

Article 1. Name**Section 1.1**

The name of the society is the “Alberta Gamehawking Club” (hereinafter also called “AGC” or the “Club”).

Article 2. Definitions**Section 2.1**

Falconry is the hunting of wild quarry in its natural state using a trained bird of prey.

Section 2.2

Falconry Birds are those species of raptors legally designated as “Falconry Birds” in the Wildlife Regulation.

Article 3. Membership**Section 3.1**

To qualify for membership in the Club, a person:

1. must be sixteen (16) years of age or older;
2. must have completed and signed the AGC membership application;
3. must be approved for membership by the AGC Board of Directors;
4. must have paid the current annual dues;
5. must follow all AGC by-laws, rules, regulations and policies;
6. must follow all federal and provincial laws and regulations pertaining to falconry, falconry birds, hunting etc;
7. must behave in accordance with the AGC Code of Ethics;
8. must act in accordance with the aims and objectives of the AGC, and avoid attracting unfavorable public attention to the sport of falconry in general or to the AGC in particular;
9. must accept assignment to the Category deemed by the Board to be most appropriate, and must accept the conditions associated with the Category.

Section 3.2

1. Membership in the Club shall be in one of four categories: Affiliate Falconer, Associate Falconer; Apprentice Falconer, and Regular Falconer.
2. Each member shall be assigned to that Category deemed, by the Board of Directors, to be appropriate for that member based on an assessment of such member’s falconry knowledge, experience, and proficiency, and in accordance with the criteria set out in the following descriptions of the aforementioned Categories.
3. Any member whose membership is terminated and who is later re-accepted for membership in the Club may, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, be assigned to a Category different from that assigned prior to the termination of membership.
4. All members except Associate and Affiliate Falconers are entitled to hold office and to vote at meetings and in any mail ballot called by the Secretary.

Article 4. Dues**Section 4.1**

1. Dues shall be set by the Board and shall be subject to the approval of the membership at the Annual General Meeting.
2. Dues shall be payable to the Secretary/Treasurer of the ALBERTA GAMEHAWKING CLUB at the time of submission of an application to the Club for membership or before November 1 of each year.
3. Dues shall not be prorated upon admission or termination of membership.

Article 5. AFFILIATE FALCONER**Section 5.1 Definition**

A non-practicing member

Section 5.2 Purpose

To provide a membership category for individuals interested in falconry but who do not have any experience and/or who do not wish to actively participate in the sport.

Section 5.3 Prerequisites

Must a member in good standing of the AGC.

Section 5.4 Rights and Restrictions

1. Is not eligible to vote on any AGC business or elections.
2. Is not eligible for election as a director of the AGC.
3. Is not eligible to apply for a Commercial Falconry Permit.

Article 6. ASSOCIATE FALCONER**Section 6.1 Definition**

A practicing member of the AGC who is not a permanent resident of Alberta, and can show equivalent requirement to satisfy Regular status.

Section 6.2 Purpose

To provide a membership category for non-resident falconers who wish to practice falconry while visiting Alberta.

Section 6.3 Requirements

1. must be a member in good standing of the AGC;
2. must be authorized by his or her resident jurisdiction to practice falconry.

Section 6.4 Rights and Restrictions

1. Is not eligible to vote on any AGC business or elections.
2. Is not eligible for election as a director of the AGC.
3. Is not eligible to apply for a Commercial Falconry Permit.

Article 7. APPRENTICE FALCONER**Section 7.1 Definition**

A practicing member of the AGC who is a permanent resident of Alberta, and does not qualify for Regular status.

Section 7.2 Purpose

To provide an opportunity for those with little or no falconry experience to learn and practice the basic fundamentals of the sport under the supervision of an experienced mentor.

Section 7.3 Requirements

1. must be an Alberta resident member in good standing of the AGC;
2. must have a sponsor from among the Regular Membership of the AGC or any other accredited falconry organization;
3. must complete the AGC Apprenticeship Program or equivalent.
4. must meet equipment and housing requirements before obtaining a raptor;
5. must gain falconry knowledge and experience through reading, contact with other falconers and by actively practicing the sport;
6. may not possess more than one raptor at any time of a species recommended by the responsible sponsor and approved by the Board of Directors;
7. must serve a trial period of not less than one year at the completion of which the apprentice should apply to the Board of Directors for Regular Falconer status;
8. must prove an ability to care adequately for and hunt wild quarry in the natural state;
9. must have verifiably taken at least one head of wild quarry (avian or mammal) with a falconry bird in a fair flush and chase situation;
10. must have passed a written examination (administered by an AGC or member of an accredited falconry association) with a minimum score of 80%;

Section 7.4 Rights and Restrictions

1. Is not be eligible to apply for a Commercial Falconry Permit.

Article 8. REGULAR FALCONER**Section 8.1 Definition**

A practicing member of the AGC who is a permanent resident of Alberta, and can satisfy the requirement for Regular status.

Section 8.2 Purpose

To provide an experienced falconer with the opportunity to practice and enjoy the sport to the fullest degree.

Section 8.3 Prerequisites

1. must be an Alberta resident member in good standing of the AGC;
2. must have served as an Apprentice Falconer, or must have had a minimum of two years of verifiable, equivalent experience outside of Alberta;

3. must be knowledgeable about and experienced at trapping wild raptors;
4. must have completed the entire training process of at least one falconry bird including calling to the fist and/or the lure, hooding, free flight exercise and the taking of wild quarry in a fair flush and chase situation;
5. must consistently have hunted game with his/her falconry bird, and shall have taken at least six, wild, bird or mammal quarry in fair-chase situations;
6. must be certified as qualified by no less than 75% of the Board of Directors;
7. must show good sportsmanship and ethics while pursuing falconry interests.

Section 8.4 Rights and Restrictions

1. There are no specific AGC restrictions regarding numbers and/or species of falconry birds kept by the Regular Falconer.
2. May apply for a Commercial Falconry Permit.
3. Can sponsor Apprentice Falconers.

Article 9. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Section 9.1

Applications for membership in the Club shall be approved or rejected by the Board of Directors at any meeting of the Board.

Section 9.2

The Board of Directors shall not be required to state reasons for their rejection of any application for membership in the Club.

Article 10. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Section 10.1

Membership in the Club shall terminate upon the occurrence of one of more of the following events:

1. Violation of any of the conditions listed on the falconry permit issued by Alberta Department of Sustainable Resources.
2. The Board receives written notice indicating a desire to withdraw from the Club;
3. Failure to pay membership fees or assessments applicable to any given fiscal year within two months of the beginning of that fiscal year;
4. Death of a member;
5. Three-quarters majority vote of the members present and voting at a general meeting of the Club;

Section 10.2

Notice of termination of membership shall be sent to Alberta Sustainable Resources stating the name of the person and the reason for termination.

Section 10.3

Upon termination of membership in the Club, all rights, claims, interests, and privileges in the Club, including but not limited to any refund of membership fees, shall be immediately forfeited by such member.

Section 10.4

A member whose membership has been terminated by decision of the Board of Directors may appeal the decision to the general membership at the first, regular meeting following the termination. A decision made to terminate a member's membership by the members present and voting at a general meeting shall be final and such member shall have no further right of appeal.

Article 11. DISPUTES**Section 11.1**

Disputes will be settled by arbitration and shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures set out in the Alberta Arbitration Act.

Article 12. DISCIPLINARY ACTION**Section 12.1**

The Board of Directors must counsel and may choose to only caution a member before any subsequent disciplinary action is taken.

Section 12.2

The Board of Directors may discipline a member for one or more of the following:

1. Violation of the AGC By-Laws;
2. Violation of the AGC Code of Ethics;
3. Violation of an AGC policy endorsed at a general meeting or a meeting of the Board of Directors;
4. Mistreatment of falconry birds or quarry;
5. Any behavior that may bring or has brought discredit upon AGC or falconry.

Section 12.3

Violation of any Provincial, Federal or International wildlife regulations, treaties or accords is grounds for immediate termination. Infractions shall immediately be reported by the Board to the appropriate jurisdictional body.

Section 12.4

Disciplinary action may include permanent or temporary termination of membership (see Article 11) or demotion of membership category for a period to be decided by a 75% majority of the Board. **The scope of disciplinary action is limited to those rights afforded to members under the club By-laws.**

Section 12.5

The Board may determine disciplinary action for any member by a three-quarters majority vote by mail, telephone, or at a meeting of the Board. Such disciplinary action shall be conveyed in writing to the member.

Section 12.6

A member who has been disciplined by a vote of the Board of Directors may appeal the decision to the general membership at the first regular general meeting following the issuance of the disciplinary action.

Section 12.7

A decision regarding disciplinary action against a member made by members present and voting at a general meeting shall be final and such member shall have no further right of appeal.

Article 13. MEMBERSHIP FEES**Section 13.1**

Membership fees and assessments shall be those set by the members present and voting at a general meeting.

Section 13.2

Membership fees are due and payable on the first day of the fiscal year to which such fees apply.

Article 14. RENUMERATION**Section 14.1**

All Directors or Officers shall serve the Club without remuneration

Section 14.2

The Board of Directors shall be entitled to reimburse any person for all reasonable, authorized and substantiated expenses incurred by such person with respect to the business and affairs of the Club.

Article 15. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS**Section 15.1**

A Member, when duly authorized to act for the Club, shall not be personally liable for any loss or damage or depreciation to the property of the Club or otherwise except if such member acted fraudulently, dishonestly or committed acts of gross misconduct or negligence.

Article 16. BORROWING POWERS**Section 16.1**

For the purposes of carrying out its objects, the Club may borrow, raise or secure the payment of money in such manner as it thinks fit, and in particular by the issue of

debentures, but this power shall be exercised only under the authority of the Club, and in no case shall debentures be issued without the sanction of a Special Resolution of the Club.

Article 17. VOTING

Section 17.1

All members in good standing except Associate Falconers shall have the right to vote at any meeting of the Club, and to vote by mail or other ballot conducted by the Secretary.

Article 18. WRITTEN EXAMINATION

Section 18.1

The written examination to be taken by any Apprentice Falconer shall be administered by the Secretary or designate thereof, and shall be one of any number of such that may, in the course of time, be approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 18.2

Subsequent examinations administered by the Secretary or designate thereof to the same member may or may not contain the same questions.

Section 18.3

Any member failing to attain the qualifying minimum score of 80% on the examination shall wait a minimum of 5 days before making another attempt.

Section 18.4

Any member wanting to take the examination will be given an opportunity to do so within four (4) months of making this desire known to the Secretary or designate thereof. The exact time and location that an examination takes place shall be at the discretion of the Secretary or designate thereof.

Article 19. GENERAL MEETINGS

Section 19.1

Meetings of the Club may be called at any time by the Secretary upon instructions of the President or Board. Notice of such meeting shall be by telephone or sent by regular or e-mail to the last known address of each member, at least 21 days previous to the date of such meeting.

Section 19.2

The Club shall hold an Annual General Meeting no later than the end of October in each calendar year.

Section 19.3

The directors so elected shall form a Board, who shall elect a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, and shall serve until their successors are elected and installed. Any vacancy occurring during the year may be filled at the next meeting of the

members. Except for Affiliate and Associate Falconers, any member in good standing shall be eligible to any office in the Club.

Section 19.4

The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be filled by one person if any Board of Directors shall so decide.

Section 19.5

A Special Meeting shall be called by the President or Secretary upon his or her receipt of a petition, signed by one-third of the voting members in good standing, setting forth the reasons for calling such meeting.

Section 19.6

At Special, General, and Annual General Meetings of the Club, a quorum shall consist of four (10) voting members unless otherwise decided by the Board of Directors.

Article 20. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 20.1

Board of Directors, Executive Committee or Board, shall mean the Board of Directors of the Club.

Section 20.2

The Board shall, subject to the by-laws or directions given it by majority vote at any meeting properly called and constituted, have full control and management of the affairs of the Club.

Section 20.3

Meetings of the Board shall be held as often as may be required, but at least once a year and shall be called by the President. Such meetings may be made in the form of a telephone "conference call". All such meetings shall be called with at least three days notice by telephone or e-mail or five days notice by writing mailed to each Board Member. Any four Directors shall constitute a quorum. Meetings may be held without notice if a quorum of the Board is present, provided however, that any business transacted at such meeting shall be ratified at the next regularly called meeting of the Board, otherwise they shall be null and void.

Section 20.4

Limits of Liability

Every Director and Officer in the exercising of his or her powers and discharging his or her duties shall act honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the Club and exercise the care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances. No Director or Officer shall be liable for the acts, omissions or defaults of any other Director or Officer for any loss, damage or expense happening to the Club through the insufficiency or deficiency of any security in or upon which any of the moneys of the Club shall be invested, or for any loss or damage arising from the bankruptcy, insolvency or tortious or criminal acts of any person with whom

any of the money, securities or effects of the Society shall be deposited, or for any other loss, damage or misfortune whatever which shall happen in the execution of the duties of his or her office or in relation to it.

Section 20.5

Election and Term of Board Members

1. At the AGM there will be elected a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 directors.
2. The majority will be Regular Falconers, who will serve for one year.
3. A Board member may not stand for re-election after two consecutive terms of service and must wait at least one year before standing for re-election.

Section 20.6

Termination of Position of the Board

A Director's position on the Board shall terminate upon the occurrence of one or more of the following events:

1. The Director's membership in the Club is terminated;
2. The Board of Directors receives written notice from such Director stating that he or she wishes to resign from the Board;
3. Such Director's position on the Board is terminated by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors by mail or at a meeting of the Board.

Section 20.7

Appeal Procedure for Termination of Position on the Board

1. A Director whose position on the Board has been terminated by decision of the Board of Directors may appeal the decision to the general membership at the first, regular meeting following the termination.
2. A decision, by the members present and voting at a general meeting, to support the Board's decision to terminate a Director's position on the Board, shall be final and such Director shall have no further right of appeal.

Article 21. PRESIDENT

Section 21.1

1. The President shall be ex-officio member of all Committees and shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the Club and the Board of Directors.
2. The Vice-President, if any, shall preside at any such meeting in the absence of the President.
3. In the absence of both the President and the Vice-President, a chairman may be elected by the meeting to preside there at.

Article 22. VICE-PRESIDENT

Section 22.1

In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall perform the President's duties and responsibilities.

Article 23. APPRENTICE DIRECTOR**Section 23.1**

The Apprentice Director will act as the first point of contact for all prospective novice, and assist novices with securing a sponsor. The Apprentice Director will also provide support to Sponsors.

Article 24. SECRETARY**Section 24.1**

1. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to attend all meetings of the Club and of the Board, and to keep accurate minutes of the same.
2. The Secretary shall have charge of the Seal of the Club which seal, whenever used, shall be authenticated by the signature of the Secretary and the President, or, in the case of the death or inability of either to act, by the Vice-President.
3. In such cases of the absence of the Secretary, the Secretary's duties shall be discharged by such officer as may be appointed by the Club and be under the direction of the President and the Board.

Section 24.2

The Secretary shall also:

1. Keep all of the Club's records;
2. Compile and submit all reports as required by the Falconry Regulations;
3. Keep a record of all the members of the Club and their addresses;
4. Send all notices of the various meetings as required;
5. Collect and receive the annual dues or assessments levied by the Club, and promptly turn over such monies to the Treasurer for deposit in a chartered Bank as hereinafter required.
6. Regularly and properly keep all books and records of the Club required by the Societies Act or these By-Laws or by any other applicable statute or law and make timely submissions of such reports from the Club as may be legally required.

Article 25. TREASURER**Section 25.1**

The Treasurer shall:

1. Receive all monies paid to the Club;
2. Be responsible for the deposit of same in whatever chartered Bank the Board may order;
3. Properly account for the funds of the Club and keep such books as may be directed;
4. Present a full detailed account of receipts and disbursements to the Board whenever required;
5. Prepare for submission to the Annual General Meeting a statement of the financial position of the Club and submit a copy of same to the Secretary for the records of the Club.

Article 26. AUDITING**Section 26.1**

The books, accounts and records of the Secretary and Treasurer shall be audited at least once a year by the Club's duly appointed auditor or by two members of the Club elected for that purpose at the Annual Meeting. A complete and proper statement of the standing of the books for the previous year shall be submitted by such auditor at the Annual General Meeting of the Club.

Section 26.2

The fiscal year of the Club in each year shall end on the 31st day of October.

Section 26.3

The books and records of the Club shall be kept in the possession of the Secretary and Treasurer and may be inspected by any voting member of the Club at the Annual General Meeting provided for herein or at any time upon giving reasonable notice and arranging a time satisfactory to the Officer or officers having charge of same. Each member of the Board shall, at all times, have access to such books and records.

Article 27. BY-LAW CHANGES**Section 27.1**

Alteration, rescission, or addition to the By-laws shall be done only by means of a "special resolution" passed at a general meeting of which not less than 21 days notice specifying the intention to propose the resolution has been duly given, and by a vote of not less than 75% of those members in attendance at such meeting.

Dated _____

Signature: Print Name: Alastair Franke	Address: 170 52260 RR223, Sherwood Park, AB, T8C 1J3
Signature: Print Name: Mark Williams	Address: Site 14, Box 43, RR, Okotoks, AB, T1S 1A1
Signature: Print Name: Barry Rubottom	Address: #4 Mountain Place, Sylvan Lake, AB, T4S 1H7
Signature: Print Name: Jeremy Roselle	Address: General Delivery, Stirling, AB, T0K 2E0
Signature: Print Name: Andy Dufrane	Address: 9504 141 Street, Edmonton, AB, T5N 2M4
Witness signature: Print Name:	Address: