

# Arkansas Trappers Association Constitution

Adopted September 13, 2014

## Article 1 - Name

This organization shall be known as the Arkansas Trappers Association

## Article 2 - Mission Statement

### Section 1

- The Arkansas Trappers Association (ATA) is a non-partisan, non-discriminatory, domestic non-profit organization registered with the State of Arkansas on good standing since October 1975.
- Our membership is made up of dedicated men and women who promote wildlife management through regulated trapping.
- The ATA actively promotes safest and most efficient traps through trapper education.
- The ATA has a working relationship with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission in the setting of regulations that pertain to trapping.
- Each year the ATA sponsors a raw fur sale, an annual convention and a trappers workshop for its members.
- Our members are modern trappers devoted to improving the image and practice of trapping through workshop, seminars and demonstrations that promote ethical trapping practices and promote support modern wildlife management as well as conservation.
- The ATA sponsors a number of events each year to improve leadership and communication skills among its members and attends outdoor shows and schools to teach others about responsible conservation and wildlife management.

## Article 3 - Membership

### Section 1

- Membership in good standing is defined as payment of current ATA dues as specified in Article 3, Section 1 of the by-laws.

### Section 2 - Voting

- Voting membership is open to all members in good standing who are sixteen (16) years of age or older.
- Family members less than sixteen (16) years of age may participate in all ATA activities except voting.

## Article 4 - Arkansas Trappers Association Organizational Structure

### Section 1 - Governing Board

The ATA Governing Board shall consist of the following members:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary/Treasurer
- Editor
- National Trappers Association (NTA) State Director
- Fur Takers of America (FTA) State Director
- District Representatives (9 each)

## Section 2 - Committees

The ATA Executive Committee shall consist of:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary/Treasurer
- Editor
- National Trappers Association (NTA) State Director
- Fur Takers of America (FTA) State Director

The ATA Ways and Means Committee shall consist of:

- Shall be chaired by the ATA Vice-President for the term of his/her service
- Shall consist of District Representatives for the term of his/her service

The ATA Rules and Regulation Committee shall consist of:

- Shall be chaired by a volunteer from within the ATA but not a member of the Executive Committee
- Shall serve a term to be decided by the Governing Board

The ATA Standing, Special or "Ad Hoc" Committee may be created as needed to include the following ATA endorsed activities:

- Annual Fur Sale
- ATA Fall Convention
- Annual Trappers Workshop
- Members are expected to volunteer for committee assignments

### Committee Appointments

- The President has the authority to appoint committee chairs and members

## Article 5 - Meetings

### Section 1 - Governing Board

- Shall meet at least two (2) times each calendar year to coincide with the following events:
  - Spring Board of Directors Meeting
  - ATA Fall Convention
- The President shall have the authority to convene an unscheduled meeting of the Governing Board with at least fourteen (14) days notice.

### Section 2 - Districts

- Shall convene at a minimum if twice each year at least thirty (30) days prior to the ATA Fall Convention and again at least thirty (30) days prior to the Spring Board of Directors Meeting and on a regular basis as deemed necessary to attend to State Association supported events as well as District events
- Shall convene in various locations within the district so as to minimize the financial expenditures on district members and to maximize participation

### Section 3 - Association General Membership

- Shall convene at least once per year to coincide with the ATA Fall Convention with at least a thirty (30) day notice

- Unscheduled general membership meetings may be convened by the President/Governing Board with at least a thirty (30) day notice

#### Section 4 - Parliamentary Authority

- The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern Arkansas Trappers Association (ATA) and its affiliates in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws and any special rules of order the ATA may adopt

#### Article 6 - Finances

Section 1 - The Arkansas Trappers Association shall practice standard Small Business accounting practices as well as adhere to state and federal regulations

Section 2 - Accounts of the ATA funds shall consist of

- An interest bearing savings/money market account for retaining approximately ninety (90) percent of ATA funds
- An interest bearing small business checking account for day-to-day operational funds of at least ten (10) percent of the total ATA funds but shall not exceed two thousand five hundred (2,500) dollars on a monthly basis

Section 3 - The Arkansas Trappers Association may, as needed, retain the services of a Certified Public Accountant as a consultant and to aid the ATA in financial matters.

#### Article 7 - Dissolution

Section 1 - Upon dissolution, the members of the Arkansas Trappers Association agree to the following procedure:

- The Arkansas Trappers Association shall be terminated and dissolved by a two thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership in favor of dissolution and termination of the Arkansas Trappers Association
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Section 2 - Upon dissolution, the members of the Arkansas Trappers Association for any reason:

- The officers shall take full account of the ATA assets and liabilities
- The officers shall liquidate the assets and shall apply and distribute the proceeds there from in the following order:
  1. To the payments of debts and liabilities of the ATA
  2. To the setting up of any reserves that the officers may deem reasonable for the purpose of paying any unforeseen liabilities or obligations of the Arkansas Trappers Association
  3. The remaining balance and assets shall be distributed to the National Trappers Association and Fur Takers of America equally
  4. Members shall be provided a statement prepared by the Arkansas Trappers Association outlining the assets, liabilities and the

distribution upon complete liquidation on the Arkansas Trappers Association web site.

5. Upon compliance with these terms and the distribution of the funds, the Arkansas Trappers Association shall cease to exist.

#### Article 8 - Amendments

- Providing notice has been given at the previous meeting, this constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by two thirds (2/3) vote cast by those in attendance