

OHIO FALCONRY ASSOCIATION - BYLAWS

ARTICLE 1 - PURPOSE

1.1 The Ohio Falconry Association (OFA) is an organization that provides information and opportunities to its members to promote the practice of true falconry and the conservation of raptors.

ARTICLE 2 – MEMBERSHIP

2.1 Regular Membership is available to individuals of good moral character that possess a current permit to practice falconry and reside in Ohio. Associate Membership is available to individuals of good moral character who do not meet the requirements for Regular Membership but have an interest in falconry and wish to take a positive role in OFA activities. The OFA does not restrict its membership, regardless of gender, race, or religion.

2.2 OFA Membership can be denied/revoked by a majority vote of the OFA officers If a prospective member or member fails to conduct his or herself in a manner that is in the best interest of the OFA and/or falconry.

2.3 Annual Membership dues are established and revised by a vote of the Regular Membership.

Membership runs from September through September.
Paid dues are a requirement of Membership.

ARTICLE 3 - OFFICERS

3.1 An Executive Committee will consist of at least four officers, which should be of Master or general class that are also members of The North American Falconry Association who reside in Ohio and have been members in good standing for at least one year prior to elections. Officers must be nominated and seconded to be on the ballot. This committee includes President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer and will be elected to three-year terms triennially effective 9/21/2025. Officers will be limited to two terms in any one office. The President of the OFA serves as the Chairperson of the Executive Committee. The purpose of the Executive Committee is to conduct the basic functions of the OFA, i.e., financial, correspondence, membership, etc.

3.2 The general duties of the individual officers are as follows:

President - Oversee the affairs of the OFA and preside over its meetings.

Vice-president - Serve in absence of the President and assist the President in OFA matters.

Secretary - Communication with membership, and dissemination of falconry and OFA information to interested parties. The process of compiling and filing meeting minutes.

Treasurer - Manage the financial resources of the OFA and collect membership dues.

3.3 The functions of officers may be combined if needed.

3.4 The OFA may elect specialist officers, e.g., Political Liaison, whenever necessary. The President or presiding Vice-president can create special committees and appoint individuals to special tasks, e.g., Newsletter/ magazine Editor, as necessary.

3.5 Members of the Executive Committee and its designees may be reimbursed from the Treasury for reasonable, routine OFA expenses, e.g., postage, letterhead, patches, picnic supplies etc. (excluding transportation and phone charges), with appropriate receipts. With approval of the Regular Membership, special reimbursements to individuals and donations to organizations of interest to OFA may be granted.

ARTICLE 4 - MEMBERSHIP COMMUNICATION

4.1 The Executive Committee will maintain an Official OFA Membership mailing list consisting of dues paid members. Only current members will receive OFA correspondence.

4.2 The Executive Committee will ensure that the Membership is provided with written or electronic prior notice of OFA activities and pertinent state and federal falconry issues, as needed. Such communication may be done via regular or intermittent newsletters and/ or other written or electronic forms by any or all members of the Executive Committee. Fax, e-mail, and telephone may be used, as necessary.

ARTICLE 5 – MEETINGS

5.1 Unless circumstances prohibit, at least one meeting of the OFA will be held each year. The purpose of meetings will be to allow members to address the official business of the OFA, keep current on falconry related issues, display their hawks, and socialize with other falconers.

5.2 Whenever possible, one meeting will be held in the fall in the form of the OFA Picnic and another will be held in the Spring.

5.3 Business at all official meetings of the OFA will be conducted in accordance with the current revision of Rules of Order as applicable and consistent with these bylaws.

ARTICLE 6 – VOTING

6.1 Any current Regular Member that holds a master or general falconry permit and is a current resident of Ohio is eligible to vote on issues considered by the OFA.

6.2 Depending upon the circumstances, voting may be conducted in person and/or via requested emailed ballot received within seven days of the vote. Regular Members in attendance at a given meeting will constitute a voting quorum. A voting quorum via emailed ballot is constituted by those eligible Regular Members that return requested or emailed ballots within seven days of a vote.

6.3 A simple majority of a voting quorum is required to approve/pass a motion, regardless of the voting method, i.e., in person or via email.

6.4 Triennial officer elections will take place as follows. Nominations will be taken starting October 1st by e-mail and will need to include the person that seconded the nomination. November 1st an e-mail will be sent to the

membership of all eligible members running for office including the position for which they are running.

December 1st voting begins and runs through December 31st. January 1st results will be e-mailed and posted on social media.

ARTICLE 7 - AMENDMENT & DISSOLUTION OF BYLAWS

7.1 The Bylaws may be amended or dissolved at any time by a majority of a voting quorum of the eligible regular voting membership.

ARTICLE 8 - DISSOLUTION OF OFA

8.1 The OFA may be dissolved at any time by a majority of an eligible voting quorum of the regular voting membership.

Revision 2026.1

Adopted