



## **Constitution of the Trinidad & Tobago Game Fishing Association.**

### **NAME**

1. The name of the Organization shall be 'Trinidad & Tobago Game Fishing Association'

### **OBJECTIVES**

2. The principle objects for which the Association is formed are:-
  - (a) To encourage the development of fishing as a sport.
  - (b) To assist in the conservation of marine resources.
  - (c) To co-operate with other organizations with similar objectives.
  - (d) To assist in the dissemination of knowledge in marine and fishing matters.
  - (e) To promote legislation for conservation of piscatorial and other maritime affairs.
  - (f) To promote all such causes as are incidental or conducive to the above objectives.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

3. The Association shall consist of honorary members, resident members, family members, junior members and non-resident members, as follows:-
  - (a) Honorary members shall be persons recommended for such membership by the Executive Committee and approved by the Association at a General Meeting, which membership shall remain in force unless revoked by the management committee.

- (b) The local IGFA representative shall automatically become an honorary member of the Association.
- (c) Residential members shall be such persons who are ordinary resident in Trinidad & Tobago.
- (d) Non-resident members shall be persons who ordinarily reside outside Trinidad & Tobago without limit to their number.
- (e) Family members shall be the spouse and children, under the age of 18 years, who reside in the same household as a resident member. Such spouse and children shall not have voting rights in the affairs of the Association.
- (f) Junior members are persons from the age of 10 through 18 years who are for the time being resident in Trinidad & Tobago but are not family members. Junior members shall have no voting rights in the activities of the Association.
- (g) Junior members having attained the age of 18 years must now apply for full membership.

**MANAGEMENT**

- 4. The Association shall be managed by an Executive Committee, consisting of a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Tournament Chairman and a maximum of six (6) resident members of the Association one of whom shall be the outgoing President. The Executive Committee shall be elected by members of the

Association at the Annual General Meeting from amongst those persons who hold resident membership.

- 5. The Executive Committee shall hold office for a period of 12 months.
- 6. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once each quarter. Five members of the Executive Committee shall be a quorum.
- 7. The affairs of the Association shall be conducted in accordance with this constitution and the decision of a majority of the Executive Committee as to the meaning or interpretation of this constitution or any part thereof shall be conclusive and binding on all members of the Association.
- 8. At all meetings of the Executive Committee, the President shall preside if he is present and in his absence the Vice-President shall preside. In the absence of the President and Vice-President those members of the Executive Committee who are present shall elect a Chairman from amongst their number.
- 9. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to be custodian of financial records and funds of the Association and he shall be held accountable to the Association for the right and proper handing of such records and funds. At each Quarterly meeting of the Association, the Treasurer shall present a statement of receipts and disbursements.

10. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a record of all business transacted at all meetings of the Executive Committee and of the Association, which records shall include a list of the persons present at such meetings. In the absence of the Secretary and the Assistant Secretary, the Chairman shall appoint a member of the Association to act as Secretary for the meeting. In addition, it shall be the responsibility of the Secretary to conduct all necessary correspondence for the Association, collect all monies and to maintain and keep in a proper and up to date form all records of the Association.
11. The Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint any eligible resident member to fill any vacancy on the Executive Committee howsoever such vacancy is caused.
12. The Executive Committee is empowered to make by-laws for the Association.

**ELECTION OF MEMBERS**

13. Application for membership shall be made in writing in a form approved by the Executive Committee and shall be signed by the candidate and countersigned by two financial resident members who will act as sponsors.
14. As soon as practicable after receipt of an application for membership, the Executive Committee shall meet to consider and determine such application. Election shall be by secret ballot of the Executive Committee. An applicant shall not be elected to

membership unless his application is supported by at least 2/3 of those present and voting at the meeting.

15. After approval by the Executive Committee, the name of the person so approved shall be read at the next General Meeting of the Association.
16. Any candidate whose application for membership has been considered and refused shall not re-apply for membership for a period of 12 months.
17. Every candidate for membership shall be informed in writing by the Secretary of the result of his application, but no reason need be given for the decision of the Executive Committee.

**SUSPENSION**

18. Any member whose actions are in violation of the constitution or by-laws of the Association or which, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, are detrimental to the welfare of the Association may either be suspended by the Executive Committee for a period not exceeding twelve months, or be expelled from the Association by the Executive Committee of at least seven (7) members present and voting in favor of the motion, provided that on any occasion which the Executive Committee proposed to meet for the purpose of considering allegations against a member which may result in his suspension or a recommendation for his expulsion from the Association, the member

shall be informed in writing at least fourteen (14) days prior to such meeting of the allegations made against him, and on receipt of a written request from him at least 48 hours prior to the meeting, he shall be permitted to appear before the Executive Committee to answer such allegations.

**VISITORS**

- 19. At the request of a member, a person who is not ordinarily resident in Trinidad & Tobago the privileges of the Association for a maximum period of three months at any given time. The member requesting such privileges for the visitor shall be responsible for the account and behavior of said visitor and the Executive Committee shall have the right to refuse such a request.

**DUES**

- 20. The amount of any dues and entrance fees payable by members or visitors shall be recommended from time to time by the Executive Committee and shall be considered and if approved, confirmed at the next Annual General Meeting of the Association or at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose. At least fourteen (14) days written notice of such meeting shall be given to all resident members.

- 21. (a) Dues shall be payable on the first day of the Association financial year. Members whose dues are unpaid after written notification at the end of the next three calendar months shall be deemed delinquent and their membership shall ipso facto be automatically suspended, and so informed in writing.

(b) A notice shall be forwarded six (6) months after suspension informing the member of his unpaid dues, which if not paid within the next three (3) months i.e. the end of the financial year, his membership shall automatically be terminated and an application for membership shall not be considered for another twelve (12) months unless all outstanding dues are repaid.

(c) Suspension or termination of membership can for special reasons be waived by the Executive Committee for a period not exceeding six (6) months.

- 22. Entrance fees and the annual dues of a newly elected member shall be payable before admitted to membership.

- 23. The Association's financial year shall begin on the 1<sup>st</sup> September and terminate on the 31<sup>st</sup> August.

**FEES**

24.	Entrance	Annual
	Resident	\$230.00      \$200.00
	Overseas	\$100.00      \$100.00
	Junior	\$100.00      \$100.00
	Visitor	\$100.00 for any 3 month period

N.B. Taxes will be added where applicable.

## COMMITTEES

25. (a) The Executive Committee shall have the right to appoint other committees from time to time to carry out specific functions, but the appointment of such committee shall in no way detract from the responsibility of the Executive Committee to manage the affairs of the Association.
- (b) Notwithstanding 25(a) Finance and Tournament Committee must be Appointed.

## MEETINGS

26. The Annual General Meeting of the Association Shall be held prior to the end of October each Year, at which time the President's Report and Audited Financial Statement must be presented.
27. All General Meetings of the Association shall be held on such days as shall be approved by the Executive Committee, or at the written request of not less than fifteen (15) financial resident members of the Association, the President shall call a Special General Meeting of which at least fourteen (14) days written notice shall be given to every resident member of the Association. This notice shall specify the purpose for which the meeting is called. At any General Meeting of the Association, fifteen (15) financial resident members shall constitute a quorum. Visitors shall not be entitled to vote. If within 30 minutes of any meeting no quorum has been formed the meeting

will stand adjourned for seven (7) days to be reconvened at the same time and at the same place as previously notified at which time the financial members present shall be deemed a quorum for the benefit of the meeting.

28. When any decision is forced to be made by a General Meeting of the Association, whether such General Meeting, voting may be carried out by a show of hands except when electing officers and committee members, then voting shall be carried out by secret ballot. Unless otherwise stated in this constitution on any vote, a simple majority of the members present and voting shall prevail. In the event of an equality of votes, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a second or deciding vote.
29. Auditors must be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

## ELECTIONS

30. A nominating committee appointed by the President shall propose a slate of persons to form the new Executive Committee, which shall be forwarded to all members fourteen (14) days preceding the nomination date, for the consideration of the Association. Additional nominations for any office or for membership of the Executive Committee shall be made in writing and shall be signed by the proposer and seconder and the person or persons so nominated and shall reach the Secretary of the

