

# BYLAWS OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN BIG GAME RECOVERY

Pursuant to the Colorado Revised Nonprofit Corporation Act, the following Bylaws shall govern the conduct of the affairs of ROCKY MOUNTAIN BIG GAME RECOVERY.

## ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of the organization is ROCKY MOUNTAIN BIG GAME RECOVERY, hereinafter referred to as “the corporation.”

## ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

- A. The purposes of the corporation shall be as stated in the Articles of Incorporation.
- B. More specifically, the corporation is dedicated to promoting resource conservation through the use of trained, leashed tracking dogs in the ethical recovery of big game:
  - Individuals dedicated to promoting resource conservation through the use of trained Leash Tracking Dogs in the ethical recovery of big game. Tracking dogs are primarily used to track whitetail and mule deer, elk, bear, moose, and exotics.
  - To make future handlers aware of good tracking dogs;
  - To support and provide training to handlers and their dogs;
  - To share information and advice about the traditional use and purpose of the tracking dog;
  - To share information on the ethical use of tracking dogs;
  - To organize blood-tracking workshops as a means of promoting excellence and encouraging fellowship among members;
  - To work in cooperation with other working dog organizations in mutually beneficial relationships to further allow for training, testing, and education.
- C. Our Goals:
  - Provide hunters access to proven tracking teams in their area
  - Promote hunter confidence in the abilities of our members
  - Be truthful about our abilities and experience
  - Grow the number of quality tracking teams within the state
  - Help all network team members to increase their skill level and effectiveness

- Provide hunters with educational tools to maximize their ability to find a harvested animal

#### OUR VALUES AND COMMITMENT TO THE HUNTERS WE TRACK FOR:

As members of the RMBGR, we are committed to providing the hunter with a quality service and operating within a strict set of values. It should be considered a privilege to be a member of the RMBGR. Members who do not follow the guidelines of the RMBGR will be removed from the group.

- Follow all state laws pertaining hunting/tracking deer as outlined by the local government,
- Be honest and truthful about your experience level and abilities.
- Never stand up a hunter. If you commit to meet with a hunter, you are expected to be there or provide adequate communication to the hunter about your status.
- Conduct yourself with a high level of integrity. This includes how you act and present yourself to the hunter or bystanders on the track. Be respectful and courteous to hunters and landowners.
- Rude behavior, foul language, and overall unprofessional behavior will not be tolerated.
- Teams are expected to work within the level of their abilities. If the call appears to be outside of your abilities, you should be willing to call a more experienced team to assist you with the track.
- Treat your dog with a high level of respect. Mistreating or abusing your dog will result in immediate removal from the group.
- Treat fellow RMBGR members with respect - no bad-mouthing other members to the public.
- Do not poach tracks from another tracking team.
- We are expected to help one another for the betterment of the tracking team and to give the hunter the best possible chance at recovering their animal.
- All members must be in good standing with the state. Any member could be removed from the group who is charged with or convicted of serious criminal activity.
- Unwanted sexual advances to a hunter is strictly forbidden.
- Pictures taken of recoveries should be respectful of the animal. Limit the amount of blood shown. Cut off or tuck the tongue in when possible.
- Your actions are representative of the entire group. How you act or perform affects more than just your name and reputation.
- As a group, we are being watched by hunters, non-hunters, the local government agencies, and animal rights activists. Conduct yourself accordingly.

### ARTICLE III. GOVERNMENT

A. The corporation shall have members who shall elect the members of the Board of Directors annually. Membership dues shall be set by the Board of Directors annually and shall be \$25.00 per year until otherwise established by the Board of Directors. Members are those persons who pay the established annual membership dues, and who are interested in and who support for the corporation's programs and are dedicated to promoting resource conservation through the use of trained, leashed tracking dogs in the ethical recovery of big game, and who meet any other membership requirements prescribed by the Board of Directors.

B. Any member wishing to withdraw from membership may do so upon a notice in writing to the Board through its Secretary. If any member is in arrears for fees or assessments for any year as of the due date as prescribed by the Board of Directors, such member shall be automatically suspended and shall thereafter be entitled to no membership privileges or powers in the society until reinstated. Any member upon a majority vote the Board of Directors may be expelled from membership for any cause which the Board of Directors may deem appropriate.

C. The membership of any member charged with animal cruelty, fishing, hunting, tracking law violations, or any member displaying unethical behavior towards wildlife or dog handling, may be suspended or terminated by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

D. Rocky Mountain Big Game Recovery shall not be responsible for setting fees for tracking services to hunters. If any member accepts reimbursement for tracking service, it is the trackers responsibility to know all local laws for receiving reimbursement of any kind.

E. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the members of the corporation shall constitute a quorum, and all decisions shall be by majority vote of the members at any meeting at which a quorum is present.

F. A Board of Directors shall govern the affairs of the corporation. The initial Board of Directors shall consist of the incorporators of the corporation. The Board of Directors may establish the number of directors between three and nine. Until the Board of Directors provides otherwise, the number of directors shall be seven. If the number of directors is greater than seven, the Board of Directors shall establish initial terms such that the terms of all directors are staggered to the extent possible. At each annual meeting of members, the members shall elect a director or directors to serve a three-year term for

the term of each director whose term has expired. Election of directors shall be by majority vote of the members attending the annual meeting, in person or by proxy.

G. The Board of Directors shall elect the following officers to the following terms:

President	3 Year
Vice-President	3 Year
Secretary	2 Year
Treasurer	3 Year

Officers may, but need not be, members of the Board of Directors but must be members of the corporation. The officers shall perform such duties as directed by the Board of Directors.

H. Any vacancies in the Board of Directors prior to the expiration of a term shall be filled by election by a majority vote of the remaining directors, or if there are no remaining directors, by a majority vote of the members attending a meeting called for the purpose of electing directors.

I. A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum, and all decisions shall be by majority vote at any meeting at which a quorum is present.

J. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held not less than every three months, and may be called by the President or by any two directors upon reasonable notice to all directors, which notice may be orally, by telephone, by U.S. mail, by national carrier service, by email or electronic means, or by personal delivery of written notice. Notice given at least 10 days prior to a meeting shall be deemed reasonable. Meetings may be held in person, telephone, or by video conference, or a combination thereof.

K. Any director or officer, upon a majority vote of all members in good standing, may be removed from office for any cause which the members may deem reasonable.

L. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to adopt such rules and regulations, not inconsistent with these Bylaws or the Articles of Incorporation, as it may deem appropriate.

M. Roberts Rules of Order, Revised shall govern the conduct of all meetings of the Board of Directors, except where inconsistent with these Bylaws.

## ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS' DUTIES

A. **PRESIDENT:** The President shall be ex-officio a member of all Committees. The President shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the corporation's members and of the Board of Directors.

B. **VICE-PRESIDENT:** In the President's absence, the Vice-President shall preside at any meetings of the corporation's members and of the Board of Directors. In the absence of both, a chairperson may be elected at the meeting to preside.

C. **SECRETARY:** The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the corporation's members and of the Board of Directors, and shall keep minutes of the same. In case of the absence of the Secretary at any such meeting, the Secretary's duties shall be discharged by such officer as may be appointed by the President or presiding officer. The Secretary shall have charge of all the correspondence and records of the corporation, including a record of all the members of the corporation and their addresses. The Secretary shall give all notices of the various meetings as required unless other arrangements for notice are made, and shall assist the Treasurer in collecting the annual membership fees levied by the corporation.

D. **TREASURER:** The Treasurer shall receive all monies paid to the corporation and be responsible for the deposit of same in whatever Bank, Trust Company, Credit Union, or Treasury Branch the Board of Directors may order. The Treasurer shall properly account for the funds of the corporation and keep such financial books as may be directed. The Treasurer shall present a full detailed account of receipts and disbursements to the Board of Directors whenever requested and shall prepare for submission to the Annual Meeting a statement of the financial position of the corporation and submit a copy of same to the Secretary for the records of the corporation. The Offices of the Secretary and Treasurer may be filled by one person if members at any annual meeting for the election of officers shall so decide. The Treasurer shall also arrange for the filing of any tax returns required to be filed by the corporation.

## ARTICLE V. ANNUAL MEETING

The Board of Directors will hold an annual meeting on in January of each year, or at such other date and time as the Board of Directors may establish, at such place as the Board of Directors may determine with such reasonable notice to members as the Board of Directors may prescribe, which shall not be less than 10 days prior to the meeting.

## ARTICLE VI. PARTICIPATION

A. Participation in the programs of the corporation shall be open to all persons meeting the age and residence requirements established by the corporation, regardless of race, creed, color, or religion.

B. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to suspend, discharge, or otherwise discipline any participant in any of the programs of the corporation, whose conduct is considered detrimental to the best interests of the corporation.

## ARTICLE VII. FINANCES AND RECORDS

A. The Board of Directors shall make all financial decisions of the corporation.

B. All checks issued by the corporation shall be signed by an Officer.

C. No Officer or Director shall receive any compensation for services performed in such capacity.

D. The Board of Directors may hire such persons as it deems necessary or appropriate, and fix reasonable compensation for services performed, provided, that no Director shall participate in any decision concerning compensation to be paid to himself or herself for services performed for the corporation.

E. The books and records of the corporation may be inspected by any member of the corporation at the Annual Meeting or at any time upon giving reasonable notice and arranging a time satisfactory to the officer(s) having charge of same. Each member of the Board of Directors shall always have access to such books and records.

## ARTICLE VII. AFFILIATION

The Board of Directors shall have the power to affiliate with such organizations as it may deem appropriate to the fulfillment of the purposes of the corporation. The Board of Directors may also establish such trade names of the corporation as it deems appropriate.

## ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENT

These Bylaws and any section thereof may be amended or repealed by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors at any meeting at which a quorum is present.

## ARTICLE IX. DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of the corporation, pursuant to the Colorado Revised Nonprofit Corporation Act, or otherwise, all assets, after payment of all just and legal debts, shall be distributed as provided in the Articles of Incorporation.

The foregoing Bylaws of ROCKY MOUNTAIN BIG GAME RECOVERY were adopted by a two-thirds vote of the Directors present at the meeting of the Incorporators on October 29, 2022, at which a quorum was present.

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Secretary