

(REVISED 3/19/96)

BY-LAWS
RICE LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
MERCER, WISCONSIN 54547

ARTICLE I - PURPOSE

The purpose of the Association is to maintain, protect, and enhance the quality of the lake and its surroundings for the collective interests of the members, to carry out the program of the Association and to make representations on behalf of its members. The Association shall be organized as a non-profit, non-stock, corporation under Chapter 181 of the Wisconsin Statutes. No asset of the Association shall benefit any officer or member. The Association shall not participate in partisan political activity.

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1 - ELIGIBILITY: Membership in the Association shall be open to any individual, family, business, or organization that (a) subscribes to the purpose of the Association, (b) owns property on the lake, (c) and/or resides within one mile of the lake at least one month each year.

SECTION 2 - DUES: Dues shall be \$10. per individual member paid on an annual calendar basis.

SECTION 3 - TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP: A member may be expelled from the Association for cause on a two-thirds affirmative vote of all members and entitled to vote at a membership meeting, provided that the matter shall have been included in notice of the meeting, and provided that the member to be expelled shall have been formally notified in writing at least 30 days prior to the meeting, and given the opportunity to appear and speak on his/her behalf at the meeting prior to the final vote. The motion shall specify the duration of the expulsion, not to exceed five (5) years. (Sec. 181.12 (2)).

ARTICLE III - VOTING

SECTION 1 - MULTIPLE VOTING: Any individual member may cast only one vote on any question called to a vote. Up to two individuals may represent a family, business, or organization and each of those two individuals may cast one vote on any question called to a vote.

SECTION 2 - CASTING BALLOTS: A member does not have to be present at the meeting at the time the vote is called. Any member may vote by proxy or absentee ballot.

SECTION 3 - REFERENDA: The Board of Directors may at any time solicit reactions from members through a mail survey. The Board resolution authorizing the referendum shall indicate whether the results shall be considered advisory or binding on the Board. The annual meeting may initiate any advisory or a binding referendum and shall specify the exact wording of the question and the required follow-up action by the Board. Members shall have 30 days to return response forms. Results of the referendum shall be announced at a membership meeting or in printed form within 90 days of the response deadline.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

SECTION 1 - ANNUAL MEETING: The annual meeting of the Rice Lake Association shall be held in the vicinity of Rice Lake during the month of July. The time and place shall be arranged by the Board of Directors unless specified by the previous annual meeting. The agenda of the annual meeting shall include elections, discussion of projects, adoption of a budget, member concerns, and an educational program (Sec. 181.14 (1) (2))

SECTION 2 - SPECIAL MEETINGS: A special meeting of the Association may be called at any time by the President, by majority vote of the Board of Directors, or by written request of one-twentieth of the members, or six members, whichever is greater. The agenda of a special meeting may include any items properly brought before an annual meeting.

SECTION 3 - INFORMATIONAL MEETING OR SOCIAL EVENT: The Association may sponsor a variety of meetings and events designed to provide education, recreational, or social opportunities for its members and their guests. It may also sponsor fund-raising activities. If business is to be conducted at such events, the notice requirement for special meetings must be met.

SECTION 4 - NOTIFICATION: Every annual or special meeting must be preceded by notice to paid members and members from the preceding year who have not yet renewed their membership. Notification may be by hand delivery or by mail at least 30 days, but not more than 50, prior to special meetings. The notice shall summarize any proposed changes in the By-Laws, shall highlight any proposals to dissolve the Association, and may include a detailed agenda. (Sec. 181.15)

SECTION 5 - QUORUM: No formal business may be conducted at membership meetings unless at least one twentieth of the members, or six (6) members, whichever is greater, are present. (Sec. 181.17)

SECTION 6 -PROCEDURE: Roberts Rules of Order, in the current revised edition, shall be in force at the meetings of the Association, or the Board of Directors, and of the Association committees unless required otherwise by Wisconsin Statutes or these By-Laws. Non-members of the Association may be recognized to speak at Association functions at the discretion of the presiding officer who shall also serve as parliamentarian.

ARTICLE V- BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1 - AUTHORITY: Subject to directives of annual and special meetings and these By-Laws, the Board of Directors shall have authority over the activities and assets of the Association.

SECTION 2 - COMPOSITION: The Board of Directors shall include President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, three (3) at-large directors, and the past President. (Sec. 181.20 (1))

SECTION 3 - ELECTIONS: The Board of Directors shall nominate one or more members for each vacant position on the Board. Additional nominations of members, present at the annual meeting and willing to serve, shall be taken from the floor. All elections for the Board shall be conducted by secret, written ballot. (Sec. 181.20 (2))

SECTION 4 -TERM OF OFFICE: Directors are elected for two-year terms. Their terms shall expire after the annual meeting or upon the election of new Directors, whichever occurs later. The terms of office of President, Secretary, and two-at-large Directors expire in even-numbered years. The terms of office of Vice-President, Treasurer, and one at-large director expire in odd-numbered years. (Sec. 181.20 (3))

SECTION 5 - BOARD MEETINGS: The new Board shall meet within 60 days of the annual meeting and at least one other time prior to the next annual meeting. Regular meetings shall be held at places, dates, and times established by the Board. Special meetings may be held on the call of the President or any three Directors after at least 24 hours notice by telephone, mail, or personal contact. Three Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The meetings shall be open to the members. Decisions shall be made by majority. Between meetings, the President may solicit decisions from the Board through written communications. (Sec. 181.22; Sec. 181.24)

SECTION 6 - VACANCIES: Any Director who misses two consecutive meetings without cause may, at the discretion of the Board, be removed from office. Any vacancy may be filled for the remainder of the term by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Directors then in, although less than a quorum. (Sec. 181.20 (4); Sec. 181.21)

SECTION 7 - COMPENSATION: Directors shall not be compensated for their time and effort. The Board may authorize officers, directors, and committee members to be paid actual and necessary expenses incurred while on Association business.

ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS

Section 1 - PRESIDENT: The President shall preside over all membership meetings and Board meetings. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association, responsible for the day-to-day administration of the affairs of the Association and supervision of any employees or contractors. The president shall appoint all committee members who shall serve until the end of the President's term. The President is an ex-officio member of all committees.

SECTION 2 - VICE -PRESIDENT: The Vice President shall assume the duties of the President should that office become vacant and shall preside at meetings when the President is unable to attend. The Vice President shall arrange for the educational segment of the annual meeting and carry out other assignments at the request of the President.

SECTION 3 - SECRETARY: The Secretary shall maintain the official records of the Association as well as an archives. The Secretary shall record and distribute the minutes of member meetings and Board meetings. The Secretary shall maintain a current record of the name and addresses of members entitled to vote and shall send out notices of membership meetings. The Secretary shall prepare publicity for the Association and shall prepare the Association newsletter or solicit an editor to carry out the task. The Secretary shall serve on the Membership Committee. (Sec. 181.27)

SECTION 4 - TREASURER: The Treasurer shall maintain the financial records of the Association and shall sign all checks along with the President. The Treasurer shall prepare an annual financial statement for the annual meeting and shall be responsible for presentation of the proposed budget to the annual meeting. The Treasurer shall serve on the Finance Committee.

SECTION 5 - MULTIPLE OFFICE HOLDING: The same person may hold the offices of Vice President and Treasurer or the Offices of Secretary and Treasurer. (Sec. 181.25(1))

SECTION 6 - OTHER OFFICERS: Other officers may be appointed by the President, with concurrence of the Board. A legal counsel, an executive secretary, or such other assistant officers as are deemed necessary need not be members of the Association.

ARTICLE VII - COMMITTEES

SECTION 1 - MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: The Membership Committee shall initiate a plan to recruit new members and offer suggestions to the Board on retention of members.

SECTION 2 - HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE: The Hospitality Committee shall provide refreshments at the Annual Meeting and, after receiving Board approval, shall organize and publicize other social events to be sponsored by the Association.

SECTION 3 - FINANCE COMMITTEE: The Finance Committee shall recommend fund-raising activities to the Board and, after receiving Board approval, shall organize such activities. The Finance Committees shall also annually audit the financial records of the Association.

SECTION 4 - LAND USE COMMITTEE: The Land Use Committee shall represent the Association at local public hearings and informational meetings relating to zoning, sanitation codes, subdivision ordinances, pollution sources, and changes in land use which might affect water quality. The Committee shall offer proposals to the Board regarding land use issues.

SECTION 5 - BOATING SAFETY COMMITTEE: The Boating Safety Committees shall represent the Association at local public hearings and informational meetings relating to water safety patrols, lake use ordinances, and obstacles to navigation. The Committee shall offer proposals to the Board regarding water use issues.

SECTION 6 - FISHING AND WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE: The Fishing and Water Quality Committee shall represent the Association at Department of Natural Resources hearings and at local meetings relating to in-lake water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and water levels. The Committee shall offer proposals to the Board regarding water quality monitoring and ecological management of the fishery.

SECTION 7 - WEED AND ALGAE COMMITTEE: The Weed and Algae Control Committee shall represent the Association at Department of Natural Resources hearings and at local meetings relating to the control of nuisance plants and to the protection of desirable vegetation. The Committees shall offer proposals to the Board for a vegetation management plan and may be delegated responsibility to implement such a plan.

SECTION 8 - OTHER COMMITTEES: The President may appoint such other committees as are deemed necessary to support the efforts of the Board.

ARTICLE VIII - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SECTION 1 INDEMNIFICATION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS: As provided by Wisconsin law, the Association shall indemnify any officer, director, employee, or agent who was, is, or may be involved in legal proceedings by virtue of his or her good faith actions on behalf of the Association. (Sec. 181.045)

SECTION 2 - FISCAL YEAR: The records and accounts of the Association shall be maintained on a calendar year basis.

SECTION 3 - ACCOUNTS AND INVESTMENTS: Funds of the Association shall be promptly deposited at a financial institution designated by resolution of the Board of Directors. Funds not needed for current operations shall be deposited in investment accounts or certificates as authorized by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX - ADOPTION AND AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws, and any amendments thereto, may be adopted at any annual or special meeting of the Association by two-thirds vote of members who are entitled to vote. Amendments to the By-Laws must be summarized in the notice for the annual meeting at which the amendments are to be voted on.

ARTICLE X - DISSOLUTION

The Board of Directors, by a two-thirds affirmative vote of all directors, may recommend that the Association be dissolved and that the question of such dissolution be submitted to a vote at a subsequent meeting of members. Notice of the meetings shall highlight the question of dissolution. At the meeting, a two-thirds affirmative vote of members entitled to vote shall be required to approve a resolution of dissolution. Any member entitled to vote may also cast a proxy, absentee, or fax ballot for the question of approval of a resolution of dissolution. Such a resolution shall direct the Board of Directors to prepare a dissolution plan for subsequent approval by the members as provided under Wisconsin law. Dissolution of the Association shall not be final until the members, by majority vote, shall have approved the dissolution plan, either at a meeting or by a binding mail referendum. (Sec. 181.50; Sec. 181.52)

CERTIFICATION

These By-Laws were adopted by a vote of Eleven (11) yes and Zero (0) no at the Association meeting on the 22nd day of June, 1995.

(Secretary)

ORIGINAL COPY:
June 22, 1995