

Constitution of the Chapel Hill Bird Club (CHBC)

Approved 26-Mar-2012

Article I. Name of Organization

The name of this organization shall be the Chapel Hill Bird Club (CHBC). The purpose of the club will be to participate and aid in the study and appreciation of bird life. The club will contact and cooperate with similar organizations as well as with local residents.

Article II. Membership and Dues

Membership shall be open to any person interested in furthering the purposes of the club as stated in Article I. Annual dues will be set at the November meeting for individual and family memberships and will be required of all members payable by January 1.

Article III. Election of Officers and Official Appointments

Clause I

The elected officers consist of a President, two Vice-presidents chosen to represent the geographic range of the membership, Treasurer, and Secretary. The election procedure is as follows:

1. Nominations shall be made and seconded at the April meeting.
2. Announcement of the nominations shall be communicated to the membership before the May meeting.
3. Election of the officers shall require a simple majority of those members present during the May meeting.
4. The official terms shall begin June 1 and end the following May 31.

Clause II

Temporary and/or appointed positions such as the Bird Count Supervisor/Compiler, Field Trip Chair, and Bulletin Managing Editor are official duties which shall be delegated by the President to the members of the club. The duties of all officers elected or appointed are outlined in the accompanying by-laws.

Article IV. Finances

The CHBC shall maintain a checking account and/or savings account, for which the club's Treasurer is responsible. Only the Treasurer and other elected officers are authorized to sign checks from the club's checking account. The Treasurer shall submit and publish annual financial statements for the members and to the official records of the club. All expenditures in excess of \$500 shall be made by check and countersigned by the Treasurer and one other elected officer.

Article V. Meetings

Regular meetings are held monthly from September through May, except for December. The meeting location and schedule shall be determined by the elected officers and published in the Chapel Hill Bird Club Bulletin. Only the President or Vice-presidents can reschedule a regular meeting (i.e., date, time, and/or place) or schedule a special meeting. In addition, the aforementioned officer must adequately inform the membership of any such change to insure maximum attendance (e.g., notice in the CHBC bulletin or through the public news media).

Article VI. Chapel Hill Bird Club Bulletin

The Chapel Hill Bird Club Bulletin is the official publication of the club and shall be issued to the members before regular meetings. The purposes of the club's Bulletin are to transmit official business information of the club, to provide information regarding bird migrations through this area, and to provide other information of interest to the members. The CHBC Bulletin Managing Editor is appointed by the President and is responsible for the publication of the Bulletin. Assistant editors may be appointed by the Managing Editor as needed to handle publication of the Bulletin.

Article VII. Amendments

Any change in or addition to the Constitution or By-Laws can only be implemented through the following procedures:

1. motion shall be discussed at two consecutive regular meetings
2. a written description of the motion shall be communicated to all members before the second meeting designated for discussion
3. voting to pass or reject the motion shall occur at a regular meeting and only after the above stipulations have been adequately met
4. a minimum of twenty-five members, or twenty-five percent of the active membership (whichever is less), are required for all final voting on such matters and a two-thirds majority passes the motion
5. absentee voting shall be honored if the members wishing to do so submit written ballots to the Secretary prior to the meeting at which voting will occur