

By Laws for Neptune Divers Scuba club

The Neptune Divers Scuba Club advocates for divers.

We have monthly meetings.

We are dedicated to the principles of safe diving and continued education to improve and solidify diving skills for all members of our club.

We participate in local clean up dives.

We support and are active with the Boy Scouts of America as advisors and general assistance as need to both the local Scuba Venture Crew and the Norwela Council.

ARTICLE I

MEMBERSHIP

A. General Member:

- 1. If under age 18, there must be parental release.*
- 2. Each member assumes all personal responsibility and risks associated with any membership or club sponsored activity.*
- 3. Each diving member must be certified by a generally accepted national program.*
- 4. One year's dues must be paid in advance.*
- 5. Each member is responsible for notifying the Newsletter Editor of changes of address.*
- 6. Dive Shop owner/operator (or their paid employees) may be a member but is/are precluded and prohibited from holding any office but retains voting rights except in revision of the by-laws affecting their status to hold office.*
- 7. Any member belonging to another club is precluded from holding office while a member of another club and must relinquish their office immediately if they join another club. If they fail to do so they will lose their office and be removed from the club. This action will require a vote of the remaining officers and the offending officer shall have no vote.*

B. Family Member/Non diver:

- 1. Must be presented by an active member and approved by the Board of Directors/Officers.*
- 2. There shall be no dues required for a non-diving member.*
- 3. Shall have no right to vote.*
- 4. Non-members may attend meeting but will have no vote, may attend events and functions but will be assessed an additional 10% if fees are required.*

C. Charter Member:

- 1. Any member in good standing prior to March 31, 2010. They are as follows: Mike Chelette, Steve Nichols, Ric Pennington, Jill Lucero, Dan Brooks, Clay Weeks, Harry Grissom, Ted Lucero.*

D. Family Member:

- 1. All members of a family may be included in a family membership if they are certified divers.*
- 2. A "family" is defined as a husband and/or wife or significant other living in the same household, and any children under the age of 18 years.*

E. Member Dismissal:

- 1. A member who is one month in arrears in payment of dues, fees, or assessments shall be considered suspended, subject to special consideration by the Board of Directors. During suspension the member shall have no membership privileges. A suspended member may be reinstated upon payment of all arrears.*
- 2. Any member three months in arrears may have his [or her] membership terminated by majority vote of the Board of Directors.*
- 3. Termination of Membership for reasons other than as provided in paragraph #2 shall require a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors. Reasons may include any actions which could or do bring an unwanted or unwelcomed view of the club as a whole or any solicitation of another diver to dive in an unsafe manner, or diving in such a manner that could likely cause a need for rescue. This act may be reported by any member.*
- 4. A member dismissed from the club may be reinstated by a majority vote of the membership. Upon reapplication the prospective member will not be present during the vote.*

ARTICLE II

DUES, FEES, AND ASSESSMENTS

B. Annual Dues:

- 1. General membership dues shall set by a vote of the members at a regular meeting, currently the Annual dues are set at \$40.00 for a member and*
- 2. Family Membership dues and Certified Instructors shall be \$20.00*
- 3. The membership year shall expire on March 31 of each year.*

Proposed ADDED

- 4. Dues shall be prorated for a member joining during the year at either \$3.34 per month for membership or \$1.67 per month for family members or Instructors. Members may decide to extend their membership or receive a refund of that portion of their dues which was overpaid.*

C. Assessments may be levied as directed by majority vote of the member's present at any regular meeting, subject to the provision of Article VI.

- 1. Assessments will be charged for all trips. Any member assessed for any reason must pay that assessment before attending any function. The assessment must be paid in full before that member goes on that trip. The assessment of the member shall include the cost for bringing family members*

ARTICLE III

MEETINGS

A. The regular general meetings of the club shall be held at a place to be determined at 7:30 pm.

1. Beginning with our March 23 meeting and until further notice meetings will be set at the end of the current meeting. Upon a vote of the attending membership, quorum notwithstanding, the meeting place may be set to a permanent time and location without need of updating the bylaws.

B. Special meetings may be called by 1/3 of the membership or by 1/3 of the Board of Directors. All members must be notified one week prior to the meeting of its time, date, location and purpose.

C. The Board of Directors/Officers shall meet as they deem necessary, but generally on a monthly basis.

D. One half the active membership plus one shall constitute a quorum at a meeting.

ARTICLE IV

DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

A. Board of Directors:

1. The Board of Directors shall be synonymous with Officers and shall act in that capacity but shall consist of no less than three and no more than seven Members elected for a one year term, except as noted in F(1)(A) below, by all club members at the first general meeting in March.
2. Three Board members shall constitute a quorum.
3. The Board of Directors may approve expenditures up to two hundred dollars (\$200.00). Larger expenditures shall be subject to majority vote of the general membership, as provided in Article VI.
4. The Board of Directors shall have the power to accept or reject gifts or donations made to the club.
5. The Elected Officers shall appoint a Safety Officer as needed.
6. The Board of Directors may create any other positions or committees it requires to fulfill the club's objectives and all other management powers not specifically denied to them shall be vested in the Board.

B. President:

1. The President shall preside at all meetings and shall direct the other affairs of the club to the best of his [or her] ability.
2. The President shall have custody of all club records and documents other than those necessary to the Treasurer. Any member may inspect the records at a reasonable time convenient to both the President and the member.

3. *The President shall be a certified diver.*

C. Vice-President:

1. *The Vice-President shall assist the President and assume the duties of the President in his [or her] absence.*
2. *The Vice-President shall be a certified diver.*

D. Secretary/Newsletter Editor:

1. *The Secretary/Newsletter Editor shall keep an accurate record of club meetings and shall transfer it to his [or her] successor.*
2. *The Secretary/Newsletter Editor shall send out a monthly newsletter to all members.*

E. Treasurer:

1. *The Treasurer shall record and account for all monies received by the club, including those received in the form of assessments and initiation fees and all monies disbursed for any purpose.*
2. *The Treasurer shall draw checks and pay bills upon an authorized vote of the membership of the club during meetings or as directed by the Board of Directors.*
3. *The Treasurer shall make a financial report to the club at each meeting or to the Board of Directors upon request.*
4. *The Treasurer shall transfer the records, accounts, and all funds belonging to the club to his/her successor.*
5. *The Treasurer shall submit the records for inspection by any member at a reasonable time convenient to both the Treasurer and the member.*
6. *The Treasurer shall be a certified diver.*

F. Election of Officers:

1. *The elections shall be held at the first general meeting in March of each year. The term of office for all Officers shall be one year. Newly elected members of the Board shall assume their duties at the close of the March meeting.*

a. *First Term of Officers shall be as follows:*

As of March 2010, President and Treasurer are elected to serve 18 month terms and the Vice-President and Secretary are elected to server 1 year terms after this initial period all elected officers will serve one year terms with staggered election dates. This provision is enacted to provide a continuity of leadership by offsetting elections to allow time for new officers to assimilate the job and complete any required paperwork change over

2. *A Board member is requested to give 30 days' notice of resignation. Any vacancies or unfilled Board positions may be filled until the next election by Board appointment.*
3. *The membership shall elect, at least, the four officers to the Board in March of each year. The remaining positions are intended to provide continuity to the club or to allow for Board expansion as needed. These positions may be left unfilled. If the Board drops below four members, a replacement must be appointed immediately.*
4. *A Board member may be dismissed from office by a 2/3 vote of the active membership. All members must be notified in writing 25 days prior to the vote on the*

proposed dismissal.

5. The election shall be held at the first general meeting in March. All contested elections will be held by secret ballot. Absentee ballots may be submitted and a simple majority of absentee ballot submitted to the Secretary prior to the election, plus the votes of the members present at the election shall be sufficient to elect. Write-in candidates are acceptable.

ARTICLE V

PROPERTY

A. All items issued by the club shall remain the property of the club and must be returned upon request of the President or the Board of Directors.

B. The use of any property of the club will be governed by the direction of the Officers and the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI

EXPENDITURES

A. Any expenditure exceeding \$200.00 must be authorized at any regularly scheduled meeting by a vote of the membership. (proposed)

B. If the club dissolves any money left over in the club treasury will be donated to a charity as decided on by the club membership, or in their absence the Officers.

C. No funds for travel, events, dives or any function not directly dealing with club business may be taken from the general fund.

D. All trips, dives, and member lead functions, which are club supported, will be funded by assessment of the members who plan to attend the event. By signing up for any event, each acknowledges that they are responsible for the individual or family fees due before they are booked into the event. Every event will have a payment deadline assigned and failure to fully pay the assessed fee by the deadline will result in that member not being able to attend. Any fees paid shall be returned except that no fee shall be returned where the member(s) fail to make the event.