

# Finger Lakes Underwater Preserve Association (FLUPA)

## I. Mission Statement:

The Finger Lakes Underwater Preserve Assoc. is a group of regional divers, associates, and families interested in the promotion of SCUBA diving because of a common education and awareness of the historical and ecological value of the Finger Lakes' waters.

Our objectives are:

1. To encourage the underwater conservation and safe diving practices through responsible diving and proper training
2. To identify and preserve, to the best of our abilities, the present underwater structures in the Finger Lakes
3. To conserve our existing dive sites by installing approved methods for mooring, in an effort to eliminate damage to these structures, in accordance with New York State regulations
4. To pursue the possibility of creating artificial dive sites, through approved sources, to enhance SCUBA diving in the Finger Lakes
5. To give both experienced and novice divers and their families the opportunity to pursue and share their mutual interest in the underwater world
6. To offer other activities for members and families, such as dive excursions for certified divers, guest speakers, picnics, cook-outs, and other activities, all in the interest of the members
7. To promote and plan dive trips to other dive sites in New York State and Canada

## II. Membership

1. Membership will be open to all persons and other groups or organizations interested in SCUBA diving and/or preserving and identifying our underwater heritage in the Finger Lakes. (Please note that only certified divers will be permitted participation in actual diving events.)
2. Membership in this association shall not be denied to anyone on the basis of race, creed, religion, gender, political affiliation, sexual orientation or physical handicap.
3. There shall be three types of membership: certified diver, social (non diver), affiliated (cooperate, association, other groups).
4. Voting membership is limited to dues paid members.

## III. Membership Fees

Fees are hereby set at the following:

\$-----	Initiation Fee
\$ 25.00	Certified Diver Member
\$ 10.00	Social Member (non-certified diver)

\$ 40.00  
\$-----  
or other club)

Family (2 parent & 2 children )  
Affiliated Member (corporation, association,

The membership chairman is responsible for the execution of membership agreements, payments, and forms.

#### IV. Officers and Elections

1. The FLUPA will consist of a slate of officers, elected by the membership, consisting of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership Chairman.
2. The term of office will be two years, beginning at the first meeting in January after an election.
3. Elections will be held each December of an expiring term.
4. Voting will be held by paper ballot, prepared by the election committee.
5. The election committee will consist of two members, appointed and accepted by the membership. Election committee members will not be candidates for office.

#### Duties of Officers

1. PRESIDENT shall preside at all meetings of the FLUPA. He/She shall be the official spokesperson of the association, represent the policies, views and opinions of the association in its relations with the community and any others. He/She has further powers and duties as prescribed by the association.
2. VICE PRESIDENT presides at the association meetings in the absence of the President.  
He/She performs all legal duties assigned by the President. He/She notifies all members of the association meetings.
3. TREASURER handles all financial affairs and budgeting of the association. He/She maintains as agency accounts in the association's name which requires signature of both the treasurer and president. All disbursements for more than \$50 requires a majority vote approval of the association. Prepare a financial report for each regular **meeting**.
4. SECRETARY takes minutes at all meetings of the association, files minutes and submits copies to required members. He/She is responsible for all association correspondence and keeps copies on file. He/She acts as historian and maintains all record of the association.
6. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY is responsible for the execution of membership agreements, payments, records of membership, and forms.

#### Qualification of Officers

Must be a member in good standing of the FLUPA and a voting member for one year

#### V. Finances

1. All monies received by the FLUPA through dues, initiation fees, fundraisers, donations, and grants will not be considered profit and will be used only for the expenses associated with operation of the organization, including general operating expenses, educational programs, preservation efforts, and conservation efforts aimed at maintenance and promotion of the Finger Lakes underwater heritage.
2. All monies paid out by the FLUPA will first be presented to the membership by the treasurer and voted on. Membership will be able to accept or reject the spending of any organization money. Additionally, the treasurer will prepare and submit to membership a report of assets and liabilities at each meeting.

## **VI. Liability**

None of the officers, committee members, or members shall be held legally responsible in the event of any person being injured, fatally or otherwise, while engaged in any activities of the FLUPA.

## **VII. Amendments**

Changes to this document can occur only through the following process:

1. First, an officer or member of the FLUPA must propose their desired change.
2. This proposal must be submitted to the membership in written form and documented in the minutes of the meeting
3. The proposal will then be voted on by the membership, and either accepted (ratified and added to this document) or rejected

## **VIII. Miscellaneous**

The FLUPA accepts “ Roberts Rules of Order “ (newly revised ) as its rules order. Any issue not directly written in this document will be resolved by referring to the rules of order.

## **IX. Approval**

**This Constitution was approved on ----- Jan. 22 , 2004**

**By the committee listed:** On file with original document

**Appointed President : Joseph Pound**

**Signature :**

**Date :**

**Revisions :** 3/23/04 Name change by Mbrshp. vote