



CONSTITUTION

As Adopted January 31, 1979

As Amended December, 1983

ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. In order to improve, aid, and foster competency in the art and practice of falconry amongst interested persons, we do hereby associate ourselves as a nonprofit fraternal organization to be known as THE NEW YORK STATE FALCONRY ASSOCIATION.

Section 2. We further declare our purpose to be charitable, educational, scientific, literary, cultural, animal husbandry, and for the protection of birds of prey.

Section 3. We further declare that our purpose is to provide communication amongst and to disseminate information to the members and interested persons; to promote scientific study of the raptorial species, their care, welfare, and training; to promote conservation programs; to urge recognition of falconry as a legal field sport; and to establish traditions which will aid, perpetuate, and further the welfare of falconry and the raptors it employs.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Any interested citizen of the state of New York, or alien resident within the state, may become a regular or life member of the association.

Section 2. Any person interested in the sport of falconry who subscribes to the purposes for which this organization was founded who is not resident within the state and therefore eligible for regular or life membership may become an associate or honorary member of the association.

Section 3. Any worthy organization having purposes that are complimentary or similar to those of this Association may become an Affiliated Member of the Association.

ARTICLE III: ORGANIZATIONAL AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

Section 1. Authority for the operation and management of the New York State Falconry Association shall rest ultimately in the Regular Membership. This authority shall normally be exercised by delegation, through the By-Laws, by the President and Board of Directors who shall consist of elected representatives of the Regular Membership, and who shall also be the policy making body of the Association in conformity with the By-Laws.

Section 2. The President and individual directors shall be responsible both to the Board as a whole and to their electorates within the Regular Membership. The president and Board of Directors, collectively, shall be responsible to the Regular Membership.

ARTICLE IV: DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, AND COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Board of Directors of the New York State Falconry Association shall consist of 10 directors, all of whom shall be Regular Members.

Section 2. Officers of the New York State Falconry Association shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and such other officers as may be necessary, in the Board's judgment, to provide for the efficient executive, administrative, and financial management of the Association. The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected out of the Regular Membership by the Regular Membership. All other officers shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors, from among the Regular Membership.

Section 3. The President may appoint such standing or ad hoc committees as he considers necessary for the proper functioning of the association.

Section 4. No director, officer, or member of a committee of this association shall receive compensation of any kind from Association funds or assets for services rendered, except for payment of legitimate expenses as approved by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V: MEETINGS

Section 1. A business meeting of the Regular Membership, either in person or by mail, shall be held at least once every year. Voting by mail shall be permitted. Quorums and percentages of vote shall be as prescribed in the By-Laws.

Section 2. A business meeting of the Board of Directors, either in person or by mail, shall be held at least twice a year. Voting by mail shall be permitted. Quorums and percentages of vote shall be as provided in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE VI: BY-LAWS

Section 1. Consistent with the provisions of this Constitution, the Regular Membership shall establish and maintain By-Laws governing the management and operation of the Association.

ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Proposed amendments to this Constitution shall be submitted by the Board of Directors in writing to all Regular Members not less than 30 days prior to vote.

Section 2. This Constitution may be amended by affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Regular Members who make timely response to such proposed amendment either in person or by mail.

ARTICLE VIII. DISSOLUTION

Section 1. In the same manner as provided for amending this Constitution, the Regular Membership may terminate the existence of the Association. Dissolution procedures shall be as provided in the By-Laws, provided that upon dissolution no member of any category shall receive all or any part of the assets of the Association.