

By- Laws
Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
(Revised 2/05)

Section 1. Name and Objectives

The name of this organization shall be the **Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society**, and hereinafter referred to as the Chapter.

The objectives of the Chapter shall be those of the American Fisheries Society (the Society) as set forth in the Constitution, and to encourage the exchange of information by members of the Chapter and Society residing in the Wisconsin area.

Section II. Membership

The membership of the Chapter shall be composed of those dues paying individuals or institutions interested in the Society and its objectives.

The Chapter recognizes the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point Student Subunit and Northland College Student Subunit of the Chapter, with membership consisting of members in good standing in the Chapter who are associated with the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point, and Northland College.

Section III. Meetings and Voting

The Chapter shall hold at least one meeting annually at a time and place designated by the Governing Board. The President with the approval of the Governing Board may call special meetings.

Decisions at meetings of the Chapter shall be in accordance with the Constitution of the American Fisheries Society.

A quorum at any meeting for the transaction of official business shall be one third (1/3) of the Chapter membership, or 1/3 of members in good standing voting during a fifteen- (15) day electronic voting period.

Decisions at meetings are by simple majority of Active Members voting, except 2/3 majorities are required in special cases such as amending By-laws and suspending a Rule. Other less frequently used voting requirements are described in Robert's Rules of Order.

Section IV. Officers

The officers of the Chapter shall consist of a President, President-elect, Past President, and a Secretary-Treasurer.

A nominating committee appointed by the President shall nominate officers. Officers shall be elected by a majority of ballots cast and the Governing Board shall determine election methods.

Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting. The Secretary-Treasurer may hold office for a two (2) year term, but the term of other officers shall be one (1) year. In case of a vacated position, the Governing Board shall appoint a qualified replacement to fill the un-expired term.

In the event of a cancellation of an annual meeting the officers and the members of any committee shall continue to serve until the next scheduled Annual meeting.

Section V. Duties of Officers

The President of the Chapter shall preside at all the meetings, shall serve as the Chairperson of the Governing Board, shall represent the Chapter to the North Central Division and to the American Fisheries Society, and shall make appointments and perform duties and functions as are authorized by the Governing Board and necessary.

The President-elect shall Chair the Program Committee and shall assume the duties of the President in the event the President is unable to serve.

The Secretary –Treasurer shall keep the official records of the Chapter, collect and be custodian of registration fees and dues collected under Section (IX) of these By-laws, and any funds which may allotted to the Chapter. The Secretary –Treasure shall disburse funds as may be authorized and necessary, and shall submit a record of receipts and disbursements at the annual Chapter meeting. The Secretary-Treasurer shall perform such duties as may be requested by the Secretary-Treasurer of the American fisheries society and of the North Central Division.

Section VI. Governing Board

The Governing Board (Board) of the Chapter shall consist of the elected officers, the immediate past-president, the President of the University of Wisconsin- Stevens Point Student Subunit, and the President of the Northland College Student Subunit. The Board is authorized to act for the Chapter between meetings and to perform appropriate duties and functions.

A quorum is required for transaction of official business at a Governing Board Meeting. A quorum consists of 4 of 6 Board members, of whom one representative must be a Student Subunit president or that person's appointed proxy.

Each member of the Governing Board shall have one (1) vote on Governing Board decisions. In event of a tie, the President's vote shall be the deciding vote.

Governing Board meetings are called by the President and are typically held three (3) times per year.

Section VII. Chapter Committees

Committees, and the Chairperson of Committees (except as listed in Section V of these By-laws), may be appointed by the President as may be necessary for the conduct of Chapter activities.

Standing Committees help the Governing Board conduct Chapter affairs. Committee Chairs should report their committee's activities, findings, and recommendation at the annual Chapter meeting and interim meetings of the Governing Board, and submit a written report annually to the Secretary-treasurer.

The Chapter has established the following Standing Committees:

- Newsletter and Communication
- Membership
- Awards
- Continuing Education
- Raffle and revenue
- Resolutions
- Scholarship Environmental Issues
- Local Arrangements /Time & Place
- Outreach
- Website/ Chapter e-mail distribution

Section VIII. Election of Members

Application for all classes of American Fisheries Society membership may be received by the Secretary-Treasurer of the Chapter and shall be forwarded to the Secretary-treasurer of the Society.

Section IX. Dues and Fees

The Governing Board shall establish annual dues subject to the approval of the members voting at the annual meeting.

The Chapter shall collect an annual due from members wishing to remain in good standing and therefore eligible to exercise the rights and privileges afforded active members. The Governing Board may assess a registrant attending annual meetings of the Chapter a registration fee necessary to cover the costs of the meeting and Chapter activities. Collections shall be made by the Secretary –Treasurer, and disbursements shall be made for financing Chapter operations, as may be directed by the membership by the authorization of the Governing Board.

Section X. Amendments and by-laws

The by-laws of the Chapter may be amended and approved in accordance of the Constitution of the American Fisheries Society and by Section III of these By-laws.