

Fitchville Conservation League

Membership Packet

Revised—January 1, 2024

Fitchville Conservation League Grounds

2636 Jennings Road PO Box 66

New London, Ohio 44855

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**All membership documents can be found at our
website:**

<http://fitchvilleconservationleague.com>

<http://fcl2.com>

Fitchville Conservation League

We welcome you as a member of the Fitchville Conservation League. This **Membership Packet** serves as an introduction to our organization. FCL was established in 1946 and is now a leading promoter of wildlife conservation in the area. We offer many firearm safety programs, clinics and activities for our area communities and organizations. We offer ODNR

Hunter and Trapper Education and other free Programs. Our ranges should benefit your shooting skills. **We hope you enjoy your time with us.**

The FCL entire membership meets quarterly on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. with a potluck dinner prior to the meeting. The quarterly meetings are in the months of March, June, September, and December of each year. Our meetings and activities are posted on our website calendar that can be found at **(WWW.FCL2.COM) or (WWW.FITCHVILLECONSERVATIONLEAGUE.COM.)**

Members and their guests are welcome to utilize the club pistol, archery and rifle ranges for target shooting, while abiding with the posted Range Rules in each area. **Center fire rifles are to be used only on the rifle range and are not to be used on the pistol range. Please remember to always shoot into the backstops. Always check the location of the backstops and do not shoot into the adjacent woods. Shooting above the backstops is a danger to the surrounding community.** Target debris and spent casings are to be picked up and placed in the trash barrels and brass containers which can be found near the range. Range safety and maintaining the club grounds are every member's responsibility. A battery operated trap for throwing clay pigeons is available for use in the storage garage with the combination lock. Please use your own supply of clay pigeons.

REGULAR CLUB ACTIVITIES

- **Protection Trap shoot each Wednesday at 7 p.m. for advanced shotgun shooters**
- **Practice trap (FUN) shoot on many Sundays from noon to 3 p.m. And also on select weeknights during late spring, summer and early fall.**
- **Free ODNR Hunter Ed, Trapper Ed, Intro Classes in Handgun, Long Gun, and Archery**
- **For FEE Action Shooting, Handgun Proficiency, Concealed Handgun Classes and other clinics throughout the year.**
- **Refer to the Website calendar for exact time and dates.**

Your membership card is proof of your FCL membership and should be carried whenever you are using the facilities. Annual members will receive a new card in December after dues are paid and renewal and waiver forms are returned. Since FCL is a private club and is to be used only by the member and his/her family or guests, expect to be challenged by members you do not know. Hopefully, you will introduce yourself, present your card and question the membership of folks you do not know. Also in the attached pages you will find pertinent information regarding club facility usage. Please note that the clubhouse and grounds are private and not available for rent.

The Board of Directors is the elected governing body of FCL and meets at 7PM on the first Monday of each month. As a member you are welcome to attend these meetings as well. We strongly encourage you to meet everyone in the league and participate in our activities. We also encourage you to obtain training in your interest and become part of our volunteer

educational staff. We are open to new ideas and activities and we welcome your input. Our success depends on you and we thank you for your support.

FITCHVILLE CONSERVATION LEAGUE

POLICIES & PROCEDURES OF THIS LEAGUE

MEMBERSHIP RULES - EFFECTIVE 01-01-2023

An Active FCL member has unrestricted use of the grounds during day-light hours. Exception: DURING ORGANIZED EVENTS, ALL RANGES ARE CLOSED. The grounds consist of the following areas: 1. Rifle Ranges, 2. Archery Range areas, 3. Pistol Range Pavilion, and 3D Archery Woods. The clubhouse is open only during regular and special events when a member of the Board of Directors is present. Soft drinks and packaged snacks are usually available.

Qualifications of New Members:

Any person may become a member of this Corporation through the following process:

- A. Submit a written and signed application.
- B. Application signed by a sponsor member of at least one year and in good standing.
- C. Be introduced by sponsoring member at a quarterly membership meeting.
- D. Receive approval by a yes vote of two thirds of the members present.
- E. Payment of initiation fee and annual dues from the dues schedule in this document.

By signing the application and accepting membership, you are agreeing to be bound by the rules, regulations and by-laws of this Corporation as written, and are considered a Probationary Member for the first year with this Corporation. A Probationary Member shall be subject to dismissal if found to have committed any violation of our safety rules. A Probationary Member is ineligible to sponsor new members and has no voting rights, but has all other rights of an active member.

1. New Member Applicants must submit an application for membership with payment. (\$75 initiation fee and \$75 first year membership. Total \$150.) Application must have a current member (in good standing) as a sponsor.
2. *The Applicant should meet with the Sponsor to become familiar with the operation of the Fitchville Conservation League. The Applicant and Sponsor must meet with at least two members of the Board of Directors*

or be present at a Board of Directors' meeting (the first Monday of each Month at 7PM.) This meeting is to answer basic questions, receive basic orientation, and to learn the responsibility of an FCL Membership.

3. The Board of Directors will determine new member applicant's eligibility, and vote accordingly. A majority vote rules.

If accepted by the Board of Directors, New Member Applicants and their sponsor must attend an initial Quarterly Meeting to meet the general membership and be ratified by a Membership majority vote.

Probationary Year Requirements:

1. Probationary Members must adhere to all existing, published rules of the organization.
2. Probationary Members must also attend 1 additional Quarterly Meeting during the first year of membership.
3. Attendance and participation at one scheduled event during the first year is mandatory.
4. It is required that Probationary Members will also assist in one work day or assist in some other capacity as requested sometime during their first year. See the volunteer requirement.
5. Health restrictions will be considered and mandatory requirements will be relaxed after approval by the Board of Directors.

Annual Membership Requirements:

To retain a status of "Member in Good Standing" with voting rights and a "Guaranteed" annual membership renewal, Annual Members must satisfy the same minimal requirements as Probationary Members.

Health restrictions will be considered and mandatory requirements will be relaxed after approval by the Board of Directors.

Life Membership Requirements:

1. Life Members must agree to continue to maintain the same schedule of requirements mandatory for all members.
2. Health restrictions will be considered and mandatory requirements will be relaxed after approval by the Board of Directors.
3. Failure to meet the minimum annual requirements for two (2) consecutive calendar years may result in a vote by the Board of Directors to forfeit the member's voting rights.

FCL MEMBERSHIP DUES SCHEDULE

All New Members Initiation Fee – One Time ----- \$75.00

Annual Active Members----- \$75.00

Annual Active Member Dues for the next year is \$75.00 payable during the month of December, but no later than end of January.

A \$10 late fee is added per month. E.g. January \$75; February \$85; March \$95; April: Member will be deactivated and shall reapply for a new membership.

FCL Members are also required to volunteer at least 5 hours per year at club sponsored events (*i.e. Instructional and Intro Classes, Hunter Education, Trapper Education, the fair Booth, Work & Clean up days, etc.*) Drive time to and from the event is also to be included. The member is responsible to locate the event sign up sheet and record the time allotted for the event. If a member cannot participate as a volunteer due to a medical reason, he/she must notify a member of the FCL Board of Directors to receive an exception. If the volunteer requirement is not met an additional fee of \$75 will be assessed in December when dues are collected.

FITCHVILLE CONSERVATION LEAGUE

RANGE RULES

Note: All National Rifle Association Safety Rules are to be observed. FCL is an NRA member.

PRIMARY SAFETY – INSURE TARGET AREA & BEYOND ARE CLEAR. EYE AND EAR PROTECTION IS MANDATORY FOR ALL.

NO ALCOHOL OR DRUGS ARE ALLOWED ON FCL PROPERTY AT ANY TIME.

- 1. Keep the firearm muzzle pointed in a safe direction – down range when loading or unloading. The action must be open and unloaded when the firearm is being moved or when not in use.**
- 2. Keep finger OFF the trigger until ready to shoot.**
- 3. Before walking down range to check your target, the firing line must be made safe. MADE SAFE: All firearms are checked to insure that the safety is on, the action open, no bullet in the chamber, clips and magazines are removed, and the cylinder is open and unloaded. Always interact with range companions so everyone is aware of what is taking place.**
- 4. All fire shall be deliberate and controlled. ANY OBSERVED PRACTICE WHICH COULD BE CONSIDERED UNSAFE MAY RESULT IN IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OF RANGE PRIVILEGES.**
- 5. Paper targets or approved steel targets are to be used on the range. Targets are to be placed on backers to minimize damage to wood or steel target frames. No cans, bottles or plastic containers are to be utilized as targets.**
- 6. Remove all target debris (paper targets, shell containers, spent brass, and shotgun casings and place in the appropriate containers.**
- 7. Firearms are to be secured and inaccessible to bystanders or children.**

Range is for the use of FCL Members and guests only. A membership card should be presented when asked. If you do not know a person, ask their name, and check the name with the FCL secretary for verification.

Guns - The Four Safety Rules

Every Gun Is Loaded. This relates to all other rules and should be the first thing you think about when you handle a firearm. Open the action and stick a finger in the chamber to know for sure. If you are not familiar with the firearm that is being handed to you, have that person show you that the firearm is not loaded.

Keep Your Finger Off the Trigger until you're ready to shoot. It takes training, sometimes a lot of training to keep a finger off the trigger. If that firearm does happen to have something in the chamber, where would that bullet go when it came out of the barrel?

Keep The Muzzle Pointed in A Safe Direction. A safe direction would be defined as: if the firearm were to discharge, the projectile wouldn't strike or deflect to strike another person. Even if you know the firearm is empty, it is still a good idea to keep it pointed in a safe direction. Your fellow shooters will appreciate this common courtesy as I'm sure you would from them. Concrete floors and walls will bounce a projectile easily. Now you not only have a projectile bouncing around, you have concrete particulate joining it in flight

Know Your Target and What Is Beyond Your Target. A dedicated shooting range, more than likely there will be a large dirt berm or catch system behind the paper targets. What about the hunt with the kids? When they miss the squirrel or the hedge apple, where is that bullet going? Even a 40 grain lead bullet from a 22LR at a sub-sonic muzzle velocity will travel almost a mile when launched at a 29 degree angle.

FITCHVILLE CONSERVATION LEAGUE, INC. By-Laws

As Amended January 1, 2023

Article I

This organization shall be known as FITCHVILLE CONSERVATION LEAGUE INC. located at 2623 Jennings Road, P.O. Box 66, New London, Ohio 44851 and is set forth to provide a venue for members and local citizens to express their views and suggestions on how to better use or local Natural Resources and the wherewithal to carry out programs to that effect. To initiate projects and programs such as but not limited to Ohio's Hunter Education Courses and Archery in the Schools. To provide manpower and facilities to promote shooter education in several disciplines, including archery, shotgun sports, pistol, rifle and muzzleloader for both children and adults. To sponsor events for all to practice and enjoy both nature and the shooting sports, all while continuing to promote and defend the wise use of our Natural Resources. Both Membership and Fiscal year begins January 1 and ends December 31.

Article II

Section 1: Quorum - At all meetings five members shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2: Periodical Meetings - Quarterly meetings shall be held at the Fitchville Conservation League on the second Tuesday of March, June, September and December at 6:30 PM.

Section 3: Annual Meetings – The Annual meeting shall be held on the second Tuesday of December. All Officers elected shall take office on January 1st.

Section 4: Special Meetings - Special Meetings may be called by any Officer or any two members by notifying the intent to the President. Notice of the meeting shall be given by the President, to each member at least ten days prior to the date of such meeting via e-mail

Section 5: Order of Meetings – The order of business at a meeting shall be as follows:

- a) Roll call of Officers**
- b) Reading of Minutes**
- c) Reading of Treasurer's Report**
- d) Additions or corrections to the agenda**
- e) Old Business**

f) Reports of Committees

g) New Business

Section 6: Roberts Rules of Order will govern the conduct of all meetings.

Article III

The Officers of the Corporation shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, each elected annually, four Trustees elected for two year staggered terms, and one alternate Trustee serving a one-year term. These elected Officials will be known as the Board of Directors. Nominations for such Officers shall be during the September quarterly membership meeting. Two or more nominations shall be submitted for each office. No member under eighteen years of age and or that has not been an active member in good standing for at least one year prior, may hold office. Said Officers shall be chosen by a majority vote of members present at the annual meeting and shall hold that office until January 1 of the following year. Trustees shall be elected in the same manner but will serve staggered two year terms @ 2 / 2 / 1 per year.

Article IV

Section 1: The Board of Directors shall have the power to manage all the affairs of the League on any and all questions regarding in any manner whatsoever thereto, and make all contracts necessary for the proper transaction of all business; they shall have total jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to the care, conduct, control, supervision and management of the League and its' finances and all appropriations shall be made by them.

Section 2: It shall be the duty of said Board of Directors to prescribe and publish rules regulating the use and occupancy of the rooms of the Clubhouse, grounds, and equipment and for the care and protection of such.

Section 3: At the Annual Meeting of the League, the Board of Directors shall make a full report of their proceedings during the preceding fiscal year and recommend such measures as they shall deem advisable.

Section 4: The Board of Directors may fill any vacancy among the Officers or Trustees by the vote of a majority of those present at any meeting of such Board. Such election shall be for the unexpired term.

Section 5: Any Officer or Trustee who is absent from three consecutive meetings, either general or Board meetings without presenting a fair and reasonable excuse for the absence to the President, may be suspended from his/her respective office and the vacancy filled by the Board of Directors.

Section 6: In no case where a resolution has been passed at a meeting of the Board of Directors affecting the relationship of any member of the League towards the League, shall such resolutions be reviewed at subsequent meetings without notice in writing sent by the Secretary to every member of the Board of Directors and the involved member or members at least ten days prior to the meeting that such previous action will be brought up for review or consideration.

Section 7: The Board of Directors shall have the following specific powers –

A – To appoint delegates to the different associations of which the League may be a member or for the purpose of conferring with any association or club respecting any matters in which this League may be concerned.

B – To make rules for the conduct of the members of the League and for their use of League property. (See Policies and Procedures of the Fitchville Conservation League

C – To suspend or expel a member for any conduct in violation of the rules.

D – To fix and enforce penalties for violation of the rules.

E – To remit penalties for offenses against the rules.

F – To call special meeting of the League to consider special subjects.

G – To prescribe additional duties for any Officer, in addition to those herein set forth.

Article V

Duties and Powers of the Officers:

Section 1: President - The President shall preside over all meetings of the members and the Board of Directors, sign the records thereof, and shall appoint all committees, and perform generally all the duties usually performed by Presidents of like Corporations, and such other duties as shall be from time to time required by the members.

Section 2: Vice President – The Vice President shall perform all duties of the President in case of the absence or disability of the latter. In case both the President and Vice President are absent or unable to perform their duties; the members, Officers, or Trustees, as the case may be, may appoint a President Pro-Tempore.

Section 3: Secretary – The Secretary shall keep minutes of all proceedings of Officers and members of this Corporation and make a proper record of the same, which shall be attested by said person, and generally shall perform such duties as may be required of said person by the Board of Directors.

Section 4: Treasurer – The Treasurer shall receive and have in charge all moneys and securities belonging to this Corporation and shall disburse, or otherwise deal with the same as ordered by the Board of Directors, with the exception of expenditures for normal operating expenses. Said person shall keep an accurate account of all moneys received and disbursed, to be audited annually by a committee appointed by the President, and shall generally perform such duties as may be required by the Board of Directors. On the expiration of term of office be required to turn over to successor, or to the Board of Directors, all money and property of the Corporation in said person's hands, and the records are to be immediately audited by the current Board.

Section 5: Trustee - Trustees are elected members of the Board of Directors and act as the overseers of the care and maintenance of the physical property of this League. They are responsible for all property; however, approval of the entire Board of Directors is required before contracts can be let or money be spent. Any member wishing changes or improvements to any physical property of the League must present in writing their wishes to one of five elected Trustees for consideration. Trustees will be elected on staggered three year terms of office [2 / 2 / 1] as to provide continuity of responsibility.

ARTICLE VI

Qualifications of New Members:

Any person may become a member of this Corporation through the following process:

- A. Submit a written and signed application.**
- B. Application signed by a sponsor member of at least one year and in good standing.**
- C. Be introduced by sponsoring member at a regular quarterly membership meeting.**
- D. Receive approval by a yes vote of two thirds of the members present.**
- E. Payment of initiation fee and annual dues from the schedule in Article VII of this document.**

By signing the application and accepting membership, you are agreeing to be bound by the rules, regulations and by-laws of this Corporation as written, and are considered a Probationary Member for the first year with this Corporation. A Probationary Member shall be subject to dismissal if found to have committed any violation of our safety rules.

A Probationary Member is ineligible to sponsor new members nor has voting rights during probationary period, but has all other rights of an active member.

ARTICLE VII

Dues:

The annual dues and fees for members shall be determined by the Board of Directors and approved by the membership at a quarterly meeting. Members are also required to volunteer at least 5 hours per year at club sponsored events. (e.g. Instructional and Intro Classes, Hunter Education, Trapper Education, the fair Booth, Work Days, etc) The member is responsible to locate the event signup sheet and record the time allotted for the event. If a member cannot participate as a volunteer due to a medical reason, he/she must notify a member of the Board of Directors to receive an exception. Otherwise, an additional fee as described in the Policies and Procedures of the Fitchville Conservation League will be assessed if the volunteer requirement is not met.

Elected officers and trustees of the Board of Directors shall be exempt from yearly dues requirements.

ARTICLE VIII

These by-laws and schedules may be amended, supplemented or repealed by the motion being made, seconded and discussed at two regular meetings, then by putting the finished product before the members for vote and being carried by two-thirds of the members present at a regular meeting. Also the Secretary must notify all members of the amendment and or changes by e-mail at least ten days prior to the meeting at which the vote will take place.

Fitchville Conservatiuon League

2623 Jennings Road

New London, Ohio 44851

