



European Fly Fishing Association (EFFA)

Bylaws

Name and Domicile

- Art. 1 The organization is called European Fly Fishing Association (EFFA) and is referred to in these bylaws as the Association.
- Art. 2 The European Fly Fishing Association (EFFA) is a non-profit membership corporation according to Art. 60ff of the Swiss Civil Law. Its seat is located in Diepoldsau, Switzerland.

Independence

- Art. 3 The Association is politically independent and religiously neutral.

I. Purpose of the association:

- Art. 4 The European Fly Fishing Association (EFFA) wants to
- a) promote and cultivate fly fishing as the most gentle way to catch fish and preserve nature
 - b) be Europe's voice for organized fly fishing
 - c) improve and facilitate the knowledge of fly fishing
 - d) educate fly fishers about the sensitiveness of the ecosystem of our prime waters and our responsibility as users of nature's resources
 - e) enhance the level of education of fly casting instructors and guides to make sure that a high standard in fly casting as well as best knowledge about all different areas of fly fishing and proper handling of fish is provided
 - f) support endangered fisheries and conservation projects
 - g) further communication between fly fishers and affiliated fly fishing organizations to make sure that their interests will be supported on an international basis
 - h) keep its members informed about latest developments of interest to the membership

II. Membership and Dues:

- Art. 5 The Executive Department in its discretion should designate various categories of membership and shall determine the dues for each category of membership.
- Art. 6 All members have to protect and support the objectives of the Association.
- Art. 7 The dues have to be paid annually unless the Executive Department determine otherwise.
- Art. 8 The membership should not be restricted as long as the Associations interests and objectives are supported. Any club, association, league or entity shall be eligible for membership in the Association.
- Art. 9 At a meeting at which there is a quorum, the Executive Department by affirmative unanimous vote of all the members of the department present and voting, may expel a member.
- Art. 10 Associations who withdraw are liable for owing annual membership dues.
- Art. 11 The membership can be acquired by
- a) paying the membership dues
 - b) being elected as an honorary member by one of the EFFA Departments
- Art. 12 The membership terminates by
- a) delivering a withdrawal
 - b) being expelled
 - c) not paying the membership dues within a given time

III. Organization

The organs of EFFA

- Art. 13 The organs of EFFA are the:
- a) Executive Department
 - b) National EFFA Councils
 - c) EFFA Subsections
 - d) President
 - e) Vice-President
 - f) Secretary
 - g) Treasurer
 - h) Financial Controllers
 - i) Instructors and Guides
 - j) Single Members
 - k) Affiliate Members
 - l) Honorary members

The Executive Department (referred to in these bylaws as *ED*)

- Art. 14 The Executive Department
- a) elects the president, the treasurer and the secretary for a two-year-period
 - b) designates various categories of membership
 - c) determines the dues of the membership categories as well as the dunning amounts
 - d) determines the fiscal year of the Association
 - e) decides about the application of membership dues
 - f) decides about requests and proposals of the councils, member clubs and affiliates
 - g) decides about pecuniary compensation of their members
 - h) decides about affiliations with other clubs or associations
 - i) suspends or expels members or affiliates
 - j) supports the departments without any internal source of income with the necessary money to provide the basis for good work
 - k) reviews and approves the annual budget of the Association
 - l) controls the finances of the Association by determining two financial controllers to check the proofs and the account and make a report for the ED
 - m) honors members for special merits for the Association
 - n) honors outstanding personalities with EFFA awards
 - o) decides about the dissolution of the Association according to Art. 57
- Art. 15 The ED consists of the representatives of the member countries and the chairmen of the subsections as well as the president, the vice-president, the treasurer, the secretary and the financial controllers.
- Art. 16 The representatives of the member countries have the following amount of votes:
- one(1) vote for countries representing up to 50 members
 - two(2) votes for countries representing 51-100 members
 - three(3) votes for countries representing 101-200 members
 - four(4) votes for countries representing 201-500 members
 - five(5) votes(maximum) for countries representing more than 500 members
- Art. 17 The decisive amount of votes refers to the amount of already paid annual fees.
- Art. 18 The chairmen of the subsections as well as the president, the vice-president, the secretary and the treasurer have one vote each.
- Art. 19 The majority of the valid votes decide.
- Art. 20 Changes of the bylaws demand a three quarters (2/3) majority of the valid votes.
- Art. 21 The Executive Department meets once a year.
- Art. 22 The quorum of the entire ED consists of a minimum of one third (1/3) of their members present or by proxy eligible to vote.
- Art. 23 If a subsection is not manned the vote of this department is unused and thereby the sum of votes in the ED is reduced.
- Art. 24 To the extent permitted by law the ED, Committees or Departments may act by e-mail,

telephone, or other methods requested by the chairmen of the Departments or the president acting in place of a chairmen, to transact its business. Participation in a meeting pursuant to this article constitutes presence in person at the meeting.

The National EFFA Councils

- Art. 25 The National EFFA Councils
- a) represent their country in the Executive Department
 - b) elect their national representatives
 - c) send their representatives to the annual ED meetings
 - d) vote for their countries in the ED according to the amount of votes they represent (Art. 16)
 - e) organize annual meetings to protect the interests of their members
 - f) are autonomous organizations who protect the interests and spread the spirit of EFFA
 - g) pay annual dues(per member) to the EFFA
 - h) are allowed to use the EFFA logos and trademarks.
 - i) take care of the pecuniary compensation of their representatives in the ED
 - i) hand in their bylaws to the ED to check if EFFA interests are protected
 - k) should promote EFFA whenever possible and try to make EFFA grow
 - l) decide about the location of the annual meeting
 - m) alternately organize the annual meeting if no volunteer can be found
- Art. 26 If there is no national EFFA council established in a country who has got certified EFFA instructors or guides these instructors/guides elect a representative who represents their country in the ED.

The EFFA Subsections

- Art. 27 The EFFA Subsections consist of the
- a) Fly Casting Department
 - b) Fly Fishing Department
 - c) Fly Tying Department
 - d) Conservation Department
 - e) Sponsoring Department
 - f) Web Department
 - g) Press Department
 - h) Advertising Department

The Fly Casting Department

- Art. 28 The Flycasting Department
- a) is an autonomous internal department of EFFA
 - b) elects a fly casting chairman out of its members
 - c) decides about alterations of the structure of the board
 - d) evaluates and adapts the certification programme and sets up the rules of the exams
 - e) organizes instructor certifications and coordinates fly casting demos
 - f) decides about the admission and exclusion of its Board members, Advisory Board members and instructors
 - g) decides about the partnership with other flycasting instructor programs
 - h) decides about the earmarked application of certification fees and instructor renewal fees
 - i) can sponsor other departments of EFFA
 - j) controls and optimizes its web presence in collaboration with the webmaster
 - k) decides about applications made by the AB or the instructors
 - l) prepares an annual report for the attention of the ED

The Fly Fishing Department

- Art. 29 The Fly Fishing Department
- a) is an autonomous internal department of EFFA
 - b) elects a fly fishing chairman out of its members
 - c) decides about alterations of the structure of the department
 - d) sets up and evaluates a guide programme
 - e) decides about the admission and exclusion of guides
 - f) decides about the earmarked application of money acquired by the Fly Fishing Department
 - g) can sponsor other departments of EFFA
 - h) cares for its web presence by supporting the webmaster with fly fishing related articles
 - i) prepares an annual report for the attention of the ED

The Fly Tying Department

- Art. 30 The Fly Tying Department
- a) is an autonomous internal department of EFFA
 - b) elects a fly tying chairman out of its members
 - c) decides about alterations of the structure of the department
 - d) organizes and co-ordinates fly tying demos at FF events, fly swaps, fly auctions ...
 - e) cares for its web presence by supporting the webmaster with fly tying related articles
 - f) tries to set up an EFFA fly patterns data base on the web
 - g) decides about the earmarked application of money acquired by the Fly Tying Department
 - h) can sponsor other departments of EFFA
 - i) prepares an annual report for the attention of the ED

The Conservation Department

- Art. 31 The Conservation Department
- a) is an autonomous internal department of EFFA
 - b) elects a conservation chairman out of its members
 - c) decides about alternations of the structure of the department
 - d) tries to raise funds for supporting conservation projects
 - e) makes members, magazines and fly fishers aware of problems with our waters
 - f) decides which conservation projects will be supported by EFFA
 - g) cares for its web presence by writing articles for the web
 - h) prepares an annual report for the attention of the ED

The Sponsoring Department

- Art. 32 The Sponsoring Department
- a) elects a sponsoring chairman out of its members
 - b) decides about alternations of the structure of the department
 - c) tries to organize sponsoring contracts for instructors and guides
 - d) tries to raise funds for the Association
 - e) prepares an annual report for the attention of the ED

- Art. 33 A minimum of 10% of the annual membership fees of the Association is used to sponsor conservation projects.

The Web Department

- Art. 34 The Web Department
- a) elects a web chairmen out of its members
 - b) keeps the EFFA website up-to-date
 - c) informs the ED about any changes
 - d) supports the instructors and guides with logins and passwords for the internal pages
 - e) cares for a copy/backup of the website for the attention of the ED
 - f) makes sure that the website is currently available
 - g) prepares an annual report for the attention of the ED

The Press Department

- Art. 35 The Press Department
- a) elects a press chairmen out of its members
 - b) members should write articles about special EFFA events, EFFA sponsoring and keep the name EFFA alive in press
 - c) members try to keep good contact with angling magazines
 - d) care for the adjustment of mistakes in press articles of other journalists
 - e) promote EFFA as good as possible
 - f) helps whenever necessary to produce advertising items(flyers, banners, ...)
 - g) make copies of articles on critical topics available for the president before they are published
 - h) prepares an annual report for the attention of the ED

The Advertising Department

- Art. 36 The Advertising Department
- a) elects an advertising chairman out of its members
 - b) develops advertising items for the Association(flyers, banners, patches, certificates)
 - c) orders the items according to the needs of the Departments and their financial possibilities
 - d) promotes EFFA as good as possible
 - e) stores artwork for lettering, pictures and banners at different places and hands out copies to the ED
 - f) prepares an annual report for the attention of the ED

Art. 37 EFFA subsections can stay unmanned if the necessary members are not available.

Art. 38 The Boards of the EFFA subsections consist of a maximum of two representatives of the member countries.

Art. 39 The finances of all EFFA subsections are administered by the EFFA treasurer.

The President

- Art. 40 The President
- a) represents the organization outwards
 - b) calls and directs the meetings of the ED
 - c) prepares and presents the president's report at the annual EFFA meeting
 - d) presents the results of elections and makes them transparent
 - e) decides with his vote if an election in the ED is even
 - f) keeps regular contact to EFFA-Affiliates and other fly fishing clubs in Europe

- g) controls the PR work to see if it corresponds with the Associations intentions
- h) keeps an eye on the web presence to make sure the Association is always up to date

The Vice-President

- Art. 41 The Vice-President
- a) will be appointed by the president with the consent of the ED
 - b) acts for the president if he is not available
 - c) helps the president to do his work

The Secretary

- Art. 42 The Secretary
- a) upon election becomes a member of the ED
 - b) writes and reads the minutes the meetings of the ED
 - c) keeps the minutes of the ED and the EFFA subsections in safe custody
 - d) watches the bylaws to be executed in the meetings or internal decisions

The Treasurer

- Art. 43 The Treasurer
- a) upon election becomes a member of the ED
 - b) will have charge and custody of and be responsible for the Associations funds and monies
 - c) makes the annual budget of the Association and submits it to the ED
 - d) administers the EFFA account and makes an annual report to the ED
 - e) allows, whenever asked, ED members to look at the Associations finances.
 - f) keeps a register of all the addresses of the members

The Financial Controllers

- Art. 44 Two financial controllers determined by the ED check the proofs and the account and make a report for the ED. They assume the financial control.

The Instructors and Guides

- Art. 45 The Instructors and Guides
- a) vote via the representatives of their member countries (exception: Art. 26)
 - b) should be positive models for all fly fishers
 - c) should promote EFFA whenever possible and try to acquire new members for the Association
 - d) have the right to use their certification degree for advertising purposes
 - e) can benefit from sponsoring contracts between EFFA and other companies
 - f) are not allowed to sell sponsored items
 - g) should stay up-to-date what new developments of material, technique and safety is concerned and care about the environment
 - h) are bound to the EFFA instructor/guide codex
 - j) have their certificates to be renewed every year
 - i) can be listed on the EFFA website as instructors/guides and can link to their websites

Art. 46 Instructors and guides are figureheads of the Association and therefore watched by many fly fishers. If they violate the instructor/guide codex or work against Art. 45 b), f), h) or j) they can be expelled immediately by the responsible departments.

Single Member

Art. 47 Any fly fisher who is not a member of a fly fishing club somehow associated with EFFA can be admitted as a single member.

- a) Single members have no direct right to vote but vote via their councils.
- b) Single members are allowed to use certain EFFA trademarks and logos .
- c) They should promote EFFA as good as possible and try to acquire new members.
- d) They should try to set up national EFFA councils or EFFA clubs with other fly fishers.
- e) Single members are to protect and support EFFA interests.

EFFA Affiliate

Art. 48 Any club or association which is not a member of a national EFFA council can be admitted as an EFFA Affiliate.

- a) Applying clubs or associations have to sign an affiliation agreement.
- b) Affiliated members are allowed to use the EFFA trademarks.
- c) Affiliated members pay reduced membership dues. They have no direct right to vote.
- d) EFFA Affiliates protect and support EFFA interests.
- e) Affiliation with EFFA is also possible for clubs and associations from outside Europe.

Honorary Member

Art. 49 An honorary member is a person who is well known for his outstanding abilities/work in one of the fields of activity of EFFA. He/she does not have to pay any membership dues. Honorary members have no direct right to vote but vote via their councils.

IV finances

Art. 50 The income of the Association consists of

- a) the membership fees
- b) the fees for certifications
- c) the renewal fees for instructors and guides.
- d) gratuitous grants, auctions, donations and legates.
- e) the interests of the associations fortune.

Art. 51 The money acquired by the different subsections is on their own disposal but has to be earmarked or can be dedicated by these departments for projects supported by EFFA.

Art. 52 The expenses necessary to keep the association running are paid by the Association's cash-box.

Art. 53 Exclusively the Association's fortune is liable for the obligations of the Association. Personal liabilities of the members or the duty to pay additional personal money is impossible.

Art. 54 The legal signature is provided by the president together with another member of the ED.

V dissolution of the association

Art. 55 To dissolve EFFA the president has to call for a meeting. The European Fly Fishing Association (EFFA) will be dissolved, if three quarters of the total votes represented in that meeting demand the dissolution. The ED then decides about the use of the association's fortune. It should preferentially be spent on conservation projects.

The bylaws replace the bylaws of 1 March 2006 and are put into action on 15 July 2007.



President



Vice-President