

DURHAM REGION FIELD NATURALISTS CONSTITUTION

- ARTICLE 1: Name
Section 1: The name of this Club shall be Durham Region Field Naturalists (DRFN).
- ARTICLE 2: Purposes – Conservation through Education
Section 1: To increase the knowledge and appreciation of the natural history of our region.
Section 2: To foster and increase interest in the preservation of our natural resources, e.g. encourage nature reserves etc.
Section 3: To compile natural history records for our region.
Section 4: To provide opportunity for nature lovers to meet, hear educational presentations, exchange views and observations and so increase the appreciation of the wonders and beauties of the natural world.
Section 5: To lead and facilitate field trips to learn about and experience nature.
Section 6: To carry out projects, as a Club and in co-operation with other community groups, to conserve and protect the environment within the region.
- ARTICLE 3: Membership and Dues
Section 1: Membership in this Club shall be open to the general public.
Section 2: The annual dues of the Club shall be set by the Executive, prior to the beginning of each fiscal year. The membership categories shall be: Life, Individual and Family.
Section 3: Dues shall be payable annually as of September 1st.
Section 4: New members joining after March 1st, in any year, shall be paid-up members to September 1st of the following year.
- ARTICLE 4: Executive and Officers
Section 1: The Executive of the Club shall consist of: President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, Conservation, Membership, Newsletter, Publicity, Ontario Nature (ON) Representative, Outings and Programme.
Section 2: A Nominating Committee will be appointed annually at the March meeting to present a slate of officers at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). The Nominating Committee will consist of two members of the Executive and at least one bona fide member not on the Executive. Additional nominations for any office may be made by any member in good standing. The Executive shall be elected by a majority vote of the bona fide members present at the Annual General Meeting, for a term of two years.
Section 3: In the event of an office becoming vacant before the expiration of the term, the Executive shall have the power to appoint a member to fill the vacancy.
Section 4: The Duties of the Officers shall be as follows:
President: To give guidance and direction for all DRFN activities and with the assistance of the Vice-president, be responsible for presiding at all general and executive meetings.
Vice-president: To assist the President and act in the President's stead as required.
Secretary: To keep an accurate account of the Annual General Meeting and all executive meetings and to distribute the minutes as appropriate. To carry on necessary correspondence as requested.
Treasurer: To receive and dispense all monies and keep an accurate account of same. To annually report to CRA. To annually arrange, book and pay for the meeting venue.

Conservation: To compile natural history records for our region and deal with conservation issues as directed by the Executive.

Membership: To maintain a current roster of membership; register returning members each fall and register new members throughout the year.

Newsletter: To produce, edit and issue the DRFN Newsletter.

Publicity: To maintain the DRFN web site, Facebook page and display board; and to represent DRFN at local nature related events when requested.

ON Rep: To attend ON meetings and bring information from ON to the DRFN.

Outings: To plan and execute outings for the DRFN

Programme: To arrange programmes for meetings and ensure the speaker is welcomed, thanked and paid.

ARTICLE 5: Meetings

Section 1: Regular meetings shall be held monthly, with the exception of June, July, August and December.

The order of General Meetings shall be:

1. Call to order
2. Welcoming of members, new members and visitors
3. Business
4. Executive reports
5. Introduction of speaker, speaker's presentation
6. Thanking of speaker
7. Adjournment

The order of the AGM and Executive Meetings shall be:

1. Call to order/ Approval of Agenda
2. Correspondence
3. Review of the minutes of the previous meeting
4. Business arising from the minutes
5. Reports – President, Vice-president, Treasurer, Conservation, Membership, Newsletter, ON Rep, Outings, Programmes, Publicity, Treasurer,
6. New Business
7. Next meeting

Section 2: The Annual General Meeting of DRFN shall be held in May of each year. A quorum of the members shall consist of at least 15 bona fide members.

Section 3: Special meetings of the Club may be called by the Executive or upon written request of any three members in good standing provided a notification is given to all members.

Section 4: *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern this Club in all cases to which they are applicable.

ARTICLE 6: Amendments

Section 1: This constitution may be amended by a vote of two thirds of the members present at any meeting provided that notification is given to all bona fide members.

Section 2: All members shall receive advance notice of the proposed amendment to the Constitution at least two weeks before the meeting. Notice of all meetings of the Club may be given by e-mail.

As approved by the Members on October 30th 1956 and also inclusive of amendments of October 29th 1957, March 30th 1959, November 15th 1960, April 1967 and May 29th 2017.