



## The Confederation of Hunting Associations of SA

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# CONSTITUTION

## CONFEDERATION OF HUNTING ASSOCIATIONS OF SOUTH AFRICA

### 1. PREAMBLE:

Because hunters and hunter organizations realize the necessity to co-operate and set standards to benefit hunting and the hunter in South Africa, a national co-ordinating organization has been established for this purpose.

### 2. NAME:

The name of the association shall be “The Confederation of Hunting Associations of Southern Africa”. In short the association shall be referred to as **CHASA**.

### 3. NATURE OF THE ASSOCIATION:

- 3.1 The association is a voluntary, non-political and non-profit organization which functions as a hunting association as co-ordinating body on a national basis, the members of which are divided into groupings known as member associations.
- 3.2 When joining **CHASA** all member associations endorse and accept the constitution and disciplinary code of **CHASA** upon joining and this constitution and disciplinary code (as amended from time to time) is regarded to be fully applicable on an association as well as the individual members of such association.
- 3.3 **CHASA** shall have it's own separate legal persona/personality, which shall include, but not be limited to the following:

3.2.1 CHASA shall have continuous existence, notwithstanding changes in it's office bearers, board, executive committee and/or members; and



3.2.2 CHASA shall have an existence distinct from its office bearers, board, executive committee and members; and

3.2.3 The office bearers, board, executive committee and members of CHASA shall not by virtue of their membership or status within CHASA, become liable for any of the obligations and liabilities of the organisation; and

3.2.4 The office bearers, board, ex co and members of CHASA shall not be personally liable for any loss suffered by any person as a result of an act or omission which occurs in good faith where the office-bearer is performing functions on behalf of the organisation.

3.2.4 CHASA shall have the right to sue or be sued in it's own name; and

3.2.5 CHASA shall have the right to buy, purchase and obtain it's own movable and immovable property and as such shall also have the right to sell or dispose of any and all such property.

#### 4. LOGO, COLOURS AND LOCATION:

CHASA's logo is a leopard head, on its own or within a rosette with the following subscript "Standards in Hunting" in Georgia Bold letter type. The wording in Afrikaans is "Standaarde vir Jag". Colours are gold and dark brown.

The location and head office of the association shall be in such locality in the Republic of South Africa as determined by the Board from time to time.

#### 5. OBJECTIVES:

CHASA has the following objectives:

- 5.1 To act as co- coordinator for and mouthpiece of the actions of it's entire membership and member associations.
- 5.2 To promote co-operation between **CHASA'S** Member Associations in order to serve the best interests of the entire membership of **CHASA**
- 5.3 To promote the general image of hunters in exercising their hunting activities in and ethical way and their contribution towards nature conservation on a national basis.
- 5.4 To ensure a high standard of knowledge and expertise amongst members of member associations, by establishing uniformed proficiency training and supporting training and accessing material.



- 5.5. To lay down uniform rules for the entry and judging of hunting trophies and to keep a collated database on entries to be published in book form.
- 5.6 To negotiate – for the benefit of all its members - with Government or any other authority on current or proposed legislation which may threaten the rights of a hunter or the owner of a firearm.
- 5.7 To negotiate – for the benefit of all its members - with government authorities to retain or acquire hunting rights for the benefit of all its members.
- 5.8 To co-operate nationally and internationally with other organizations and institutions which pursue similar objectives as **CHASA**, to promote conservation, replenishment and sustainable utilization of game and promote wildlife in general.
- 5.9 To promote hunting ethics as a high priority.
- 5.10 To negotiate hunting opportunities, destinations and benefits for members.
- 5.11. To promote the members' compliance to all Acts, Regulations and Ordinances relevant to hunting and nature conservation.
- 5.12 To promote the publication of events within the hunting environment in order to further enhance the image of the hunter.
- 5.13 To determine uniform standards for services and awards.
- 5.14 To equip members with knowledge and expertise necessary to make an effective contribution to conservation and to promote and protect the future of hunting.

## 6. MEMBERSHIP OF CHASA:

Requirements for an organization to become a member of **CHASA**:

- 6.1 The prospective member association shall be a legal entity in its own right and shall have its own constitution and banking account.
- 6.2 The prospective member association/organization shall support the mission and objectives of **CHASA** and shall be subject to the constitution and disciplinary code of **CHASA**.
- 6.3 The prospective member association/ organization's proposed membership of **CHASA** shall not be to the substantial detriment of another member association.
- 6.4 The application for membership shall be approved by a two third majority of the Board.



## 7. FUNCTIONING OF CHASA:

Although members and member associations are subject to the constitution and disciplinary code of **CHASA**, member associations shall remain autonomous regarding the management of their own business within their organisations, provided that a member association may not take a decision contrary to a resolution adopted by **CHASA**.

## 8. CHASA BOARD:

The management of CHASA shall be vested in the management body known as the Board of **CHASA**, representing the highest authority within **CHASA**, and compiled as follows:

### 8.1 COMPILATION OF THE CHASA BOARD:

8.1.1 Each member association may appoint representatives from their association to have a seat on the CHASA Board - and who will be known as Board members on the following basis:

- If such a member association has
- less than a 100 members - 1 Board member
- Between 100 to 499 members – 2 Board members
- 500 or more members - 3 Board members

8.1.2 The number of Board members are determined by the number of paid up members of an association whose membership fees have been received by **CHASA** for the previous financial term. In the event of joining of a new association, the number of board members will be determined according to the paid-up members whose membership fees have been paid over to **CHASA** during the financial term of joining.

8.1.3 Board members shall be appointed for a period of one calendar year. Each association shall make it's own decision appointing its board members. Board members shall be considered as empowered to represent their member associations.

8.1.4 A Board member may appoint a proxy to act on his behalf at a Board meeting. The proxy must be in writing and shall be handed to the chairman before or during constituting of the meeting.

8.1.5 If a Board member is elected to the Executive , his association shall appoint another Board member in his place

8.1.6 If necessary , additional board members can be co-opted by the Board for a



specific period. Such members will have no voting power.

- 8.1.7 Meetings of the Board will be chaired by the chairman, as referred to in section 9.1.1. In the event of his absence, the vice-chairman shall act as chairman of the meeting. If the vice-chairman is also absent, the Board shall appoint a chairman for the meeting.

## **8.2 QUORUM AND DECISION MAKING PROCESS AT BOARD MEETINGS:**

- 8.2.1 A meeting shall have a quorum if the number of the Board members and proxies present is fifty per cent (50 %) of the total number of CHASA Board members, or fifty per cent of the associations representing CHASA.
- 8.2.2 Decision making shall preferably be taken on a consensus basis by Board members present at a Board meeting.
- 8.2.3 If consensus cannot be reached, the chairman shall bring the proposal (with amendments) to the vote. Each Board member shall have one vote which he must cast personally, unless he has nominated someone in writing to vote on his behalf as outlined in 8.1.4
- 8.2.4 Voting shall be by a raise of hands unless the chairman rules that a matter is of a sensitive nature and should be resolved by secret ballot.
- 8.2.5 Executive Committee members shall be regarded as full Board members, but shall have no voting power at a Board meeting.
- 8.2.6 A Board member shall have no voting power, if he is appointed by a member association whose membership fees are not fully paid up.
- 8.2.7 Resolutions regarding amendment of the constitution, membership and matters which have a direct financial impact on member associations, shall be taken with a two third majority of valid votes at a meeting. All other matters shall be resolved by a majority of votes.
- 8.2.8 In the case of a deadlock of votes the chairman will have the deciding vote.
- 8.2.9 A decision taken by the Board shall be binding on all **CHASA** members and member associations, with the proviso that the proposed item appeared on the agenda of the meeting for consideration and has been circulated to member associations prior to the meeting.



### **8.3 POWERS OF THE ASSOCIATION:**

- 8.3.1 The Board has vested powers to do anything which is necessary to achieve the objectivities as outlined in Section 5, and / or to take any action which shall be to the benefit of CHASA and hunters in general.
- 8.3.2 The Board shall be vested with the power to focus on strategy, policy making, standardization, co-ordination and establishment of rules and procedures.
- 8.3.3 The Board is authorized to affiliate **CHASA** to any organization that may be beneficial to achieve **CHASA**'s goals.
- 8.3.4 The Board is authorized to appoint committees, task teams and officials as needed.
- 8.3.5 The Board can, its discretion, give awards to organizations and individuals in recognition of proven contributions made on a national basis in promoting hunting and conservation.
- 8.3.6 The Board can at its discretion make awards to individual members in recognition for ethical hunting - and training achievements.

### **8.4 MEETINGS OF THE CHASA BOARD:**

- 8.4.1 The Board is compelled to arrange at least three meetings per annum.
- 8.4.2 The date and venue of a meeting shall be determined by the Board at its previous meeting. In case it is impossible for the Board to determine, or when circumstances necessitate, the Executive Committee shall determine a date and venue.
- 8.4.3 A special meeting can be convened by member associations provided that:
- Fifty percent (50 %) of the Board members request such special meeting.
  - The request to convene a special meeting is in writing directed to the Secretary of the association. The purpose of the meeting must be stated.
  - The Secretary shall give 21 days (twenty one days) notice prior to date of the meeting , to each member association of such special meeting- such notice shall include the date, venue, time, purpose and agenda of the meeting.
- 8.4.4 The Secretary, from time to time, of the Executive shall keep full and complete written minutes of all meetings and the decisions taken at such





meetings and shall cause the same to be distributed to all board members for approval at the next Board meeting.

## 9. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**CHASA**'s executive authority is vested in the Executive Committee.

### 9.1 Compilation of the Executive Committee:

- 9.1.1 The Executive shall consist of a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, treasurer and president elected by the Board.
- 9.1.2 The secretary may also serve as the treasurer.
- 9.1.3 The Executive is elected by the Board and shall serve a term of two years. Such election shall be held at the last Board meeting of the year. The chairman and secretary shall be elected every uneven year and the treasurer, vice-chairman and president every even year. The election shall be conducted by way of nominations in writing, signed by the candidate, and voting shall be by secret ballot.
- 9.1.4 The Executive shall be chaired by the chairman as mentioned in section 9.1.1 and the latter shall be regarded as the leader of **CHASA**.
- 9.1.5 The president shall be the ceremonial head of **CHASA**.

### 9.2 Decision Making by Executive

- 9.2.1 The Executive shall preferably make decisions on a consensus basis.
- 9.2.2 If consensus cannot be reached, resolutions will be achieved by voting and each member shall have one vote.
- 9.2.3 In the event of a deadlock of votes, the chairman will have a casting vote.

### 9.3 Powers:

- 9.3.1 The Executive is vested with powers to execute policy decisions and adopted strategic direction by the Board.
- 9.3.2 The Executive is responsible for the management of the association's affairs on a day –to –day basis and is authorized to take action in resolving issues.
- 9.3.3 The Executive is vested with powers to take and execute decisions of an urgent nature on behalf of **CHASA** if a Board meeting cannot be arranged



within the available time. Such decision or action, however, shall not contradict any resolution taken by the Board.

- 9.3.3 The Executive is vested with powers to conclude agreements and to appoint staff within the framework of a budget approved by the Board.

## **10. FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

- 10.1 The financial year of the association shall be 1 January to 31 December.
- 10.2 Annual membership fees are determined by the Board from time-to-time and any increase shall be approved with a two third majority. Membership fees are paid by member associations according to the number of paid-up members of the association in the previous financial year.
- 10.3 The Treasurer of the association shall be empowered to open a banking account and/or an investment account for the association at a registered commercial bank convenient to him. The Executive as well as any person empowered by the Board shall have signing powers on such banking account. All cheques will be signed by two persons.
- 10.4 The organisation's income and property are not distributable to its office-bearers, executive committee, board or members in their personal capacity, except as reasonable compensation for services rendered.
- 10.5 The financial affairs of the association shall be conducted according to accepted financial practices and shall be audited annually.
- 10.6 The funds of the organisation may only be used to achieve its objectives as set out in paragraph 5.

## **11. DISCIPLINARY POWERS.**

- 11.1 The Board is empowered with disciplinary powers to reprimand a member, a board member, an office bearer or a member association of **CHASA** and may decide to impose disciplinary measures on individuals or groupings of **CHASA**.
- 11.2 Any individual or grouping not abiding by a decision of the Board, or act in such a manner which put the good name and integrity of **CHASA** in jeopardy, or violates the ethical code of the hunting community or which prejudices co-operation within **CHASA**, or prejudices the good trust which prevail amongst individuals and groupings, can be subject to one or more of the following disciplinary steps:

- 11.2.1 Be reprimanded





- 11.2.2 Be temporarily prohibited to attend meetings
  - 11.2.3 Temporary suspension of membership
  - 11.2.4 Suspension of membership
  - 11.2.5 Any other disciplinary action deemed necessary by the Board
- 11.3 The disciplinary procedures taken in this regard are defined in the Disciplinary Code which is approved by the Board from time-to-time.

## 12. MEMBERSHIP:

Apart from the allocation of certain types of Membership to *inter alia*, junior members, family members and honorary members, membership with **CHASA** are divided into two main categories, namely Members and Dedicated Members.

### 12.1 MEMBERSHIP VIA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS:

Membership of **CHASA** via one of its member associations is open for the general public, with the proviso that an applicant, with his/her application, - confirms that he/she supports the principles of nature and game conservation, endorses the aims of ethical hunting as well as the constitution and aims of the relevant member association.

### 12.2 DEDICATED MEMBERS :

12.2.1 To be registered as a Dedicated Member, a prospective dedicated member shall :

- Already be a dignified member of **CHASA** via a Member Association of **CHASA**;
- Have already completed the prescribed training for dedicated hunters successfully.
- Comply with all the requirements in Act 60 of 2000 w.r.t Dedicated Hunters.

12.2.2 Such member accept and give permission that **CHASA** and/ or the relevant Member Association may supply all information to the Registrar of the Central Firearm Register regarding a Dedicated member's lapsed status as a Dedicated Hunter, or the termination thereof, as specifically prescribed in the Regulations in terms of Act 60 of 2000. (or any other Act)

12.2.3 Such member accept and give permission that **CHASA** or the relevant member association may from time-to -time re -evaluate and adjudicate



the *bona fides* and activities to be a dedicated member and undertake further that no professional hunting business shall be conducted on the strength of the dedicated hunter status issued to him.

- 12.2.4 **CHASA** reserves the exclusive right to terminate the dedicated status of a member, should such a dedicated member no longer comply with the requirements for dedicated status, and shall forward the information of such termination to the Registrar of the Central Firearms Register or any relevant authority. Contemplation of terminating the dedicated status of a member shall be timeously conveyed in writing to such member, which member shall be given the opportunity to make representations to a committee appointed by the Board against the proposed action.

### 13. **Amendments to the Constitution:**

The Constitution may be amended at any meeting of the Board via a resolution taken by a two third majority of the delegates present, provided that notice of such amendments are fully motivated and that notice was given at the previous meeting of the Board. Amendments of an insignificant nature can be conducted in any other way as unanimously ruled by the Board at a meeting.

### 14. **DISSOLUTION:**

The Association shall dissolve by a two thirds majority decision at a meeting of the Board and the assets of the association shall be transferred to the member associations on a pro-rata basis according to membership count, unless resolved otherwise by the Board. If no other member associations exist it will be transferred to another non-profit organisation having similar objectives.

The Constitution as amended was approved and accepted by members of the Board at its meeting held on 18 May 2019.



**Chairman**



**Secretary**





Freedom to Hunt / Vryheid om te Jag