

# By-laws of the Clearwater Fly Casters

## Preamble

The Clearwater Fly Casters is a group of individuals who enjoy fly-fishing and seek to enhance the sport through encouraging others in their pursuit of the sport and to help perpetuate fly-fishing through educational and conservation activities, both for members of the club and for the community at large.

The club reserves the right to amend or abolish any of the following rules and procedures at any time by a simple majority vote of the membership present at any general meeting.

**The goal of the Clearwater Fly Casters is to promote the sport of fly-fishing and encourage the preservation of our natural resources.** – *Clearwater Fly Casters, Articles of Incorporation, 1975, Article 3.*

## Club Officers

**Director:** Any elected officer shall be also considered a Director and is to be a member of the Board of Directors. Any officer or club voluntary position can be recalled at any time by a majority vote of the general membership at any general meeting.

*(Elected Positions)*

**Past President:** The immediate past president shall maintain a voting position on the Board of Directors. The past president shall have no assigned duties, but shall be an advisor for the board.

**President:** The president is to be elected by the general membership for a one-year term. Duties include running the general meetings, organizing annual club outings, scheduling speakers for the general meetings, and directing general club business.

**Vice-President:** The vice-president shall be elected by the general membership, serve for a one-year term and then serve the following year as president. In the event that the president cannot perform his duties the vice-president shall fill in until the president is able. Furthermore the vice-president shall be charged with running the raffle held at the general meeting, assisting the president in arranging speakers, and helping to organize club outings.

**Secretary:** The secretary is to be elected by the general membership for a two-year term. The secretary shall record minutes of the general and executive meetings. The Secretary shall also maintain a current membership roster and an email distribution list.

***Treasurer:*** The treasurer is to be elected by the general membership for a two-year term. The treasurer shall handle all financial transactions for the club by maintaining the appropriate savings and checking accounts designated by the board. The president and secretary shall be able to issue checks independently. The treasurer shall give a financial report to the club in the Tippet at least once a year. The treasurer should also provide the Board of Directors a detailed list of both expenditures and incomes for the previous year at the January executive meeting. The Treasurer if eligible shall be the Registered Agent of the corporation (Clearwater Fly Casters) with the State of Washington (Articles of Incorporation, Article VII). If the Treasurer is not eligible to be the Registered Agent a club member in good standing who is shall be appointed as the Registered Agent.

***Conservation Chair:*** The Conservation Chair once elected by the general membership shall serve for an indefinite period of time. The Conservation Chair and shall be responsible for directing the club's interests and initiatives pertaining to conservation issues.

***Federation of Fly Fishers Representative:*** The Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) Representative shall serve for an indefinite period of time. The FFF Representative shall be the liaison between the FFF and the Washington State Council of the FFF and the club. The FFF Representative shall keep the club updated on FFF issues and is encouraged to attend the annual meeting of the WSC-FFF and the FFF Conclave as the club's representative.

*(Voluntary Positions)*

***Historian:*** The position of club Historian is voluntary, subject to the approval of the general membership and shall be for an indeterminate length of time. The Historian shall be responsible for maintaining the official archives of the club, including the Articles of Incorporation, the Bylaws, and paper copies of past Tippets. Additional duties shall be collecting, displaying and maintaining important historical memorabilia, the club library, and the club photograph album. If the position of club Historian becomes vacant, the club Secretary shall maintain the archives and other club materials until a new Historian is appointed.

***Tippet Editor:*** The position of the Editor is voluntary subject to the approval of the general membership and shall be for an indeterminate length of time. The editor shall be responsible for collecting and distributing information to the general membership and other entities (other fly-fishing clubs, state agencies, etc) in the form of a newsletter (called The Tippet) on a regular schedule as directed by the board of directors. The newsletter shall be delivered to the membership prior to the monthly meeting. The club shall compensate the Tippet editor by waiving annual dues and paying for dinners at the general meetings. The editor shall also provide the Tippet in a format to the Webmaster for inclusion on the club website. Currently the preferred format is a portable document format (pdf).

**Associate Treasurer:** The associate treasurer shall be a club member in good standing who has been a due paying member for at least two years. Once elected by the general membership the associate treasurer shall serve for an indeterminate length of time. The main function of the associate treasurer will be to act as a secondary signature on file with the club's financial institution. In the event the treasurer cannot fulfill his or her duties, the associate treasurer shall assume the treasurer's duties until such time as the treasurer is able to resume the position.

**Webmaster:** The position of the Webmaster is voluntary subject to the approval of the general membership and shall be for an indeterminate length of time. The Webmaster shall maintain the club website and update information in a timely manner. The Webmaster shall also be responsible for maintaining all the requirements of the domain name.

**Membership Chair:** The position of club Membership Chair is voluntary. The club president will appoint a person for the club to approve at a regular meeting for membership chair. The Membership chair will serve for an indefinite period of time. His or her responsibilities will be to develop and implement processes and programs to expand the membership of the club.

## **Board of Directors/Executive Committee**

**The Board of Directors** (also known as the executive committee) shall consist of all elected officers (The number of directors shall be no less than three as specified in the Articles of Incorporation, Article VIII).

## **Meetings**

**General:** General monthly meetings will be scheduled regularly at a time agreed upon by the general membership. Currently they are held on the second Wednesday of the month, September through May.

**Executive:** The Board of Directors will meet on a regular schedule agreed upon by the majority of the board. Currently the board meets once a month during September through May on the third Wednesday of the month. Executive meetings are open to general membership in order to encourage the active participation of all members.

**Conservation:** Conservation meetings are to be scheduled regularly. Currently the meetings coincide with the executive meeting. The meeting may or may not coincide with the executive committee meeting at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

## **Membership and Dues**

Membership is open to any and all individuals. There is to be no discrimination on who can be a member of the Clearwater Fly Casters. Membership categories and dues

are to be established by a vote of the general membership. The current membership categories and dues are:

Individual:	\$20.00/yr
Family:	\$30.00/yr
Sustaining:	\$50.00/yr
Lifetime:	\$300.00
Student:	½ yearly dues
Complimentary:	Dues waived in lieu of services. This does not include automatic inclusion in any raffle sponsored by the club based on membership.
Honorary:	A member, age 65 or older, with 15 years membership in the Clearwater Fly Casters is granted honorary membership for life.

## Voting

Majority Rule. A motion must pass by greater than 50% of the membership present at any general meeting.

## Auction

A club auction is to be held on a biennial cycle for the purpose of raising funds to be used by the club. One half of the proceeds shall go to the general operating fund and one half to the Bill Alspach & Dave Engerbretson Memorial Scholarship, until such time as the scholarship is deemed to be adequately funded in perpetuity.

## Awards

### **The Bill Alspach & Dave Engerbretson Memorial Scholarship**

#### **Application Guidelines**

*Background.* The Bill Alspach Memorial Scholarship fund was initially established in 1997 in honor of Clearwater Fly Caster member Bill Alspach. The fund was created to provide scholarships to students engaged in fisheries research and management studies at the UI, WSU, LCSC and EWU.

Bill passed away in 1997. Shortly after Bill's death, friend and outdoor writer Craig Lannigan wrote a tribute to Bill. In part he said, "Bill always made fly-fishing simple. He enjoyed what the river would give him and did not expect anything else. Never would he neglect greeting a newcomer to the river. He would often spend more time talking about fly-fishing than fishing, well almost. There were no secrets

with Bill; he would freely share his expertise, and he was an expert. Here's to a fine man, gentleman and a lover of fly-fishing”.

In 2004, Dave Engerbretson's name was added in recognition of his contributions to fly fishing in many different areas. He did research for the genetic hackle industry, had close ties to and tested fly lines for a major manufacturer of fly angling equipment. He received, field-tested and wrote about waders, reels, rods, fins, bags and various other types of equipment. He also traveled and wrote extensively on fishing locations, lodges, and his experiences from around the world. Dave inspired countless novices and more experienced fly fishers at expositions, conclaves, and through his classes at WSU, for the UI Enrichment Program, and many other educational settings.

In recognition of Dave's dedication to the advancement of fly anglers knowledge and skills everywhere, the scope of the scholarship was expanded to include any aspect of fishing education. Dave passed away in 2003.

Bill and Dave were friends and both were very active members of the Clearwater Fly Caster for many years. The membership of the club thought both men would be honored to have the others name combined with his own on this scholarship. Both men left a rich legacy to the fly fishing community.

*Application Process:* Any undergraduate or graduate student involved with fisheries research and management, natural resources management, fishing education or other work fostering the knowledge of fishing shall be eligible for this award. Preference will be given to individuals who are involved with the conservation and restoration of wild fish, fisheries management, and/or stream and habitat restoration either through research, education, or extension.

The Board of Directors is responsible for decisions regarding allocations of funds and for continued fund raising activities and for defining application and award guidelines.

The scholarship is awarded annually in December each year or at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

*How to Apply:* Interested candidates are asked to submit the following to the Clearwater Fly Casters Board of Directors:

1. A one-page description of the proposed research project with the appropriate contact information for the student and a faculty advisor.
2. Letter of endorsement from the faculty advisor.

*Where to Apply:* Applications are to be submitted to the Board of Directors by November 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Letters of Applications can be sent to:

Clearwater Fly Casters  
PO Box 394  
Pullman WA 99163

## **Steve Allured - Benton Collins Award**

*The Steve Allured-Benton Collins Memorial Award* is given to a member of the club in recognition of outstanding contributions to the activities of the Clearwater Fly Casters, conservation, and the sport of fly-fishing. The recipient receives a certificate in recognition of the award. The recipient also receives a framed display case of flies that was put together by Steve Allured and Dave Engerbretson in the 1970s. Club members tied the flies contained in the display case. The framed flies are to be passed on each year to the succeeding winner.

*Award Administration:* The president shall ask for at least three past recipients of the award to volunteer to be on the selection committee. The selection committee will include the three volunteer past recipients and the current board of directors. Once the selection committee is staffed the president shall ask the general membership for nominations to be given in secret to any member of the selection committee. Each nomination should include supporting evidence and can be communicated in either verbal or written form. The selection committee shall vote on a recipient. The award should be made annually or as appropriate.

Currently the president announces the selection committee at the January meeting and calls for nominations to be submitted by the February meeting. The selection committee is to meet and select an award winner prior to the March meeting. The award should be presented to the recipient at the March meeting.

## **Newsletter**

The newsletter of the Clearwater Fly Casters shall be called *The Tippet*. It shall be published on a monthly basis during the general meeting schedule. Currently the general meetings are scheduled, September through May.

## **Website**

The club shall maintain the web domain name of [www.clearwaterflycasters.com](http://www.clearwaterflycasters.com) and hosting services to provide information on club activities for members.

## **Motions Approved by the General Membership**

Any member in good standing can bring forth motions during any general club meeting. Another member prior to opening discussions must second any motion brought forth. Once discussion has ended a vote on the motion will take place. A

simple majority vote is needed for the motion to pass. Any motions passed shall be adopted, recorded, and added to this document.

1. The Board opens board meetings to all club members and encourages all to attend with the hopes that “attendance by membership will provide a greater input regarding the management of club affairs” **(1/76)**.
2. Steve Allured – Benton Collins Award established and is given yearly in recognition of outstanding contributions to the activities of the Clearwater Fly Casters, conservation and the sport of fly-fishing **(3/89)**.
3. Dave Tharp elected club historian **(2/91)**.
4. The Board proposes “any member, age 65 or older and with 15 years membership in the Clearwater Fly Casters, be granted honorary membership for life. Seconded and approved by members **(3/94)**.”
5. The club votes to rent a post office box on the WSU campus with keys available to the secretary and the editor **(3/95)**.
6. Bill Alspach Memorial Fund created. At the February executive meeting the Board agreed to propose to the general membership the establishment of a permanent scholarship fund and have all of the proceeds from the 1997 auction added to the new fund in memory of Bill Alspach. \$500 is allocated for a memorial fund by the general membership. Money from the fund would be used to provide scholarships to students engaged in **fisheries** research and management studies at the University of Idaho (UI) or Washington State University (WSU). The Board of Directors will be responsible for decisions regarding allocations of funds and for continued fund raising activities **(3/97)**.
7. A motion was passed to: a) continue to build the Bill Alspach Memorial Scholarship Fund; b) to spend up to 10% or \$300-500 per year for students involved in natural resource management; c) to have the Board develop qualification and application guidelines; and d) continue to work on ways to build the Bill Alspach Memorial Scholarship Fund **(11/98)**.
8. The club voted to open Alspach eligibility to Lewis Clark State College (LCSC) and Eastern Washington University (EWU) fisheries and natural resource students **(12/2001)**.
9. The Board of Directors sets the club meeting schedule to: Wet fly hour (45min) 6:00pm. Dinner at 6:45pm, program at 8:00pm **(2/98)**.
10. Tim Cavileer takes over as club historian **(2/2001)**.
11. The general meeting location is moved to the Best Western - University Inn in Moscow, ID **(9/2002)**.
12. Dave Tharp reappointed as Club Historian **(1/2003)**.
13. The club shall purchase and maintain the domain name [www.clearwaterflycasters.com](http://www.clearwaterflycasters.com)
14. The club shall maintain hosting services for the club website.
15. The club shall maintain an updated Membership Directory. That Directory shall be available to all members for personal use but shall not be given out for commercial purposes.
16. The club does not allow commercial advertising in the Tippet. Members shall be permitted to advertise to buy or sell personal items pertaining to fly-fishing.

17. The Club will pay for the dinner of the Tippet Editor and the speaker at each monthly meeting of the Clearwater Fly Casters **(1/2004)**.
18. Student membership set at half of the regular membership. **(1/2004)**.
19. The biennial club auction is set on a biennial schedule with half of the proceeds to benefit the Alspach Fund **(1/2004)**.
20. Vice-President serves as president the following year **(1/2004)**.
21. The President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, FFF Representative and Conservation Chair are elected positions. The Tippet Editor is a voluntary position **(1/2004)**.
22. The immediate Past President shall remain a voting member of the Board of Directors **(1/2004)**.
23. The Bill Alspach Memorial Scholarship has been renamed the Bill Alspach & Dave Engerbretson Memorial Scholarship **(02/2004)**
24. By-laws adopted 4/14/2004.
25. By-laws amended to read: Clearwater Fly Casters membership dues are for the calendar year starting in January. Membership dues are payable during the month of January and up to and including the first club meeting in February. **(1/2010)**
26. Membership Chair: The position of club Membership Chair is voluntary. The club president will appoint a person for the club to approve at a regular meeting for membership chair. The Membership chair will serve for an indefinite period of time. His or her responsibilities will be to develop and implement processes and programs to expand the membership of the club. **(01/2011)**.