

Cobb Photographic Society
Constitution and Bylaws
April 3, 2006
DRAFT

CONSTITUTION

Article I - Name

This organization shall be called the Cobb Photographic Society.

Article II - Purpose

The purpose of this club is to promote the interests of individuals and groups in photography in all its forms; to enable individuals to compare their work with that of others; to encourage and promote mutual improvement through educational opportunities, critiques, competitions, interchange of ideas, fellowship and association with other individuals and clubs.

Article III - Meetings, Location and Time

The club shall meet within the Georgia county of Cobb or its close environs; the precise location, dates and time are to be determined by the elected officers and the Executive Board. Efforts shall be made to maintain one meeting place and a regular day and time.

Article IV - Membership

Membership in this camera club is open to all persons without regard to age, sex, race, religion, national origin, or any other affiliations. The club welcomes application from any person of good character interested in the broad field of photography.

Article V - Officers

The officers of the club shall be President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Their duties shall be as provided in the Bylaws. In times of need, the office of Secretary may be divided into two positions known as Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary.

Article VI - Executive Board

There shall be an Executive Board consisting of the elected Officers and the appointed Chairs of all Standing Committees. The immediate past president may also sit on the board for one year after his/her completed term.

Article VII - Election of Officers and Terms of Office

Officers shall be elected annually, at the annual meeting in November; shall be installed at the annual Awards and Installation Dinner and assume office in January. Terms shall run until the next annual meeting. All officers shall be elected for one year, but may be re-nominated and re-elected for one succeeding year. No officer shall hold more than one elective office simultaneously.

Article VIII - Vacancies

If the office of President should become vacant for any reason, the Vice President shall assume that office for the unexpired term. In case of the unavailability of the Vice President and in any other cases of vacancies in elected offices, the Executive Board shall appoint someone to fulfill the term.

Article IX - Quorum for the Conduct of Club Business

A quorum for the conduct of club business shall consist of a majority of the paid members at the voting meeting. A quorum of the Executive Board shall consist of at least four members of the board. A quorum of any other Standing or Ad Hoc Committee shall consist of a majority of its members, one of whom must be the appointed Chair.

Article X - Committees

There shall be three Standing Committees; Program, Field Trip, and Competition, with duties as described in the Bylaws. Other committees, for purposes and terms as deemed necessary, may be appointed by the President or the Executive Board.

Article XI - Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the club shall run from January to December based on the calendar year.

Article XII - Constitutional Amendments

Amendments or changes to this Constitution shall be made as follows:
The change shall be presented to the club in writing. It may be submitted by the Executive Board or by signature of at least five members in good standing. It shall be discussed at one regular meeting of the club and voted at the following regular meeting. A favorable vote of two-thirds of those present and voting shall be required for adoption.

Article XIII - Bylaws

The Bylaws which follow are intended to provide the guidelines by which the club functions. They may be changed by a simple majority of those present and voting at any regular meeting of the club.

Article XIV - Adoption of Constitution

This revised Constitution shall be declared adopted when approved by a two-thirds majority of those voting at the regular meeting following its presentation to the membership.

Article XV – Recognition of Charter Members

In recognition of the founding of this club, let it be known that the club was initially founded in May of 1974 by the following charter members: Riley Blackmarr, John Brooks, Leo Burgess, Carter Darnell, Russ Legeikus, Guy Marlow, and Charlie Zatsick.

BYLAWS

BL-1 - Membership

Upon receipt of application from a prospective member and upon payment of dues for the balance of the current fiscal year, the applicant shall be considered a regular member in good standing.

BL-2 - Dues

Annual membership dues shall be determined by the Executive Board and be approved by simple majority vote of the membership and may be reviewed at the annual meeting each year. Dues are due in December of each year. Members who have not paid dues by December 31 will be dropped from the club rolls and shall neither vote, compete in photo competitions, nor receive the club bulletin or other membership benefits. It is the intention of the founders of the club that the dues be kept as low as possible but be such that the regular expenses of the club are covered. If membership is obtained between January 1 and October 1, full dues shall be paid. After October 1, dues shall also cover the next calendar year.

BL-3 - Election of Officers

At the regular October meeting of the club, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee of three members. The Nominating Committee shall then determine a slate of candidates who have consented to serve in the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer for the following year and present that slate to the membership at the regular November meeting. The President shall then call for any nominations from the floor. Nomination, with the consent of the person nominated, may be made by any individual member in good standing. No more than three nominations may be made for any office. Election shall take place at the club's annual meeting or by the first meeting in December. If there are no candidates other than the slate presented by the Nominating Committee, the Secretary shall cast one vote and declare those candidates elected. If there is a contest for any office,

ballots shall be prepared and a written vote taken. The President shall appoint two non-candidates as tellers to collect and count the ballots.

BL-4 - Duties of Officers

President

Is expected to be at all times the active leader of the club; shall preside at all meetings; shall serve as Chair of the Executive Board; shall appoint Chairs of all standing and special committees; shall approve all club bills for payment and all publicity before its release.

Vice President

Is expected to be the Program Chairman for the year and shall preside at all meetings in absence of the President

Secretary

Is expected to keep full and accurate records of proceedings at all meetings of the club and of the Executive Board; conduct the general correspondence of the club. When needed the Secretary function can be separated into Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary.

Treasurer

Is responsible for the care and disbursement of club funds; for payment of club bills, with approval of the President; and for collection of membership dues.

BL-5 - Committees and Their Duties

Executive Board

Is charged with the administration and arrangement of club programs and affairs which do not require a vote of the members. Is charged with developing a plan for the continuity of the club and maintaining its good status in the community.

Program Committee

Is charged with the responsibility for providing a program of instruction or entertainment for each regular meeting of the club.

Field Trip Committee

Is charged with arranging outside activities of the club: field trips, tours, picnics, hikes, etc., on dates other than regular meeting dates.

Competition Committee

Is charged with arranging all intra-club competitions, soliciting judges and entries, keeping up with all yearly awards and handling all aspects of the club competitions.

BL-6 - Meetings

The club will meet on the first and third Mondays of the each month, when possible, at a time and place to be determined by the Executive Board. Subject matter for these meetings shall be strictly pertinent to some phase of photography or to club business. When a meeting date must be canceled, changed or postponed, the Executive Board will make every reasonable effort to inform the club membership and any visiting speakers or judges as promptly as possible. The annual meeting may be held in November, if voted by the Club or the Executive Board. Special meetings may be called at any time by the Executive Board.

BL-7 – Removal of Officer or Member

If the conduct of a member or officer should become so disruptive or unruly as to upset the normal operating functions of the club, the Executive Board may vote to remove the member by 2/3 vote of the executive committee.

BL-8- Affiliations

The camera club should retain its membership in PSA, SE3C and other similar organizations as long as they are viable and it serves the purpose of the club.

BL-9- Dissolution

If the club comes to the point that it is no longer a viable entity and 2/3 of the members present vote for dissolution, then the club shall be dissolved. All equipment and or other assets shall be donated to a non-profit or educational photography association to be determined by the existing board of directors.

BL-10- Bylaws

These Bylaws may be adopted, revoked, or amended provided a minimum of one-half of the dues paying membership is present at the voting meeting. A majority affirmative vote of the dues-paying members present is required. Mail-in proxies will be accepted. A thirty day prior notice is required before the official vote.