

To become a member of the OCC.

1. Fill out a membership application and a personal check for the dues and initiation fee.
2. Read the OCC Rules, the By-Laws and sign the Letter of Understanding.
3. You must come before the board of the Ossian Conservation Club; and bring with you the application, a personal check and a Signed Letter of Understanding.

**Meetings are usually held
the first Friday of each month
at 7:30 PM.**

To Find Us:

In Ossian turn west on Mill Street (at Heyerly's Bakery) and travel approximately 1.9 miles till road "T"s, then turn right, (north on 100 E.). Travel .4 mile to 1st gravel road and turn left (west) at OCC sign just before bridge, travel west .5 mile to 2nd drive, follow road to Clubhouse.

Updated 12/20/2015

WELCOME TO THE OCC

This is a brief letter to tell you as a possible new member how the Ossian Conservation Club got started.

According to the Ossian Journal, in 1936, Mr. Elmer Moser bought a farm west of Ossian, and in 1940 built a dam forming what is known today as Moser Lake. With the donation of the lake he also gave twenty acres to the north of the lake to build a clubhouse and have enough land to have a nice sized park or whatever the people thought would fit the situation.

The clubhouse was built from the timbers from the basin of the lake before the lake flooded completely. The clubhouse cost the taxpayers nothing unless they wanted to donate their time and labor to erect the building.

A little history of the land itself. The lake and surroundings were once part of an Indian reservation, which included about six square miles of what is now Jefferson Township. Public records show that on February 21, 1848, the United States of America deeded a part of the tract to Absalom Wayne, an Indian, a member of the Pinckishaw Tribe. The Miami Indians occupied the northern part of the reservation in Allen County. In 1840 it is said these two tribes numbered about 2,000. The land which was legally owned by Absalom Wayne is now the Northeast bank and is also covered in part by Moser Lake.

The first dam on the present site was built about the year 1852 by James Glass, and furnished waterpower for about four weeks, day and night, each spring for operation of a sawmill. This dam was of logs and earth and the mantelpieces in the present clubhouse were made from a piece of timber that was submerged for about 100 years, as wood entirely covered by water does not decay.

The Ossian Conservation Club provided a record and picture of Elmer Moser to become a part of the clubhouse, to honor Elmer Moser and all who took part in helping to provide a shelter and playground for all who desire to use it and to help make Ossian and the community a better place to live.

Welcome
Ossian Conservation Club

Updated 1/4/2013

OSSIAN CONSERVATION CLUB RULES

Card carrying members and immediate family only, except at club events.

Card carrying member is entitled to a total of 4 guests per calendar year. The name of the guest **MUST** be signed in with the card - carrying member's name or membership number.

Camping and picnics by members is encouraged in the designated area east of the Moser Lake Clubhouse. Please **CLEAN UP AFTER YOURSELF!**

Parking in authorized lots **ONLY!** Overflow parking is along side of the driveway. **NO PARKING ON GUN RANGE** except with prior approval of the Board of Directors.

Members only can leave their boats. They **MUST** be registered annually with the Caretaker. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

NO ALCOHOL and/or unlawful **DRUGS on the Ossian conservation Club Grounds.** Persons whose behavior exhibits the influence of **ALCOHOL or DRUGS** will not be permitted.

Gun and Bow Ranges are occasionally **CLOSED** during various scheduled activities for club and members' safety.

When shooting in special events; Archery, Pistol Match, Turkey Shoot, etc. The special rules of that event **MUST** be adhered to. The rules must be approved by the Board of Directors of the Ossian Conservation Club and adhered to by all participants.

The Caretaker and any member are authorized to enforce **ALL RULES.** The club has the right to monitor the grounds.

The combination on the lock at the gun range will be changed on January 1st each year.

No hunting allowed on club grounds. Trapping will be allowed with permission from the Board of Directors for the purpose of erosion control and property damage.

OSSIAN CONSERVATION CLUB GUN AND BOW RANGE RULES

All shooters must have a current membership card and show the card upon request of the caretaker, club member or Law Enforcement Officer.

Members have the right to **INSIST** on proper observance of firearm safety at **ALL** times. Please promote safety at all times on or off the range. Everyone on the gun range should wear ear and eye protection. **SAFETY AT ALL TIMES!**

Keep range policed, shoot into the backstop only. Condition of the range is the responsibility of each shooter. **DON'T SHOOT THE POLES OR THE RED PAINTED AREAS.** Put targets between them.

If shooter ahead of you leaves a mess, report it, either in the sign in book, or tell the caretaker personally.

Monday thru Saturday shooting time starts at sunrise and is over at sunset. Sunday start time is at 12:00 noon and is over at sunset. The only exception is if approved by the Board of Directors.

ALL uncased firearms **MUST** be unloaded and their actions open until at the firing line. Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction **ALL** times.

NO minors under 18 years of age may shoot without adult supervision on any range at any time including special events.

Targets are to be placed on or against the backstop, nothing higher than six feet off the ground and **NOT** directly in front of the supporting poles or the painted red areas.

NO fully automatic firearms or devices added to a firearm that would simulate full auto fire on the gun range without written approval of the OCC Board of Directors.

NO “**Binary Triggers**” permitted.

NO glass targets.

NO “**bump firing**” or “**slide firing**” of any kind of weapon permitted.

NO “**Tannerite**” or any other exploding material or target of any kind shall be permitted.

A 30 minute time limit when shooters are waiting. All members and guests shooting **MUST** sign in.

Crossbows will be allowed to be shot on the gun range.

Crossbow shooters will provide their own bolt catching targets. They will follow all other gun range rules as well!!

MEMBERS AND THEIR GUEST ONLY MAY USE THE FIREARM AND ARCHERY RANGE AND THE LAKE.

BOW RANGE RULES

Other than scheduled archery events you must be an OCC member to use the Archery range.

Broad heads are not to be shot at OCC club targets. No sky draws. (Flat draws only)

All archers retrieve their own arrows at the same time on the practice range.

Crossbows can be shot on the archery range. It is recommended that crossbow shooters should provide their own targets.

NO PARKING OR DRIVING ON THE RANGE!

(Unless approved by the OCC Board of Directors)

ABUSE OR VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE ABOVE RULES WILL BE SUFFICIENT REASON TO SUSPEND MEMBERS FROM OUR CLUB

Thank You.

(Updated 12/18/2021)

BY-LAWS OF THE OSSIAN CONSERVATION CLUB. OSSIAN, INDIANA

ARTICLE I

The Officers of this Corporation shall consist of no more than nine (9) Directors. Said Directors to elect a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and up to five (5) delegates. A majority of Directors and Officers shall reside in Wells County, Indiana. All Directors shall be a dues paying member of this Corporation.

ARTICLE II

The President or his subordinate shall preside at all meetings of the Corporation. The Secretary shall issue all certificates of membership and in addition thereto shall perform all other duties usually pertaining to the office. The Treasurer shall perform the duties of keeping all books of account and shall have custody of all the monies and securities of the Corporation and in addition shall perform all other duties usually pertaining to the office. The Treasurer shall also submit financial reports showing the true financial condition of the Corporation at all annual meetings and at such other times as may be ordered by the President or Directors.

ARTICLE III

The regular meetings of the membership shall be held in the Clubhouse on the first Friday evening of each month, unless in the event of a holiday or special event, then it shall take place on a date and time to be determined by the director. Regular meetings of the Directors shall be held at such times and place as the Directors may determine. Special meetings of the membership may be called upon notice of said meeting, in writing by registered return receipt, mailed to the official address of the member not less than seven (7) days prior to the time of the meeting. It is the member's obligation to have current contact information filed with the Secretary of the club.

ARTICLE IV

The election of officers will take place at the first regular membership meeting held after the first of each year. There will be up to four Directors elected for a two (2) year term on the odd year and five Directors elected for a two (2) year term on the even year. Up to three (3) alternate Directors may be appointed by the Board of Directors only voting in the absence of a director. This will be a one (1) year term. Replacement Directors may be appointed by the Board as vacancies occur.

ARTICLE V

The Annual Meeting of the Corporation shall be held on the first Friday of January of each year in the Clubhouse, unless it is a New Year week-end, then it will be held on the following Friday. The OCC fiscal year runs from January 1st to December 31st.

ARTICLE VI

All members in good standing shall be entitled to vote on all questions at any meeting except Directors meetings. There shall be one vote per membership card. Voting must be done by the primary card holder.

ARTICLE VII

The annual dues for a membership in this organization shall be \$60.00 per voting member. For members age sixty-five (65) or over, annual dues will be \$50.00. An initiation fee of \$50.00 shall be paid in addition to the annual dues for new members. For a new member joining on or after June 1st, their dues, for that year only, shall be \$45.00, plus the initiation fee of \$50.00. For a new member age 65 or older joining on or after June 1st, their dues, for that year only, shall be \$35.00, plus the initiation fee of \$50.00. The annual renewal date is January 1st. A \$50.00 late charge will be assessed to the renewing member's dues if not paid by the February meeting of the New Year. Any family membership includes the primary member, spouse and or significant other, a maximum of two (2) adults and their children under eighteen (18) years of age.

New membership candidates, eighteen (18) years or older, may appear before the Board of Directors for membership approval or may use the absentee procedure, in which case the OCC, upon receiving the membership application with annual dues and initiation fee and signed letter of understanding from the

candidate, will present the application to the membership at the next membership meeting for approval. After the OCC receives the signed Letter of Understanding the OCC will mail the new member their membership card. Candidates will be held accountable for their conduct on OCC grounds. All members are required to have a signed Letter of Understanding on file with the Secretary of the Ossian Conservation Club.

ARTICLE VIII

All members who use the clubhouse or the premises shall be charged with the duties of keeping the same clean and in an orderly manner at all times. The sale or use of alcoholic beverages shall not be permitted. Local Not-for Profit organizations shall petition the Board of Directors of the Ossian Conservation Club for special exceptions and approval.

ARTICLE IX

Any member who willfully disobeys the By-Laws or any lawful order of the Board of Directors or membership may be disciplined by the Directors after notice. Membership privileges may be suspended of any determinate period. An ethics committee shall be formed to either uphold or revoke memberships. The ethics committee shall have the final decision.

ARTICLE X

The majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at all Directors meeting and eight (8) members shall constitute a quorum at any membership meeting. A majority of a quorum may decide all questions coming before the membership.

ARTICLE XI

Section A--The membership of the Ossian Conservation Club, Inc. shall be limited to 250 voting members with the following being the only exception: The child or children of any dues paid member, in good standing, shall within a (6) month period following his or her eighteenth (18th) birthday be allowed to become a voting member of the Club simply by paying the necessary dues, less the initiation fee, regardless of the numbers of prospective members on a waiting list at that time. If this person or persons elect to forgo this opportunity, they shall be treated as any prospective member in compliance with the membership quote and waiting list, dues and fees.

ARTICLE XII

The assets of the Club, upon dissolution, shall be donated to a pro-conservation group, association or organization.

ARTICLE XIII

These By-Laws may be amended, altered or repealed by a majority vote at any regular meeting of the Directors or at a special meeting of the Directors called for that purpose. They shall have the approval of the members at any regular meeting.

(Updated 10/10/2017)

Letter of Understanding

To the Ossian Conservation Club,

Date _____

I (print name) _____, have read and fully understand, and will comply with all Ossian Conservation Club Rules and By-Laws including, but not limited to, the following:

- membership application procedures
- membership dues, renewal dates and fees for late renewals
- all members must have a signed Letter of Understanding on file with OCC secretary
- rules of the gun range and hours of gun range operation
- rules of the bow range

I understand and agree with Article IX of the OCC By-Laws.

Signed _____

Updated 12/20/2015

OSSIAN CONSERVATION CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL Date _____

Name _____ E-mail _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ County _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

\$ _____ New Member (\$110) Dues & Initiation fee. \$ _____ New Member 65 & over (\$100) Dues & Initiation fee.

\$ _____ Renewal (\$60) After Feb. 1st add (\$50) \$ _____ Renewal 65 & over (\$50) After Feb. 1st add (\$50)

\$ _____ **Donation** \$ _____ New Member, June 1st (\$95) Dues & Initiation fee.

\$ _____ New Member 65 & over, June 1st (\$85) Dues & Initiation fee. \$ _____ **Total amount submitted.**

Member of the NRA _____, or member of other organization? _____

If this form is a Renewal, it and the dues may be mailed to the OCC.

If this form is an Application for new membership, it must be brought along with dues, initiation fee, and a **signed** letter of understanding to a membership meeting, which are usually held the first Friday of each month.

Ossian Conservation Club

1013 East 900 North

Ossian, IN. 46777

Updated 11/24/2021