for which the corporation is formed and which it shall carry out are to promote the interests of trappers and trapping activities in the Commonwealth of Virginia. It is expressly declared that the corporation is organized and will be operated exclusively for scientific, charitable, and educational purposes, that it will not be operated for profit and that no part of the net earnings will under any circumstances inure to the benefit of any private individual, all within the meaning of section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. In the event of dissolution of the corporation its assets shall be disbursed according to the provisions of section 13.1-249, and particularly subsection (c) and (e) thereof, The Code of Virginia.
- C. The corporation shall have members and the members shall be divided into three classes which shall be as follows:
- 1) Adult membership will be those persons sixteen years of age and older who are interested in traps, trapping, fur, or fur handling and who pay their annual dues. Adult membership shall have a vote in all matters coming before the membership.
  - 2) Junior membership will be those persons sixteen years of age and under who pay their annual dues. Junior members shall have no vote in any association activities.
  - 3) Life Membership will be the same as adult and junior membership except that the member pays a one-time life time payment and is entitled to membership benefits for life.
  - 4) Organization Membership is a membership much like adult membership except that the membership is awarded to a company or organization who after paying the required dues will have permission to use the Virginia Trappers Association name and logo in their advertising.

Management and control of the property and affairs of the corporation shall be vested in a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of twenty-two members elected by the members of the twenty-two districts of the Virginia Trappers Association.

Administrative functions shall be carried out by the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall consist of the President and the elected officers.

The functions of the officers of the corporation shall be prescribed in the bylaws.

The initial registered office of the corporation is located in the City of Chesapeake, a city in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The address of the initial registered office of the corporation is 2132 Shipyard Road, Chesapeake, Virginia 23323. The name of the initial registered agent of the corporation at such address is Joseph T. Brescia, a resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia and a director of the corporation.

The initial Board of Directors shall consist of twenty-four (now twenty-two) members as listed in the VTA Organizational Manual (now incorporated into the Bylaws of the Virginia Trappers Association).