



NANTAHALA HIKING CLUB BYLAWS

ARTICLE I – NAME

- A. The name of this organization shall be THE NANTAHALA HIKING CLUB, INC. It may be informally known as the NHC and referred to herein as “NHC”.

ARTICLE II – MISSION AND PURPOSE

- A. NHC is a non-profit corporation and is organized for the maintenance of the Appalachian Trail corridor, and for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- B. The specific purposes of NHC are to:
 - a. Maintain the assigned segment of the Appalachian Trail (AT) and such other trails as the Club adopts in conjunction with the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC), the National Park Service (NPS), and the United States Forest Service (USFS).
 - b. Provide the tools, training and leadership to educate volunteers who will create a safety minded workforce and serve as effective managers to protect, preserve and maintain the public lands of the AT.
 - c. Provide public educational opportunities for adults and youth to enjoy hiking while learning practices of sound natural resource conservation and Leave No Trace Ethics, to protect the forest, wildlife, waters and general environment of the region.
 - d. Promote the safe use of hiking trail corridors by educating the public of the value and importance of hiking trails.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

- A. Members of the Club are those who subscribe to the purposes of the Club and pay yearly dues. There are four classes of membership:
 - a. Individual – defined as a single person
 - b. Family – defined as several persons in a family unit
 - c. Honorary - recognized by the Board for outstanding contributions to the Club. Honorary members pay no dues.
 - d. Lifetime – defined as person who has contributed 3,000 or more hours of recorded volunteer effort to the Club. Lifetime members pay no dues.
- B. Membership dues shall be established by the Board of Directors with the approval of a majority present at any regular or special Club meetings. Dues shall be payable annually on the first day of July. New memberships received on April first or after will be allowed membership for the full coming year (maximum of 15 months).
- C. Any name may be dropped from the membership list for non-payment of dues on the first day of September.

ARTICLE IV – PRINCIPAL OFFICE AND ADDRESS

- A. The physical and mailing address of the Nantahala Hiking Club is 173 Carl Slagle Road, Franklin, NC 28734. The principal office may be changed by the approval of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V – MEETINGS

- A. The Club meets the second Friday evening of each month except January and February. Special meetings are held at times and locations arranged by the Board. The July meeting is designated as the Annual Meeting with the election/installation of the Board.

ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- A. Direction of the Club is the responsibility of the Board of Directors, which consist of President, Vice President or Co-Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chair, and a minimum of four Members-at-Large, all elected annually by the

membership. The Trail Manager, who is selected by the maintainers and approved by the Board, will serve on the Board with voting privileges. The Nominating Committee will determine the number of Board Members-At-Large in excess of four.

- B. The Board is elected annually by a simple majority of those members present at the July meeting. The President and the Vice-President may not serve more than three consecutive one-year terms in the same position.
- C. In the event no one volunteer is willing and/or able to take on the duties of President, the number of Board Members-at-Large may increase. The Board will then determine the best way to accomplish the presidential duties.
- D. No later than April first of each year, the President will appoint a chairman of the Nominating Committee.
- E. The Club membership will be notified of the Nominating Committee's slate of nominees at the June Club meeting. Nominations from the floor should also be presented at the June meeting. The Board will fill any vacancies that occur on the Board.

ARTICLE VII – FISCAL YEAR

- A. The fiscal year of the NHC shall be the calendar year.

ARTICLE VIII - BUDGET AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- A. The Treasurer, in conjunction with the Board, will develop a proposed budget for the Club's activities for the coming calendar year. Once approved by the Board, the budget will be made available to Club members.
- B. The Treasurer shall have custody of all NHC funds and shall deposit funds, collect income and sign checks and orders for the payment of money under the direction of the Board. The Treasurer shall maintain a current ledger of Club income and expenses and will provide a monthly report on financial status of the Club. The Treasurer, President and one other Club member are allowed to individually sign checks. Once a year the Treasurer, President and one non-Board member shall review the financial records. The President is allowed to authorize expenditures up to \$100.00 without Board approval.

ARTICLE IX – PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

- A. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the guidelines, no member, officer or representative of NHC shall take any action or carry on any activity by or on behalf of the NHC not permitted to be taken or carried on by the organization.

ARTICLE X – DISSOLUTION

- A. Upon dissolution of the Corporation, the Board shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all liabilities of the NHC, transfer or convey all of the remaining assets of the NHC to the Appalachian Trail Conservancy within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the code.

ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENTS

- A. Bylaws may be amended by two-thirds majority of members present at a regular or special Club meeting, provided the membership has been given ten (10) days advance notice of the amendment.
