

BYLAWS of the *Ventura County Sportfishing Club (VCSC)*

Proposed Amended and Restated Bylaws

Approved by the Board for Submission to the Membership on July 26, 2026

Submitted to VCSC Voting Members for Approval

MISSION

Ventura County Sportfishing Club promotes responsible recreational ocean sportfishing, marine conservation, fishing education, boating and ocean safety awareness, and community service. The Club provides opportunities for members to share the saltwater angling experience and supports community-benefit fishing activities, including supervised fishing opportunities for youth through appropriate partner organizations.

PREAMBLE

Members are expected to read and follow these Bylaws, Club policies, applicable fishing and boating laws, vessel rules, and the safety directions of vessel captains and crew. VCSC is a volunteer-run membership organization. VCSC's activities depend on responsible conduct, respect for members, guests, volunteers, vessel crews, partner organizations, and the public, respect for the marine environment, sound financial practices, and attention to safety, insurance, and legal requirements.

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ARTICLE I

NAME AND OBJECTIVE

Sec. 1. Name

The legal name of the corporation is Ventura County Bluewater Sport Fishing Club, Inc. The Club may conduct activities under the name Ventura County Sportfishing Club and may be referred to in these Bylaws and Club policies as “VCSC” or “the Club.”

Sec. 2. Objective

VCSC is a California nonprofit public benefit corporation operated as a federal 501(c)(4) social welfare organization. The Club’s objectives are to promote responsible recreational ocean sportfishing, fishing education, boating and ocean safety awareness, marine conservation, and community service.

VCSC may conduct member meetings, educational programs, social activities, fundraising activities, member fishing charters, community-benefit fishing activities, and other lawful activities consistent with the Club’s mission and approved by the Board or membership where required by these Bylaws or applicable law. VCSC may also support community-benefit fishing opportunities for youth and other groups through appropriate partner organizations, subject to Board-approved procedures, insurance review, safety requirements, and applicable law.

VCSC does not own, operate, crew, navigate, or control commercial passenger fishing vessels used for Club charters unless the Board expressly approves a different arrangement. Club fishing charters are conducted through licensed vessel operators, and participants are expected to comply with all applicable fishing, boating, vessel, and safety rules.

ARTICLE II

QUALIFICATIONS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS

Sec. 1. Qualifications of Members

- a. Voting members must be 18 years of age or older and must be members in good standing.
- b. Members must complete a membership application or renewal process approved by the Board and must pay dues in the amount and manner established by Club policy.
- c. Members must agree to follow VCSC's Bylaws, Board-approved policies, rules of conduct, fishing regulations, environmental and marine resource laws, vessel rules, and applicable boating, navigation, and U.S. Coast Guard requirements.
- d. Members must sign the current VCSC adult participation and volunteer waiver/release when joining, annually upon renewal, and whenever the Board approves a materially revised waiver. A current waiver must be on file before a member participates in any VCSC charter, volunteer activity, or other activity for which the Board requires a waiver.
- e. Members are responsible for providing current contact information to the Membership Chairperson or other designated officer as part of the membership application or renewal process, including mailing address, email address, telephone number, and emergency contact information when requested for trip or event administration.
- f. VCSC shall provide members with access to current Bylaws, Club policies, meeting notices, event information, and other Club materials by email, website, printed copy, or other method approved by the Board.
- g. VCSC does not routinely distribute the general membership roster to the full membership. The Board may approve a specific limited roster distribution or use when consistent with Club privacy policy and member consent or notice as appropriate. Member contact information shall be used only for Club business and handled according to Club privacy policy.
- h. VCSC may provide temporary meeting name tags or other identification for Club functions. Name tags remain Club property unless the Board establishes a different policy.
- i. Membership cards may be issued if authorized by the Board, but printed membership cards are not required unless the Board adopts a policy requiring them.
- j. The Board may grant Life Member status to a member who has provided exceptional service to VCSC. A Life Member may be recommended by any Board member and approved by majority vote of the Board. Life Members are exempt from annual dues unless the Board provides otherwise, but remain subject to all member duties, waiver requirements, conduct rules, safety rules, and Club policies.

ARTICLE III

OFFICERS, BOARD POSITIONS, AND APPOINTED COORDINATORS

Sec. 1. Officers and Board Positions

The elected officers and elected Board positions of VCSC shall be:

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Membership Chairperson
Member-at-Large, Position 1
Member-at-Large, Position 2

The following appointed coordinator positions are also voting Board positions while filled:

Charter Master
Social Media and Communications Coordinator
Drawings and Raffles Coordinator

A person holding more than one voting Board position has only one vote and counts only once for quorum purposes.

The Board may appoint additional non-voting coordinators, committee chairs, or assistants as needed to conduct Club business. Non-voting appointed positions may include, but are not limited to:

Program Coordinator
Youth Event Coordinator
Insurance/Risk Management Coordinator
Other coordinators or committee chairs approved by the Board

Appointed voting Board positions may be recommended by the President or by any Board member and are appointed by majority vote of the Board. Appointed voting Board positions serve at the pleasure of the Board for the term or purpose determined by the Board. Unless the Board provides otherwise, appointed voting Board positions serve until resignation, removal, replacement, or the end of the calendar year, and may be reappointed.

The Board may leave any non-voting appointed coordinator position vacant and may assign the duties of a vacant appointed position to one or more officers, Board members, committees, or volunteers.

Sec. 2. Elections

- a. Elections will be held each year at the November general membership meeting, unless the Board approves a different election date due to scheduling or operational needs. Elected officers and elected Board members serve on a calendar-year term beginning January 1. The membership dues year and the financial/tax year are defined separately in these Bylaws and Club policies.
- b. Before each election, the Board will appoint an election chairperson or election committee to manage nominations, conduct the election, tally votes, and announce results.
- c. The Board will announce the nomination process at or before the September general membership meeting.
- d. Candidates for office may announce their intent to run at Club meetings, notify the current President, or be nominated by another member.
- e. If a vacancy occurs in an elected office or elected Board position, the President or any Board member may recommend a qualified member, and the Board may appoint a qualified member to serve until the next regular election or may call a special election at a general membership meeting.

Sec. 3. Appointed Coordinators and Committees

- a. The Charter Master, Social Media and Communications Coordinator, and Drawings and Raffles Coordinator are appointed voting Board positions.
- b. Other appointed coordinators, committee chairs, and assistants are non-voting positions unless the bylaws expressly provide otherwise.
- c. Other appointed coordinators, committee chairs, and assistants may be recommended by the President or by any Board member and are appointed, removed, or replaced by majority vote of the Board.
- d. The Board may leave any appointed position vacant and may assign its duties to an elected officer, Board member, committee, member in good standing, or other Board-approved volunteer.

Sec. 4. Board of Directors

- a. The voting Board of Directors consists of the persons serving in the elected Board positions and the appointed voting Board positions listed in these Bylaws.
- b. A person holding more than one voting Board position has only one vote and counts only once for quorum purposes.
- c. The Board may invite non-voting coordinators, committee chairs, past presidents, advisors, or other members to attend Board meetings and report on specific matters.
- d. A person invited to assist or advise the Board does not become a voting Board member unless these Bylaws or a specific Board action grants voting status.

e. Past presidents who are active members may serve in an advisory capacity and may assist the Board when requested.

Sec. 5. Qualifications, Multiple Offices, and Terms

a. A nominee for elected office must have been a member in good standing for at least six months before nomination unless the Board waives this requirement due to Club need.

b. An appointed coordinator or committee chair should have been a member in good standing for at least three months before appointment unless the Board waives this requirement due to Club need.

c. Nominations may be made by a member in good standing and must be accepted by the nominee.

d. Voting ballots or other Board-approved voting procedures will be used at the November election or other approved election date.

e. A member may hold more than one Club position if approved by the Board or elected by the membership. However, the same person may not serve simultaneously as President and Secretary or as President and Treasurer.

f. A person holding more than one voting Board position has only one vote and counts only once for quorum purposes.

g. The term of office for elected officers and elected Board members is one year unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws.

h. Bylaw amendments are handled under the bylaw amendment article of these Bylaws.

Sec. 6. Transfer of Records and Property

Upon expiration of a term, resignation, removal, or replacement, each officer, Board member, appointed coordinator, and committee chair must promptly transfer to the successor or Board designee all Club records, funds, account access, passwords, files, documents, equipment, supplies, and other VCSC property in that person's possession or control.

Sec. 7. President

a. The President provides leadership for Club activities and helps ensure that VCSC operates according to its Bylaws, Board-approved policies, legal requirements, insurance requirements, and Board decisions.

b. The President presides at Board meetings and general membership meetings.

c. The President prepares or approves meeting agendas and maintains order at meetings.

d. The President assists in establishing Club policies, planning Club activities, and coordinating Board responsibilities.

e. The President coordinates with the Board to arrange speakers, educational programs, or other meeting content for the year.

f. f. The President may assign routine tasks to officers, Board members, coordinators, committees, members, or volunteers as needed to conduct Club business, provided the assignment does not require Board approval under these Bylaws or Club policy. The President

may recommend candidates for appointed positions requiring Board approval.

g. The President serves as a voting member of the Board. The President has one vote, the same as other voting Board members, and may vote on any matter before the Board unless recused or abstaining.

Sec. 8. Vice President

a. The Vice President assists the President in performing duties prescribed by the Bylaws, Club policies, and Board direction.

b. The Vice President assumes the duties and authorities of the President in the President's absence or inability to act, subject to these Bylaws, Board-approved policies, and applicable law.

c. The Vice President may compile and present reports of Club activities at Board and general membership meetings.

d. The Vice President provides Club activity reports to the Social Media and Communications Coordinator in a timely manner.

e. The Vice President serves as a voting member of the Board.

f. The Vice President performs special assignments from the President or Board as needed.

Sec. 9. Secretary

The Secretary is responsible for recording minutes of general membership meetings and Board meetings and for maintaining Club records not specifically assigned to another officer or coordinator. Other duties include:

a. Prepare, maintain, and distribute current Bylaws and Board-approved policies.

b. Maintain official meeting records, including notices, agendas, approved minutes, voting records, written consents, and related meeting materials when applicable.

c. Prepare or assist with correspondence to speakers, donors, partner organizations, vendors, agencies, or other Club contacts as requested by the President or Board.

d. Make approved minutes available for appropriate Club review.

e. Serve as a voting member of the Board.

Sec. 10. Treasurer

a. The Treasurer serves as a voting member of the Board.

b. The Treasurer maintains a bookkeeping process approved by the Board.

c. Treasurer records must be kept reasonably current and available for Board review, audit, tax preparation, insurance review, and required filings.

d. The Treasurer receives and records Club income, makes deposits to VCSC accounts, and pays authorized expenses.

e. The Treasurer performs regular reconciliation of Club bank accounts and bookkeeping records.

f. The Treasurer pays bills and reimbursements for authorized expenditures, including Board-approved expenses, expenses incurred under Board-directed assignments, and expenses

incurred by officers, Board members, coordinators, or volunteers in the authorized pursuit of Club duties.

g. The Treasurer coordinates with the Charter Master to help ensure that member fishing charters are financially self-sustaining to the extent practical.

h. The Treasurer prepares, coordinates, or oversees required federal, state, and local tax, corporate, charitable registration, raffle, and information filings applicable to VCSC, based on the Club's income, activities, registrations, and legal requirements.

i. The Treasurer maintains financial records needed to support annual filings, Board reports, insurance applications, raffle reporting, grant or partner documentation, and internal review.

j. The Treasurer maintains and updates written Treasurer procedures or successor documentation to assist future Treasurers with bookkeeping, reporting, filings, deadlines, and record retention.

Sec. 11. Charter Master

a. The Charter Master is an appointed coordinator and serves as a voting member of the Board while appointed to that position.

b. The Charter Master is responsible for planning, coordinating, and administering VCSC member fishing charters approved by the Board.

c. The Charter Master develops a proposed annual charter plan and submits it to the Board for review and approval. The plan should include proposed vessels, dates, estimated costs, participant capacity, payment schedule, and any material contract, insurance, or operational issues.

d. After the Board approves the annual charter plan, the Charter Master will communicate approved charter opportunities, signup procedures, payment deadlines, cancellation rules, and trip information to the membership as soon as practical.

e. The Charter Master surveys available commercial passenger sportfishing vessel operators and recommends charter arrangements that appear suitable for the Club.

f. After Board approval of the annual charter plan, the Charter Master is authorized to sign standard charter contracts for trips included in the approved plan, provided the vessel, date, cost, deposit, cancellation terms, and insurance or vessel-documentation issues are materially consistent with the approved plan and Club policy. Any additional charter or material change requires Board approval or officer approval under Board-authorized procedures before VCSC is bound.

g. The Charter Master works with the Treasurer to help ensure that member fishing charters are financially self-sustaining to the extent practical.

h. The Charter Master or a designated VCSC trip representative should be present on each Club charter. If the Charter Master cannot attend, the Charter Master will designate another club member, preferably a Board member or experienced member, to represent VCSC for trip administration.

- i. The Charter Master or designated trip representative is the Club's administrative contact on the trip. The trip representative does not control the vessel, captain, crew, navigation, safety decisions, weather decisions, or marine operations.
- j. The Charter Master and any designated trip representative must pay the same charter fee as other participants unless the Board approves a different arrangement in advance.
- k. The Charter Master coordinates with the Board, Treasurer, President, or other designated officer on any insurance, waiver, safety, vessel documentation, or charter contract matter requiring Board attention.
- l. Detailed signup, payment, cancellation, waiver, conduct, roster, and trip administration rules are set forth in the Club Charters Policy.

Sec. 12. Social Media and Communications Coordinator

- a. The Social Media and Communications Coordinator is an appointed coordinator responsible for Club communications, website updates, online newsletter publication, and approved social media activity.
- b. The Social Media and Communications Coordinator serves as a voting member of the Board while appointed to that position.
- c. The Social Media and Communications Coordinator collects articles, reports, announcements, photographs, and other information of interest to Club members from officers, coordinators, committees, and members.
- d. The Social Media and Communications Coordinator compiles, edits, formats, and publishes the Club's online newsletter or other Board-approved communications.
- e. Draft newsletters or major Club communications should be reviewed or approved by the President before publication.
- f. The Club does not normally mail printed newsletters. A link to the online newsletter or other Club communication may be emailed to members using the current membership email list or other Board-approved communication method.
- g. The Social Media and Communications Coordinator may write articles, comments, or editorials for the newsletter, website, or social media when appropriate.
- h. The Social Media and Communications Coordinator may post Board approved or Board authorized information about Club charters, meetings, speakers, drawings, raffles, community-benefit events, conservation items, member activities, and other related Club matters on the Club website, newsletter, email system, and social media accounts.
- i. Club communications must be consistent with VCSC policies, privacy expectations, youth-event photo/name restrictions, insurance requirements, and Board direction.
- j. The Social Media and Communications Coordinator may recommend and administer Board-approved communications tools, website hosting, domain registration, email services, newsletter tools, software, and related services. Expenditures must be within a Board-approved budget or authorized under the spending provisions of Article V.

Sec. 13. Membership Chairperson

- a. The Membership Chairperson serves as a voting member of the Board.
- b. The Membership Chairperson maintains the current membership roster and provides the roster to the Board. The general membership roster is not distributed to the general membership unless the Board approves a specific limited use consistent with Club privacy policy.
- c. The Membership Chairperson works in concert with the Social Media and Communications Coordinator, Board members, and other volunteers to recruit new members and communicate membership information.
- d. The Membership Chairperson gives a membership status report at Board or general membership meetings when requested.
- e. The Membership Chairperson sends dues notices or renewal reminders to members, using email, mail, or other Board-approved methods.
- f. The Membership Chairperson collects dues payments when applicable and transfers payments and payment information to the Treasurer for deposit and recording.
- g. The Membership Chairperson provides the Board with a list of members whose dues are delinquent or whose membership status requires Board attention.
- h. Membership cards may be issued if authorized by the Board, but printed membership cards are not required unless the Board adopts a policy requiring them.
- i. The Membership Chairperson provides new members with access to current Club materials, which may include the Bylaws, Club policies, waiver/release forms, meeting information, website information, and contact information for Club officers.
- j. The Membership Chairperson may maintain or assist with meeting sign-in sheets, temporary name tags, attendance records, or other membership records used for Club administration.
- k. Temporary meeting name tags remain Club property unless the Board establishes a different policy.

Sec. 14. Member-at-Large

- a. There shall be two Member-at-Large positions unless the Bylaws are amended to provide otherwise.
- b. Members-at-Large serve as voting members of the Board.
- c. Members-at-Large perform duties, assignments, committee work, and special projects as requested by the President or Board.
- d. Members-at-Large may assist with meetings, membership, charters, communications, drawings, community-benefit events, insurance/risk-management tasks, or other Club activities as needed.

Sec. 15. Drawings and Raffles Coordinator

- a. The Drawings and Raffles Coordinator is an appointed coordinator responsible for organizing

- monthly meeting opportunity drawings and Board-approved state-registered raffles.
- b. The Drawings and Raffles Coordinator serves as a voting member of the Board while appointed to that position.
 - c. The Drawings and Raffles Coordinator provides a yearly estimate of funds needed for drawing and raffle prizes and submits the estimate to the Board for approval.
 - d. The Drawings and Raffles Coordinator coordinates the acquisition, donation, purchase, storage, and use of prizes for monthly opportunity drawings and Board-approved state-registered raffles, within a Board-approved budget or other Board-approved authority.
 - e. The Drawings and Raffles Coordinator contacts vendors, donors, members, and other supporters to request donated prizes or other support for Club opportunity drawings and state-registered raffles.
 - f. The Drawings and Raffles Coordinator maintains and stores drawing and raffle prize inventory and keeps a current inventory record. The record should identify each item, whether it was donated or purchased, approximate value or purchase cost, intended use if known, date used, and whether the item was used for a monthly opportunity drawing or a state-registered raffle.
 - g. The Drawings and Raffles Coordinator conducts monthly meeting opportunity drawings by making tickets available to attendees without requiring any purchase or donation. Donations may be collected, but donations must be voluntary and must not affect whether a person receives tickets or the chance of winning.
 - h. The Drawings and Raffles Coordinator sets up or displays prizes for monthly opportunity drawings and assists the President or meeting chair with conducting the drawing.
 - i. The Drawings and Raffles Coordinator assists with Board-approved state-registered raffles, including prize planning, ticket distribution procedures, tracking of raffle income and direct raffle expenses, and coordination with the Treasurer for required records and reporting.
 - j. The Drawings and Raffles Coordinator coordinates with the Treasurer to ensure that raffle income, raffle direct expenses, donated prizes, purchased prizes, and opportunity drawing donations are recorded in the proper categories.
 - k. The Drawings and Raffles Coordinator reports periodically to the Board on prize inventory, monthly opportunity drawing activity, state-registered raffle activity, and related income and expenses. The Treasurer remains responsible for financial records and required tax, raffle, charitable registration, and other filings, unless the Board assigns a specific filing task to another officer.
 - l. The Drawings and Raffles Coordinator must follow VCSC policies, Board directions, and applicable California requirements for registered raffles and no-purchase-required opportunity drawings.

ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS

Sec. 1. General Membership Meetings

- a. General membership meetings will be held on a schedule approved by the Board. The Board

will announce the date, time, location, and method of attendance.

b. General membership meetings will generally include reports from officers, Board members, coordinators, and committees as appropriate. Draft or approved prior meeting minutes may be distributed to members by email, website posting, or other Board-approved method. Minutes do not need to be read aloud unless the presiding officer or membership requests it.

c. General membership meetings may be held in person, by hybrid format, or by electronic means where permitted by law and Board-approved procedures.

d. If the President cannot chair a general membership meeting, the Vice President will chair the meeting. If neither is available, the next available elected Board member may chair the meeting. If no elected Board member is available, the members present may select a chair pro tem by majority vote.

e. If the Secretary is not available, the presiding officer will appoint a person to record the meeting.

f. A quorum for general membership meetings is 5 voting members or 5% of the current voting membership, whichever is greater. If fewer than one-third of the voting members are present, action may be taken only on matters whose general nature was included in the meeting notice.

Sec. 2. Board Meetings

a. Board meetings will be held on a schedule approved by the Board. The Board will announce the date, time, location, and method of attendance.

b. Board meetings may be held in person, by telephone, by electronic video meeting, or by other electronic communication method permitted by law, provided participating Board members can hear one another and participate in the meeting.

c. Board meetings may be recorded for the limited purpose of preparing minutes or documenting Board discussion. Recordings are administrative aids and are not the official record of Board action unless the Board expressly designates otherwise. Approved minutes are the official record.

d. If the President cannot chair a Board meeting, the Vice President will chair the meeting. If neither is available, the next available elected Board member may chair the meeting.

e. If the Secretary is not available, the presiding officer will appoint a person to record the meeting.

f. The presiding officer will determine whether a quorum is present before the transaction of business. A quorum for Board meetings is a majority of the voting Board members then in office. A person holding more than one voting Board position counts only once for quorum purposes. Board action requires approval by a majority of voting Board members present at a meeting where a quorum is present, unless the Bylaws or applicable law require a greater vote.

g. The President may call a special Board meeting. Special Board meetings require at least 48 hours' notice by telephone, voicemail, personal delivery, or electronic transmission, or four days' notice by first-class mail, unless notice is waived or consented to as permitted by law. In

an emergency or time-sensitive matter, the Board may meet or act only through procedures permitted by law and these Bylaws.

h. The only matters to be discussed or acted upon at a special Board meeting are those identified in the notice or purpose of the meeting, unless all Board members present agree to consider additional time-sensitive matters.

i. Board action without a meeting requires written consent of all voting Board members as required by law. Written consents shall be filed with the minutes or corporate records.

ARTICLE V - FUNDS

Sec. 1. Use of Funds

VCSC funds shall be used for lawful Club purposes and under the direction of the Board, including member charters, community-benefit fishing activities such as the foster-youth fishing trip, marine education, conservation and safety activities, insurance, supplies, services, required filings, and other Board-approved expenses.

Sec. 2. General and Program Funds

Club income may come from sources legally appropriate for a 501(c)(4) nonprofit corporation, including membership dues, member charter payments, voluntary donations, no-purchase-required opportunity drawing donations, Board-approved state-registered raffles, event receipts, sponsorships, interest, and other lawful sources.

Unrestricted funds may be used for Club operations, insurance, community-benefit programs, filings, supplies, and other Board-approved expenses.

Sec. 3. Charter Funds

Funds for Club-sponsored fishing charters will generally be collected from members and invited participants who participate in the charter activity.

Charters are intended to be financially self-sustaining to the extent practical. The Charter Master recommends charter pricing and payment deadlines, subject to Board approval or officer approval under Board-authorized procedures. Charter prices may include a reasonable contingency margin for unanticipated vessel charges, fuel surcharges, late cancellations, emergency participant withdrawals, severe illness, death, or other costs that could otherwise cause a loss to the Club or unfairly burden participants.

Charter income and expenses should be tracked in a manner that allows the Treasurer and Board to review the financial results of each charter.

Sec. 4. Spending Authorization

a. Authorization for spending VCSC funds is vested in the Board of Directors.

b. The Board may establish spending guidelines, budgets, reimbursement procedures, and officer authority for authorized outflows of funds.

c. Authorized spending includes:

1. Expenses approved by the Board.
2. Expenses incurred by officers, Board members, coordinators, committees, or volunteers in carrying out Board-approved duties.
3. Expenses incurred for Club charters, community-benefit programs, insurance, filings, supplies, services, communications, and ordinary Club operations.
4. Time-sensitive expenses approved by officers under Board-approved authority.

d. The President or Treasurer may approve time-sensitive ordinary Club expenses up to \$500 for a single item or action when prompt action is needed and prior Board approval is not practical. Any such expense must be reported to the Board and documented for the Treasurer's

records. This authority may not be used to approve payment or reimbursement to the approving officer.

Sec. 5. Bank Accounts and Signatures

VCSC funds shall be deposited in accounts approved by the Board. The Board will designate authorized signers for Club bank accounts and electronic payment systems. Unless the Board adopts a more restrictive policy, one authorized signer is sufficient for checks, withdrawals, transfers, or electronic payments.

The Treasurer is the primary officer responsible for maintaining bank and payment records, including records of deposits, payments, reimbursements, transfers, and account reconciliations. The President may serve as a backup authorized signer when the Treasurer is unavailable, incapacitated, conflicted, or when prompt action is needed.

Any officer using backup signing authority must provide supporting documentation to the Treasurer and Board. No authorized signer may approve that signer's own payment or reimbursement; payments or reimbursements to an authorized signer must be approved by another authorized officer or by the Board.

ARTICLE VI – BYLAW ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT

Sec. 1. Adoption and Amendment

These Bylaws and any amendments shall become effective upon approval by the membership as required by these Bylaws and applicable law.

Sec. 2. Board Recommendation

The Board may recommend bylaw amendments to the membership. Proposed amendments should be distributed to members before the meeting or vote when practical.

Sec. 3. Approval

Unless a greater vote is required by law, these Bylaws may be amended by approval of two-thirds of the voting members present and voting at a duly noticed general membership meeting at which a quorum is present, provided the proposed amendment or a summary of the proposed amendment was distributed to members before the meeting. No bylaw amendment may be adopted with fewer than 5 affirmative votes.

ARTICLE VII - MEMBER CONDUCT AND MEETING RIGHTS

Sec. 1. Participation

VCSC members have the right to attend Club meetings and participate in Club activities subject to the Bylaws, Board-approved policies, meeting rules, event rules, safety requirements, and applicable law.

Sec. 2. Conduct

All members and guests are expected to conduct themselves in a safe, lawful, respectful, and cooperative manner at Club meetings, charters, events, online forums, social media spaces, and other Club activities.

The Board may adopt a separate Code of Conduct or conduct policy. The Code of Conduct may address disruptive behavior, harassment, threats, intoxication, unsafe conduct, violation of vessel rules, misuse of Club communications, and other conduct affecting the Club, members, guests, volunteers, partners, or the public.

Sec. 3. Removal from Activity

The President, presiding officer, Charter Master, trip representative, vessel captain, or other Board-designated person may ask a disruptive or unsafe person to leave a meeting, event, charter, or online Club space. Law enforcement or vessel personnel may be contacted when appropriate.

Sec. 4. Membership Action

A member may be suspended, expelled, or removed from active membership for cause only in good faith and in a fair and reasonable manner consistent with applicable law. Except where immediate temporary action is needed for safety, legal, insurance, or event-management reasons, the member should receive written notice of the proposed action and the reasons for it at least 15 days before the effective date, and an opportunity to respond orally or in writing at least 5 days before the effective date.

Grounds for membership action may include serious misconduct, repeated disruptive behavior, unsafe conduct, harassment, threats, refusal to follow vessel or Club rules, misuse of Club communications, nonpayment of dues, or conduct that creates legal, insurance, safety, financial, or reputational risk to VCSC.

Sec. 5. Rules of Order

Board and general membership meetings should be conducted in an orderly and fair manner using simplified parliamentary procedure, Robert's Rules of Order as general guidance, or other meeting procedures approved by the Board. The presiding officer may use practical meeting procedures appropriate for a small volunteer organization, provided they are consistent with these Bylaws and applicable law.

ARTICLE VIII - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 1. Member Contact Information

Each member is responsible for providing current contact information for the Club roster, including mailing address, email address, and telephone number. Members must also provide emergency contact information when requested for charter, trip, or event administration. Email is VCSC's primary method for routine Club notices, newsletters, meeting announcements, dues reminders, charter information, and other communications. Members who prefer or require telephone, text, or mailed communication should notify the Membership Chairperson, but VCSC cannot guarantee that all communications will be provided by every method. Text messages may be used for time-sensitive charter, meeting, safety, or event information when a member has provided a mobile number and has not opted out of text communications.

Sec. 2. Inclusive Language

Words used in these Bylaws are intended to be inclusive and shall apply to all persons regardless of gender, gender identity, or gender expression. References to "he," "she," "his," or "her" in older Club documents shall be interpreted to include all members, officers, volunteers, and participants as applicable.

Sec. 3. Compliance with Law and Vessel Rules

Members and participants must comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws, including fishing regulations, boating and navigation requirements, marine conservation rules, U.S. Coast Guard requirements, and vessel operator rules.

Sec. 4. Insurance, Waivers, and Risk Management

The Board may require waivers, releases, safety procedures, insurance review, vessel documentation, volunteer screening, training, or other risk-management procedures for Club activities. Failure to complete required documentation or follow required procedures may result in denial of participation in a Club activity.

ARTICLE IX - POLICIES

Sec. 1. Purpose

This Article authorizes the use of Board-approved Club policies to carry out the Bylaws, conduct Club business, promote consistent procedures, and respond to changing operational, legal, insurance, technology, and safety needs.

Sec. 2. Authority

Policies may be adopted, amended, or rescinded by majority vote of the Board unless the Bylaws or applicable law require membership approval.

Sec. 3. Effect

Policies remain in effect until amended or rescinded. Policies may not conflict with the Bylaws or applicable law.

Sec. 4. Meaning of Board Approval

For purposes of these Bylaws and any Club policy, “Board approval,” “approved by the Board,” or “Board-approved” means approval by the Board in accordance with the quorum, voting, notice, and written-consent requirements of these Bylaws and applicable law. This does not reduce or replace any greater vote, notice, membership approval, or other requirement imposed by these Bylaws or applicable law.

END OF PROPOSED AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS

The following Board-approved policies are provided for information only. They are not part of the proposed bylaws and are not included in the membership vote.

VCSC BOARD-APPROVED POLICIES

VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB POLICY: MEMBERSHIP FEES

The VCSC membership year runs from April 1 through March 31.

Annual dues are \$60 per year unless changed by Board-approved policy or membership-approved action where required.

New memberships beginning after April 1 may be prorated at \$5 per month for the remaining months in the membership year, unless the Board adopts a different prorating procedure.

Membership dues are payable in advance. Members whose dues are not paid within the time established by Club policy may be changed to inactive status or removed from the active membership roster after notice. Administrative removal for nonpayment of dues is not disciplinary expulsion and does not prevent the person from rejoining by paying dues and satisfying current membership requirements, unless the Board determines otherwise for cause.

A member must be at least 18 years old to be a voting member. Family, household, guest, youth, or other participation categories may be established by Board-approved policy, provided they are consistent with the Bylaws, insurance requirements, waiver requirements, and applicable law. Minor participation is permitted only for Board-approved youth or community-benefit events conducted under separate Board-approved procedures.

VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB POLICY: PRIVACY AND USE OF MEMBER INFORMATION

VCSC collects and maintains member information for Club business only. Member information may include name, mailing address, email address, telephone number, emergency contact information, dues status, waiver status, charter participation, and other information needed for Club administration.

Member information may be used for official VCSC purposes, including:

1. Meeting notices.
2. Dues notices and membership administration.
3. Email links to newsletters and Club announcements.
4. Charter and event communication.
5. Board-approved Club activities.
6. Insurance, waiver, safety, emergency, and recordkeeping purposes.
7. Required legal, tax, corporate, raffle, or regulatory filings where applicable.

The membership roster may be provided to the Board and to officers or coordinators who need the information to perform assigned Club duties. The general membership roster is not distributed to the general membership unless the Board approves a specific limited use.

Member information shall not be sold, shared with outside organizations, or used by members, officers, coordinators, or volunteers to promote private interests.

VCSC should use reasonable care in storing and transmitting member information. Access

should be limited to persons with a Club-related need to know. Electronic records should be maintained in Board-approved systems or accounts when practical.

Members are responsible for notifying the Membership Chairperson or designated officer of changes to their contact information.

VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB POLICY: CLUB CHARTERS

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish operating procedures for VCSC club charters. This policy is adopted under the VCSC Bylaws and may be amended as permitted by the Bylaws and Club policy procedures.

2. Commercial Vessel Operations

VCSC club charters are conducted aboard commercial passenger sportfishing vessels operated by the vessel owner/operator, captain, and crew. VCSC does not own, operate, crew, navigate, maintain, or control the vessel. Participants must follow all vessel rules and all directions from the captain and crew.

3. Board Approval and Charter Plan

The Charter Master will present a proposed charter plan to the Board for approval. Once approved, the charter plan may be announced to the general membership. Material changes to the charter plan require Board approval or officer approval under Board-authorized procedures.

4. Financial Intent

Club charters are intended to be financially self-sustaining to the extent practical. The Charter Master recommends charter prices and contingency margins, subject to Board approval or officer approval under Board-authorized procedures..

5. Payment

Full payment is due 30 days before departure unless a different deadline is announced for a specific charter. If full payment is not received by the deadline, the participant's reservation will be cancelled and the spot may be offered to a waitlisted participant or another eligible participant, unless an exception is approved by the Charter Master and Treasurer or by the Board.

6. Waiver Required

All adult participants, including members, guests, trip coordinators, and VCSC volunteers aboard the charter, must have a current VCSC waiver/release on file before participating. The Charter Master or designee should confirm waiver status before the trip.

7. Cancellations by Participant

If a participant cancels after the payment deadline, the Charter Master will attempt to fill the spot from the waitlist or other eligible participants. If a replacement cannot be found, the cancelling participant may forfeit the charter fee to the extent needed to keep the charter financially self-sustaining.

8. Cancellations by VCSC

If a charter is under-subscribed or otherwise not feasible, the Charter Master, in consultation

with the Treasurer and with approval of at least two elected officers, may cancel the trip. If the Charter Master and Treasurer disagree, the President or Vice President will decide. If VCSC cancels a charter, the Treasurer will issue refunds or credits as authorized by the Board or authorized officers.

9. Membership and Guests

Club charters are primarily for adult members in good standing. Members will be given the first reasonable opportunity to sign up under the announced signup procedure. If a regular member charter remains under-subscribed after the member signup opportunity, the Charter Master may open available spots to adult guests or adult nonmembers only if permitted by Board policy, vessel requirements, and insurance requirements. Any adult guest or adult nonmember must sign required waivers and comply with all trip rules before participating.

10. Trip Roster

The Charter Master or designee will maintain a trip roster for VCSC administrative purposes. The roster should include participant name, contact information, payment status, waiver status, and emergency contact information if collected. The vessel operator may maintain its own passenger manifest as required by law or vessel policy.

11. Leaving the Vessel or Group

If a participant leaves the vessel or group after check-in or boarding, the participant must notify the Charter Master, trip representative, or vessel crew as applicable. VCSC is not responsible for a participant who leaves the vessel or group without notice or fails to return before departure.

12. Fishing Regulations

All participants must comply with current federal, state, and local fishing regulations, including licensing, size limits, bag limits, species restrictions, and marine protected area rules. Each participant is responsible for their own fishing license and compliance unless the trip announcement states otherwise.

13. Conduct

All participants must conduct themselves in a safe, lawful, respectful, and cooperative manner. Disruptive behavior, unsafe behavior, harassment, intoxication, illegal drug use, or refusal to follow vessel rules, captain/crew instructions, or VCSC trip procedures may result in removal from the trip, loss of future charter privileges, or membership action.

14. Alcohol, Cannabis, Drugs, and Weapons

Participants may not participate while impaired by alcohol, cannabis, illegal drugs, or medication that impairs safe judgment. Illegal drugs are prohibited. Firearms or weapons are not permitted unless expressly authorized by law and vessel policy and approved by VCSC in advance.

15. Jackpot

If a jackpot is offered, participation is voluntary. Jackpot rules, eligible species, tie rules, and payment method should be announced before fishing begins. Jackpot funds must be handled by a club officer or designated member and paid out according to the announced rules. The

Charter Master or trip representative will resolve jackpot questions during the trip.

16. Crew, Fish Cleaning, and Galley Gratuities

Many charter boat crew members rely on gratuities as part of their compensation. VCSC recommends that participants consider a crew gratuity of approximately 20% of the charter fare, plus separate gratuities for fish cleaning and galley service when those services are used. Gratuities remain the responsibility of individual participants unless the Board approves a different arrangement for a specific charter.

17. Special Community or Youth Charters

Special community-benefit charters, including the foster-youth fishing trip, may have additional Board-approved procedures for safeguarding, screening, training, supervision, agency coordination, insurance, and records. Those procedures control over this general policy where applicable.

18. Records

The Charter Master and Treasurer will retain charter records needed for trip administration, payment reconciliation, waiver confirmation, refunds/credits, insurance review, and Board reporting. Records should be turned over to successor officers or Board designees at the end of the term or upon request by the Board.

VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB POLICY: SUGGESTIONS, CONCERNS, AND COMPLAINTS

1. Purpose

VCSC encourages members and guests to raise suggestions, concerns, or complaints in a constructive manner so the Board can review and address them appropriately.

2. Submission

A member or guest may submit a suggestion, concern, or complaint to any Club officer, Board member, or the President. The submission may be made in writing, by email, or by another method accepted by the Board. The Board may adopt a standard suggestion, concern, or complaint form to promote consistency. Use of the form is encouraged but not required unless the Board adopts a policy requiring it for a specific type of matter.

3. Board Review

The Board may review the matter, request additional information, refer it to an officer or committee, or place it on a meeting agenda when appropriate.

4. Conduct and Safety Matters

Concerns involving safety, harassment, threats, intoxication, vessel rules, youth-event safeguards, insurance, legal issues, or serious misconduct should be brought promptly to the President or another officer. The Board may take interim action when needed to protect the Club, members, guests, volunteers, partners, or the public.

5. Response

The Board will determine what response, if any, is appropriate. When the person submitting

the matter provides contact information, VCSC should provide a reasonable acknowledgment or response after Board review or referral. The Board determines the appropriate response, if any, based on the nature of the submission. Possible responses may include no action, informal resolution, policy clarification, referral to a committee, member communication, rule change, membership action, or referral to outside authorities when required.