

Preamble to the Constitution of Big Stick Surfing Association

The Big Stick Surfing Association stands for fellowship, sportsmanship, respect for the environment and community service. The Club intends to be a contributing member of a decent society both in the water as surfers and out of the water as responsible citizens.

Big Stick Surfing Association members enjoy and respect each Club member as a friend and surfing companion. That respect extends to non-Club surfers, as well. Big Stick Surfing Association is not dedicated to competition, but to companionship.

**THE CONSTITUTION OF THE
BIG STICK SURFING ASSOCIATION
SANTA CRUZ CALIFORNIA
October 5, 1983**

ARTICLE I

NAME:

The name of this Club shall be Big Stick Surfing Association.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE:

Big Stick Surfing association is sincerely committed to the following ideals of surfing: preservation of the art longboarding; fellowship among longboarders, concern for the ocean environment, and goodwill with all surfers.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP:

The composition of the membership shall be provided in the Bylaws of this Club.

ARTICLE IV

MEETINGS:

The Club shall meet regularly once a month or as otherwise provided in the Bylaws of this club. Special meetings may be called by a majority vote at any regular meetings at which a quorum is present.

ARTICLE V

INITIATION FEES AND DUES:

Every member of the Club shall pay fees and dues as provided in the Bylaws of the club.

ARTICLE VI

OFFICERS:

(a.) The officers of the Club shall be President, Vice President, and such other officers may be provided in the Bylaws of this Club. All officers, together with past officers and Club Founder shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Club as detailed in the Bylaws, having general administrative powers. The officers shall be selected as provided in the Bylaws of the Club.

(b.) The term of each officer shall commence on January 1, and shall continue for two years.

(c.) The President may not hold office for more than two terms or a maximum of four years.

(d.) Partial terms - If an individual takes over as President for less than one year due to the position being vacated, that individual may run for two terms.

ARTICLE VII

QUORUM:

A majority of the active membership shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business of the Club.

ARTICLE VIII

CHARTER:

The sport of longboard surfing, begun in Hawaii in the 1700s, has developed into what is today a unique sport founded on friendship and camaraderie. The purpose of this Club is the preservation of the spirit of longboard surfing and its tradition of fellowship and respect for the sea. To this end: we pledge ourselves to high standards of conduct and sportsmanship, in and out of the water. It is our hope that, by our example, the sport of longboard surfing will benefit and thrive. Long live big boards and the Big Stick Surfing Association!

THE BYLAWS OF BIG STICK SURFING ASSOCIATION

1. MEMBERSHIP

1.1. Eligibility. Any person, regardless of race, religion, age or surfing ability, who conducts his or herself in a reasonable and polite manner, is eligible for membership.

1.1. Application for membership. Prospective members shall:

1.1.1. Be introduced by their sponsor at a General Meeting.

1.1.2. Receive (1) Club application/personal history form and introductory material describing Club from Membership Secretary or a designated Club officer. 2) Meeting attendance card that must be countersigned by a Club officer to indicate prospective member has attended three Club activities (See 1.3 below).

1.1.3. Return attendance card to the Membership Secretary. Upon the receipt of the Application, individual becomes an Applicant to the Club.

1.2. Responsibilities of Applicant. Subsequent to submitting application, Applicant must attend a total of three (3) Club activities so that Applicant and Club members can get acquainted.

1.3. Review of Application. At the second or third Executive Committee meeting following the receipt of the Application, the Executive Committee has the option to:

1.3.1. Evaluate the Applicant's references. Sponsor should attend this meeting, if possible. Club members with relevant information about the Applicant are invited to attend.

1.3.2. Vote on eligibility. After reviewing application, the Executive Committee will vote on the eligibility of the Applicant.

1.4. Induction of new members. Upon passing the Executive Committee's review and having attended three Club activities, Applicant may be inducted into the Club at the next General meeting.

1.5. A member in good standing is defined as any individual who is current in their dues and not under disciplinary action.

- 1.6. Sponsorship of new members. Any member in good standing may sponsor an applicant. There shall be a ninety (90) day period before which a new member may not themselves sponsor new members.
- 1.7. Revocation of membership. If it is claimed by any member that another member has exhibited conduct that is contrary to the tenets of good sportsmanship described in the Club Charter, the member claiming the infraction(s) must submit a description of the infraction(s) in writing to the Executive Committee and Executive Committee will determine if disciplinary actions or revocation of membership is warranted. The entire Executive Committee must be informed of a disciplinary review before any action can be taken. The Executive Committee will decide on action based on discussion with the member in question and after due consideration of statements submitted by the membership.

2. DUES

- 2.1. Annual dues shall be payable at the first of every calendar year and are deemed late if not received by March 30 of each year. If not paid by March 30, membership is to be terminated. If financial hardship prevents a member from paying dues, such member must contact any member of the Executive Committee who will bring action to the Executive Committee to determine if fees can be extended, reduced or waived.
- 2.2. Dues structure is to be determined by the Executive Committee.
- 2.3. New members must pay dues upon being inducted into the Club and are valid for the remainder of the calendar year.
- 2.4. The Executive Committee will determine if a prorated rate for dues is appropriate for new members joining after March 30.

3. MEETINGS

- 3.1. General Meeting. The Club shall meet on the first Saturday of every month at a site deemed appropriate for all members.
- 3.2. Meetings can be cancelled during a month when another significant event such as a holiday party happens.
- 3.3. General Meetings are open to members in good standing, their family and their friends.

3.4. Conduct of Business at Club Meetings.

3.4.1. Quorum. A minimum of 20% of the paid memberships shall be required to pass measures proposed at a General Meeting. In the event that a quorum is not present or if the number needed for a quorum cannot be determined, the matter shall be deferred for presentation and resolution at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

3.4.2. Decisions at General Meetings. It is expected that minor matters not affecting the character of the Club or its future will be decided at General Meetings.

3.4.3. A quorum of the Membership at a General Meeting may vote to spend up to \$500 or an amount not to exceed 25 percent of the Club Treasury. Expenditures will be subject to review for feasibility by the Executive Committee.

3.4.4. Matters specifically excluded. Matters excluded from decision at a General Meeting shall be those: 1.) Contrary to the Constitution or Charter. 2.) affecting the Club's good name. 3.) that might otherwise be expected to seriously impact the future of the Club or its character.

3.4.5. Determination of excluded issues and their resolution. It shall be the responsibility of the Club Officer(s) presiding to determine whether an issue raised at a General Meeting fulfills one or more of the above criteria. Such issues must then be deferred for consideration at a meeting of the Executive Committee. If no consensus can be reached at a meeting of the Executive Committee then the issue must be presented to the entire Membership under the rules governing resolution of non-routine issues by Membership voting (Sec 7.2.4.2.).

3.5. Executive Committee meeting. The Executive Committee meets the second Monday of the month.

3.5.1. Meetings may be cancelled only if all members of the Executive Board are notified and agree to the cancellation.

3.5.2. All members may attend Executive Committee meetings; however only the Executive Committee can vote on respective issues.

4. OFFICERS

4.1. Officers of the club shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Sergeant at Arms and shall follow the duties and responsibilities of office as dictated below. Officers may appoint assistants to help fulfill duties.

4.2. The President

4.2.1. The President shall preside at Executive Committee and General Membership meetings.

4.2.2. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

4.2.3. The President is in charge of developing the meeting agendas in conjunction with the Secretary.

4.3. The Vice President

4.3.1. The Vice President shall act as an assistant to the President and assume the duties of President should the President not be able to attend stated functions.

4.3.2. The Vice President is in charge of arranging meeting sites/locations/times and assisting the President with other activities such as handling the monthly meeting raffle.

4.4. The Secretary

4.4.1. The Secretary shall be in charge of meetings should the President and Vice President not be able to attend.

4.4.2. The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of proceedings.

4.4.3. The Secretary shall record all minutes and inform the general membership of all activities that occurred at sanctioned meetings in a timely fashion.

4.4.4. The Secretary shall maintain an up-to-date book of minutes and correspondence as well as assist the President in developing meeting agendas.

4.4.5. The Secretary shall be the holder of past minutes of the Club and be responsible for passing onto the subsequent elected secretary.

4.5. The Treasurer

- 4.5.1. The Treasurer shall be in charge of Club finances.
- 4.5.2. The Treasurer shall track all expenses and income for the Club and report stated activities on a monthly basis.
- 4.5.3. The Treasurer shall receive all monies for the Club and deposit them in the name of the Club.
- 4.5.4. The Treasurer shall be responsible for filling out appropriate tax filings in the name of the Club, should it be necessary to do so.
- 4.5.5. The Treasurer shall be in charge of meetings should the President, Vice President or Secretary not be able to attend.
- 4.5.6. The Treasurer shall not spend Club money without approval from the Executive Committee.

4.6. The Sergeant at Arms

- 4.6.1. The Sergeant at Arms shall oversee meetings to assure that meetings are conducted in an orderly fashion.
- 4.6.2. The Sgt at Arms is the official Club "greeter" for new members and guests.
- 4.6.3. The Sgt at Arms distributes all printed matter during meetings and make sure that extras are picked up at the conclusion of meetings.

4.7. Terms of office. The term of office for all officers is two years. With the exception of the office of President, officers may serve an unlimited number of consecutive terms. No one shall serve as President of the Club for more than two terms or four years, whichever is less.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- 5.1. The elected officers of the Club shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Sergeant at Arms.
- 5.2. If an officer must, during their term of office, resign or vacate their position, a special election may be held to fill the position. The exception being President where the Vice President will assume the office of President for

the remainder of the term. If the Secretary or Treasurer's office is vacated and a suitable volunteer is available, he or she may be appointed to fill the remainder of the term or until a special election can be held to fill the position. A special election must be held if 50 percent or more of the term remains.

- 5.3. During September of an election year, the Club newsletter, which is sent to all members in good standing, will contain a nominating form.
- 5.4. During October, members in good standing may use the nominating form to nominate any member in good standing for an officer position providing that member has been in the Club for a minimum of 18 months.
- 5.5. All nominations must be sent to the Election Chair.
- 5.6. Nominations will close on October 21 of the election year.
- 5.7. The Election Chair will contact every person who has been nominated to determine if said person wants to run.
- 5.8. A ballot will be prepared by the Election Chair to be sent out in the November issue of the Club newsletter. If there isn't a newsletter, then the ballot will be sent out on its own.
- 5.9. Only members in good standing may vote. Only one vote per membership regardless if it is a student, single, family or senior membership.
- 5.10. All ballots will be sent or given to the Election Chair for tabulating.
- 5.11. The Election Chair shall keep a record that includes a list of all nominees and ballots until the election is over.
- 5.12. The record is subject to review upon completion of the elections.
- 5.13. The last day that ballots can be counted towards the election shall be either December 1 or the Holiday Party, whichever comes last.
- 5.14. Upon completion of the balloting, ballots shall be counted by the Election Chair and the Membership Secretary. There shall be no quorum required for election of Club Officers.

5.15. The results of the election shall be announced and new officers installed at the Club meeting in January following the election.

6. APPOINTED POSITIONS

6.1. The positions of Membership Secretary, Storekeeper, Contest Director, Newsletter Editor, Election Chair, Surfari Coordinator and Club Historian shall be filled by appointment by the Executive Committee and shall serve at will of the Committee

6.2. Selection of appointees. The opportunity to fill a vacant position shall be open to any member in good standing, and shall be announced in at least one issue of the Club Newsletter prior to an Executive Committee meeting at which time candidates will be interviewed, credentials evaluated and abilities appraised. If these are in order, the candidate will be appointed.

6.3. Appointee character. Inasmuch as these are appointed positions of leadership within the Club and represent the Club in the community, appointees must be of the highest character and committed to the values and ideals which the club stands for.

6.4. Appointed positions shall be ad hoc members of the Executive Committee and are expected to attend both the General Meetings and the Executive Committee meetings every month at which the affairs for which they are responsible will be discussed. Appointees may vote, but their votes shall be advisory and not binding.

6.5. Appointees may delegate as few or as many of their duties to assistants as is practicable, considering always that they are responsible for the work delegated and the conduct of their assistants. Selection and dismissal of assistants shall be their responsibility. but any assistant may be dismissed for cause by the Executive Committee.

6.6. The term of appointed positions shall be two years, renewable at the option of the Executive Committee. When an appointee must tender their resignation, he or she must give at least three months notice of intent to leave in order to give the Club time to recruit a replacement, and will as much as possible, help train their successor.

6.7. Unsatisfactory Performance/Dismissal for cause. Should an appointee's

conduct or performance of his or her duties for the Club become less than satisfactory, that appointee shall meet with the Executive Committee at a regularly scheduled Executive Committee meeting and, through fair and open discussion, a course of corrective action will be determined. However, if the conduct or performance of duties is of such a nature that it is not amenable to correction, the appointee may be dismissed by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

6.8.STORE KEEPER

- 6.8.1. The Store Keeper shall be responsible for purchasing, storing and selling merchandise to Club members. The Store Keeper shall operate under the direction of the Executive Committee and all purchases shall be subject to prior approval by the Executive Committee, as will new designs prior to printing.
- 6.8.2. The Store Keeper shall be responsible for bringing merchandise to Club functions and having it available for purchase by members. Mother person may be designated to fulfill this responsibility if the Store Keeper is unable to attend a function.
- 6.8.3. The Store Keeper shall at all times try to gain the lowest possible price from vendors while assuring that merchandise is of the highest quality.
- 6.8.4. The Store Keeper shall maintain accurate records of inventory and sales and shall be prepared to report on the state of the Club stores to the Executive Committee.

6.9.CONTEST DIRECTOR

- 6.9.1. The Contest Director shall be responsible for organizing Club efforts in competitive events, and shall be the liaison between the Club and other clubs regarding competition.
- 6.9.2. The Contest Director shall be responsible for ensuring that the Club's competitive efforts are carried on in keeping with the Charter of the Club, and that the principles for which the Club stands are never overshadowed by the spirit of competition.
- 6.9.3. Contest slots must be open equally to all members (within the appropriate class/divisions), and must be allotted on a first-to-pay-entry-

fee basis, without exception.

6.9.4. The Contest Director shall maintain correspondence with other clubs regarding competitive events and shall communicate contest opportunities to the membership so that all members have an equal chance to participate.

6.9.5. The Contest Director shall be responsible for coordinating contest-related sub-committees as well as gaining sponsorship funds to help offset the cost to the Club and the members of competitive events.

6.9.6. The Contest Director shall track and record performance of members surfing in Club-sanctioned events and shall report contest results to the club as soon as possible after the event.

6.10. NEWSLETTER EDITOR

6.10.1. The Newsletter Editor shall be responsible for editing, production and mailing to the membership and to others as directed by the Executive Committee the Club's newsletter in which activities of the membership and the Club shall be reported.

6.10.2. The newsletter is the voice of the Club and the Editor shall ensure that the newsletter reflects the charter of the Club promoting friendship and camaraderie, the preservation of longboard surfing and respect for the ocean environment.

6.10.3. The Editor shall encourage members to submit articles of interest to the newsletter as long as they are keeping with the principles and values of the Club.

6.10.4. The newsletter Editor shall see that any article or item submitted for publication which may be controversial shall be clearly attributed to its author, and the Editor shall, as much as possible, gain the author's consent to any editorial changes in a submitted article or item prior to publication.

6.11. MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

6.11.1. The Membership Coordinator is responsible for maintaining records of prospective, current and past members of the Club, and seeing that the Club Charter and Bylaws are followed in regards to

membership.

6.11.2. The Membership Coordinator shall maintain a database of all prospective, current and past members.

6.11.3. At the direction of the Executive Committee, the Membership Coordinator shall give prospective members the membership materials as per Section 1.1, and will conduct initial character checks of potential members and report his/her findings to the Executive Committee prior to induction.

6.11.4. The Membership Coordinator will work closely with the Treasurer to track paid/unpaid dues status of each member and shall apprise the Executive Committee, upon request, of the state of membership.

6.12. ELECTION CHAIR

6.12.1. The Election Chair in concert with the Membership Coordinator shall be responsible for arranging nominations, developing election ballots, mailing of election ballots, tabulating election results, keeping Executive Committee apprised of election status and announcing election results.

6.12.2. Neither the Election Chair, nor any members assisting with election activities, may be running for an office themselves, and must conduct Club elections fairly and equitably so that all members who choose to stand for election have an equal opportunity to attain office.

6.13. SURFARI CHAIR

6.13.1. The Surfari Chair shall coordinate Club surf trips, making necessary reservations and payments, after authorization by the Executive Committee, and collecting funds from participants to offset costs to the Club.

6.13.2. The Surfari Chair shall be responsible for communicating with the membership, through the newsletter or otherwise, about Club surf trips, so that all members are informed about the event and have an opportunity to participate if they wish.

6.14. CLUB HISTORIAN

6.14.1. The Club Historian shall be responsible for keeping the Club scrapbook and add to it with memorabilia. additional photos, newsletters, press clippings, etc. so that the Club's activities are chronicled

7. Committees

7.1. The Club shall have certain standing committees to direct and carry out the business of the Club.

7.2. Executive Committee

7.2.1. The Executive Committee will attempt to represent the best interests of the membership in all matters pertaining to the function and well-being of the Club and to relieve the membership of "housekeeping" or other decisions not warranting a General Membership vote.

7.2.2. Executive Committee membership. Committee membership shall be limited to current officers and past officers in good standing (as defined in Membership, Section 1.5.) Only these individuals are authorized to vote on the Executive Committee decisions. Majority vote will decide issues.

7.2.3. Routine decisions. Decisions on matters of the type noted below shall be made by a simple majority vote of the Executive Committee.

7.2.3.1. Housekeeping decisions shall include the type, number, colors, etc. of sundries and clothing for sale to membership; the time and place of Club activities; special activities and matters of similar importance.

7.2.3.2. Expenditures not exceeding \$200 such as those relating to the cost of mailings, food/beverages at Club activities, etc.

7.2.3.3. Club's good name. Matters that might result in the exposure of the Club name to unfavorable publicity.

7.2.3.4. Review prospective Club members, committee applications and disciplinary issues.

7.2.4. Non-routine decisions. Certain circumstances will arise from time to time which will automatically cause a decision to leave the jurisdiction of the Executive Committee and move to the membership to be decided

upon by a general vote.

7.2.4.1. Definition of non-routine. A matter will automatically be deemed non-routine and require a vote of the general membership when:

7.2.4.1.1. The matter would result in a non-housekeeping expenditure of greater than \$200 from the Club Treasury. In this category would be money for parties, charitable donations in the Club's name and all organizational memberships to which the Club belongs or wishes to belong.

7.2.4.1.2. The matter is controversial in nature. This is difficult to define in the abstract but in practice if one or more members of the Executive Committee disagree on a substantive matter then the responsibility for the decision transfers to the membership. The original decision to have the Club participate in contests is an example of "substantive matter."

7.2.4.2. Resolution of non-routine issues by membership voting:

7.2.4.2.1. Explanation of issues to Membership. Persons representing each side of an issue are responsible for writing text not to exceed 250 words describing arguments for or against a proposition. This text from each group will be provided to the opposition who will then write a rebuttal not to exceed 100 words. None of the text may be edited by the Newsletter Editor.

7.2.4.2.2. Voting procedure. The name and address of the person(s) responsible for tallying the votes will be published as part of 7.2.4.2.1. The tallying must be performed by two individuals acceptable to the dissenting sides of the issue. A quorum for deciding non-routine issues will be a minimum of 35% of the paid memberships.

7.3. Entertainment Committee

7.3.1. The Entertainment Committee is responsible for coordinating parties hosted by the Club. Separate sub-committees may be established to run individual events.

7.3.2. Responsibilities. Entertainment Committee is responsible for reserving appropriate facilities, arranging entertainment, coordinating food and beverage service, communicating planned events to the general membership so that the entire membership has the opportunity to attend, adhering to budgets set forth by the Executive Committee.

8. Special Awards

8.1. The Club will award, if deemed appropriate, certain Special Awards described below. These will be selected by popular vote of the membership following Election Rules as defined in Section 5 of the Bylaws under an appointed Election Chair (Section 6.12.) As Club finances permit, each honoree shall receive a plaque or a similar token stating the honor. When a perpetual trophy exists, honoree's name will be engraved on it and it may be kept for a year after which it must be returned.

8.2. Awards will consist of the following:

8.2.1. Club Kahuna. As in Old Hawaii, the Kahuna was the spiritual guide of the people, embodying the values and ideals of the society, so is the Club Kahuna Award to be given to the member who epitomizes the ideals of the Club, and/or special wisdom of the clean and surfing.

8.2.1.1. It shall be the duty of the Club Kahuna to administer the oath of induction into the Club to those persons entering the Club as new members. In the Kahuna's absence, the President, Vice President, other officer or past officer may take over these duties.

8.2.2. The Club TOA.D Award is to be given to the member who, during the year, has shown the greatest amount of indomitable courage in surfing, taking off in conditions that, in themselves, appear hazardous to life. limb and board, and pushing the limit of self- preservation as in "Take Off And Die."

8.2.3. The Club Surf Partner is given to that individual the membership selects as being the half of a relationship left supporting the surfing half, while latter half is in the waves, on safari or lazing about on tropical beaches.

8.2.4. Other awards. In addition to the above, the Officers or membership may choose to honor or recognize other individuals as appropriate.

8.3. Duration. All awards are for one year, January through December.

8.4. Election of Special Awards

8.4.1. Election year. During a year in which the club is holding a general election, nomination and election of awardees will be carried out as part of the Election Procedures detailed in Section 5 of the Bylaws.

8.4.2. Non-Election year. Nominations should take place in October, closing on October 21. All nominations are to be sent to an Election Chair (Section 6.12) and a ballot prepared by the Chair will be mailed in the November newsletter for voting. Ballots must be received no later than December 1 (or a date agreed upon by the person producing the awards so that ample time is allotted to produce the awards). Special awards will be announced as part of the Holiday Party festivities.

9. Club Legends

9.1. The club shall recognize as Honorary Members individuals who were key to the success and enhancement of surfing during the 1960's or before and also personify the spirit of the Club, namely friendship and camaraderie

9.2. Benefits. As Club funds allow, Legends will be sent a Club newsletter free of charge. Legends are also welcome to attend and participate in all Club functions.

9.3. Privacy. Legends addresses and/or phone numbers will not be made available to the general public or to the general membership unless the Legend wishes the Club to do so.

9.4. Membership fee. Legends who wish to become paying members of the Club can do so at the "Seniors" rate and do not have to fulfill the minimum meeting criteria.

10. Amendments

10.1. These Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the members by written ballot sent to the entire paid membership. To ensure fairness and adequate discussion, the procedure described for resolving "non-routine" Club business (sec. 7.2.4.2) shall be followed.

ADDENDUM

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF BIG STICK SURFING ASSOCIATION

Amendment I

PREAMBLE TO THE CLUB CONSTITUTION

The Club Credo is hereby incorporated into the Constitution as its preamble to read as follows: The Big Stick Surfing Association stands for fellowship, sportsmanship, respect for the environment and community service. The Club intends to be a contributing member of a decent society both in the water as surfers and out of the water as responsible citizens.

Big Stick Surfing Association members enjoy and respect each Club member as a friend and surfing companion. That respect extends to non-club surfers, as well. Big Stick Surfing Association is not dedicated to competition, but to companionship.

Amendment II

COMPETITION

Big Stick Surfing Association will only compete, officially as a Team, in those events that provide funds to charitable causes. The Club will not have a specific team dedicated to competition only. All members in good standing with the Club will have an equal chance to participate in these activities on a first to pay basis.

Participation in competitive events should not compromise the fact that the Club will always stand for friendship and camaraderie both in and out of the water.