

## Chapter Membership Policy

Suffolk-Nansemond Chapter, Izaak Walton League of America (S-N IWLA)

### *Applicants for Membership shall:*

- ✓ **Firstly, attend a regular members scheduled monthly dinner meeting.**
- ✓ **Secondly, attend a subsequent regular members scheduled monthly dinner meeting** or, alternatively, attend a scheduled chapter picnic at the park. Only after satisfying these first and second attendance requirements may an application be submitted. The application should indicate a committee or committees on which you wish to participate.
- ✓ **Be sponsored** by an active member-in-good-standing. An un-sponsored guest considering membership will be appointed a sponsor. The sponsor shall ensure understanding of chapter conservation practices and work-party participation, and park and range rules. The sponsor will be expected to brief the Board of Directors on the nominee prior to the Board of Director's vote by attending one of the regularly scheduled board meetings.
- ✓ **A criminal background check and Sex Offender Registry check will be completed** prior to board approval. Membership may be denied based on the criteria contained in the Suffolk-Nansemond Chapter's Criminal Background Screening Criteria for Exclusion.
- ✓ The applicant will be sworn in after board approval.

### *Active Member-in-good-standing:*

- ✓ **Dues are maintained current:** dues are payable by the beginning of each calendar year.
- ✓ **Abide by IWLA Rules and Principles.**
- ✓ **Comply with** the Chapter's By-Laws and participate in Chapter activities.
- ✓ **Participates through the year in several Chapter functions such as:**
  1. Park work directed by the Park Committee.
  2. Work related efforts to support various fund raising initiatives orchestrated by the Chapter.
  3. Work related efforts to support various outreach programs established by the Chapter or the standing committee(s) to which you have volunteered or been assigned.
- ✓ All active members upon renewing their annual membership to the SN-IWLA will have their **name searched for on the Sex Offender Registry**. An Ike's membership will be cancelled if their name appears on the SOR per the Chapter Background Screening Criteria.

### *New Member Sponsorship*

- ✓ **We do encourage new membership;** however, you must be an active-member-in-good standing for at least six months prior to sponsoring a new member and limit such sponsorship to no more than two candidates per year.

The Chapter web site maintains a calendar of events that is updated monthly following the general Chapter dinner meeting. Members are expected to use this resource and regular meeting attendance to maintain awareness of Chapter events.

All members are encouraged to meet the standards established for an active-member-in-good standing. The Board shall review chapter membership each year prior to dues renewal.