

Bylaws  
*for the*  
**Physiology Section**  
*of the*  
**American Fisheries Society**



**Revised June 2022**

Approved by the Membership

Approved by the Society Governing Board

## **Section I. Name and Objectives**

The name of this organization shall be the Physiology Section of the American Fisheries Society (herein after referred to as the Society) as provided for by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society.

The purpose of the Physiology Section is to promote excellence in the science of fish physiology through improved communications between researchers and other professionals who want current information on physiological processes, tools and techniques. The general objectives of the Physiology Section are the same as those of the Society, as provided in Article I.2 of the Society Constitution. The specific objectives of the Physiology Section are:

1. To provide a forum for members to exchange information, express views, report on activities and discuss solutions to problems related to the processes, procedures, techniques and impacts of fish physiology research and practice;
2. To conduct meetings, symposia, and workshops to disseminate state-of-the-art knowledge of basic and applied research on fish physiology to the scientific and professional community, resource users and the general public;
3. To promote participation and membership in the AFS by scientists and fisheries professionals with interests in the physiological biology of fish.
4. Fully conform with the AFS Code of Conduct and support diversity, equity and inclusion within the context of our discipline and community.

## **Section II. Membership**

Membership in the Physiology Section shall be open to anyone interested in the field of fish physiology. Only members in good standing of the Society may serve as officers, chair committees or vote on Physiology Section affairs.

## **Section III. Officers**

The Officers of the Physiology Section shall be the Past President, President, President-Elect, Secretary/Communications, and Treasurer. The Officers make up the official, elected, governing body of the Physiology Section.

- a. For all officer positions, nominations shall be sought through an ad hoc nominations committee. Whenever possible, at least two nominations for a position are strongly preferred, but not required.
- b. The offices of Past President, President, President-Elect shall be for two-year terms; consecutive terms are prohibited except under emergency conditions (e.g. pandemic).

Each time a new President-Elect is elected the following ascensions will occur: President-Elect to President and President to Past President.

c. The offices of Secretary/Communications and Treasurer shall be for a two-year term, with provision for a second two-year term upon unanimous approval by the other Officers. A new Secretary/Communications officer and Treasurer shall be elected during the year prior to the expiration of the term(s) of the preceding officer.

d. If the President or President-Elect cannot serve their term, the required accessions will occur to fill these positions, with subsequent election of a new President-Elect. If the Secretary/Communications Officer or Treasurer cannot serve out their term(s), the other Officers shall assume the required responsibilities until an election can be held.

e. The President shall serve as Chair of the Officers and the Executive Committee; preside at the annual Physiology Section business meeting; appoint all committees; and serve as an ex officio member thereof. The president shall represent the Physiology Section on the Society Governing Board by attending Governing Board meetings and reporting on Physiology Section activities; and perform other duties and functions as authorized and necessary.

f. The President-Elect shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President; assume those duties in the event the office of President is vacated for any reason; perform other duties as requested by the President; and, on completion of their term, accede to the presidency.

g. The Treasurer shall receive all funds, pay all bills, generate invoices, keep an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements; and deal with tax documentation.

h. The Secretary/Communications officer shall record and submit minutes of the Annual Business Meeting of the Physiology Section to the Executive Director of the Society within 30 days after the meeting is held. This officer will also maintain the Section web site, including the digital newsletter, and attend to Section social media needs.

i. All Officers shall serve without salary or other compensations for their services. Expenses may be defrayed from funds available to the Section when authorized by a majority of the Officers.

## **Section IV. Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee is made up of the Officers, Chairs of all Committees, Editor and all Past Officers of the Physiology Section. Only the Officers, as the elected representatives of the membership, have a vote in decisions of policy, spending and appointments, but the other members of the Executive Committee may assist in the conduct of Physiology Section business under the aegis of the Officers. Executive Committee Members shall automatically serve for four years and may serve longer if requested.

## **Section V. Meetings**

The Physiology Section shall hold at least one business meeting annually at a time and place designated by the Officers; this meeting may be held digitally or in-person. Special meetings may be called by the President with the consent of a majority of the Officers.

Decisions at business meetings of the Physiology Section shall be in accordance with the Constitution of the Society. A quorum at business meetings shall be 10 voting members of the Physiology Section, each of whom is entitled to one vote on all matters requiring the approval of the membership.

Meetings of the Officers or the Executive Committee may be held at any time at the call of the President. Such meetings and the required voting on decisions may be conducted by any means of voice, electronic or print communication.

## **Section VI. Finances**

The Physiology Section may solicit memberships, sponsorships, donations or other income from any source or in any manner that is deemed appropriate by the Officers and does not compromise the Society or contravene the Society's Constitution and Bylaws.

The Officers may assess those attending a meeting of the Physiology Section a registration fee as provided by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society. An annual membership fee shall be determined by the Officers.

The Officers may approve any disbursements that are consistent with the objectives of the Physiology Section. All income and disbursements must be listed and reported to the membership annually.

Upon dissolution of the Physiology Section, all of its assets and records shall revert to another Society subunit or to the Society as recommended by the outgoing Officers, upon the approval of the Society Governing Board.

## **Section VII. Amendment of Bylaws**

Amendments to the Physiology Section Bylaws must meet the following conditions:

1. Be passed by a 2/3 majority either at an Annual Business Meeting (where a quorum exists), or by a mail vote in which at least 10% of the membership return ballots;
2. Conform to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society; and
3. Be approved by the Society Governing Board.