

STILLAGUAMISH COUNTRY CLUB

Established 1924

Revised February 2014

STANDING RULES

Cabins and Lot Lines

1. Lot lines must be established and agreed to by all abutting members before demolition of improvements, building a new structure, making additions to improvements or sale of improvements may occur.

Guests

2. Members are responsible for the conduct of their guests, including all family members and pets, and are required to inform their guests of Club regulations.

3. All non-members must sign the register at the caretaker's cabin upon arrival. This includes children and/or family members who arrive at the Club unaccompanied by a member (see definition of a member in Article I, Section 1, paragraph 1 of the Bylaws), regardless of whether or not the member is present in the Club.

4. A member may permit guests to occupy the member's house in his or her absence for not more than one week at a time, provided the member informs the caretaker of such occupancy and ensures that the guests understand the Ground Rules and are prepared to abide by them. Any extensions must be requested in writing and approved by the Board of Trustees.

5. All members and guests are required to have the necessary key for gate access after 10:00 PM and until 7:00 AM. Guests entering or leaving Club grounds between those hours should ask the member to let them in or out and not disturb the caretaker. Caretaker will notify Board in the monthly report of abused late night and/or early morning ingress and egress.

Grounds Access

6. No sign or any other type of notice may be placed at any Club entrance that will direct the general public (i.e. passersby on the road) on to Club property.

7. Members may not place in any publication or post in any public offsite bulletin board or public place any notice that invites the general public into the Club. Reasonable care in marketing and site visits is essential. Real estate agents must be informed of club rules and expectations by the cabin owner.

Board of Trustees

8. Every member of the Corporation is eligible after two years of membership, and will expect to be nominated, to serve on the Board. An exception to the two-year requirement may be considered if a family member has had a long-term association with the Club before assuming ownership of the improvements on an assigned lot.

9. A member may attend any meeting of the Board of Trustees. Notice should be given to the President at least 72 hours in advance to insure that adequate space is available. If, at the Board's discretion, a discussion occurs involving a problem not appropriate for general membership discussion, members will be excused from the Board's deliberations.

10. Items to be brought before the Board should be submitted to the president at least 7 days in advance to allow time for research.

Caretaker

11. Members may ask the caretaker to observe and report conditions or events affecting their improvements, but members are not authorized to give orders or change the duties assigned. Complaints or requests for change in the duties should be communicated to the President or Caretaker Liaison. Payment should be made to caretaker for services to an individual member that require time and effort beyond the caretaker's regular assigned tasks, and is the responsibility of the requesting member.

Dangerous Conditions

12. Members should report to the Grounds Committee any conditions that threaten the safety or welfare of the corporation or its members such as: fire hazards, unsightly debris, trees or branches that endanger power lines, windfalls that block roadways or endanger property (leaning or dangerous trees on a member's assigned lot are his/her responsibility).

13. Members are responsible for continued maintenance of their assigned lot and for the correction of any condition that may constitute a threat to their neighbors or to the general community property.

14. Club roads will be plowed to enable access by emergency and utility vehicles during periods of heavy and persistent snow (typically when snow approaches a depth of 12 inches). Decisions regarding the need to plow will be made by the Grounds Committee with input from the caretaker and Board members. The Club will not plow driveways; however, members may make their own arrangements with the plow operator.

15. Concern about debris/trees in the river or creek should be reported to the Board. Washington State Fish and Wildlife Service is the lead agency and administers regulations over waterways from bank to bank. The Board will contact the Fish and Wildlife Service to determine what appropriate action can be taken. Members should not attempt removal of "natural" debris (i.e. stumps/trees) from the waterways.

Workday Assessment

16. The Board of Trustees will set a non-participation fee for the annual work day. This fee will be determined at the Board meeting preceding the annual September membership meeting and announced at the annual meeting. This fee will be waived for a member who provides a worker on work day or an accepted service as approved by the Board including service on the potluck dinner. Non-participant fee will be the amount as provided in Schedule of Fines, Fees and Interest Rates of the By-laws.

Special Rules Covering Tree Cutting

17. As recognized by Washington State law, trees belong to the land. Thus, Club members may not profit individually from trees on their assigned lots or elsewhere on corporation property nor can firewood be removed from Club grounds. Trees enhance the beauty of the Club and provide a special and unique ecosystem. Thus, members must contact the Grounds Committee before cutting any trees on any corporation property, except in emergencies (e.g., trees that have been damaged by weather and that threaten member's improvement). Yarding report must be submitted as required by the State of Washington.

a. No tree may be cut for personal financial gain. Profit from cutting of trees (sale of trees less cutting costs) must be given to the Corporation. If trees are cut and sold, the member must provide the Board of Trustees with an itemized invoice showing sale price and cutting costs.

b. In any 3-year period, members may not cut more than 50 percent of trees on their assigned lot. Tree cutting rules apply only to trees greater than 6" in diameter at four feet off the ground.

c. Members must mark all trees to be cut and advise the chairman of the Grounds Committee in writing of the proposed cutting and reason for removal. If a member will cut 1 to 3 trees in a one calendar year period, he or she must have a signed authorization form from the Grounds Committee before cutting begins. If a member wishes to cut more than 3 trees in a one-year period, he or she must have an authorization form approved by the Board and signed by the Grounds Committee before cutting begins.

d. The Grounds Committee chair shall give all notifications of tree cutting and authorizations for such cutting to the Board of Trustees. These will be retained for three years, filed by lot number.

e. Members are to contact the resident Grounds Committee person and request, either orally or in writing, permission to cut windfalls. Written permission must be given before any cutting is done. The resident committee person can act immediately on dangerous trees or those obstructing right-of-ways and does not need the signatures of other committee members.

f. Club members shall exercise reasonable care in cutting trees. The intent of permission is to prevent damage to persons or property and to preserve and manage the natural environment consistent with the intent of the By-laws of the Corporation.

g. Each Club member in good standing is entitled to up to five cords of firewood per year as allocated by the Grounds Committee.

h. Members shall have no more than 90 days to remove debris from tree cutting. If a member fails to do so, the Grounds Committee or Board of Trustees may have the area cleaned and costs will be borne by the responsible member.

18. Transfer of Membership and Sale of Improvements (Complete package supplied on request by Club Administrative Secretary).

- A. **Notify** the President or Secretary **in writing** that you intend to resign your membership and sell or transfer your improvements. State the asking price and provide a description of the improvements for the Club newsletter.

- B. **Pay any unpaid obligations** to the Club (dues, assessments, or fines) not covered by your membership deposit. No notification of sale or other action on the intended resignation will be taken until all obligations to the Club are paid in full. The Board will not interview applicants for membership until these obligations are paid.
- C. Provide the President or Secretary with copies of any pertinent **agreements** with other Club members such as well agreements, easements, or shared roads, that affect use of your lot.
- D. Insure that your lot lines are agreed upon with adjacent members and the corners are clearly marked. Provide the Board with a simple **diagram of your lot** showing distances in feet between the markers and location of improvements. Lot line markers for any lot adjacent to community property are subject to review by the Board before any sale can be finalized.
- E. When the above items have been satisfied, the secretary will **notify all Club members** by mail that the membership is available for transfer and that the improvements are for sale to an approved applicant.
- F. Obtain and complete the “**Real Property Transfer Disclosure Statement**” (available from stationary stores, realtors, and escrow companies or online) to comply with a 1994 State law. A copy of this form must be available in your cabin for inspection by any prospective buyer.
- G. Assemble a **notebook of information** about your cabin (information sheet about the Club (supplied with this document), well agreements, septic system, lot lines, and improvements, etc.) and keep it conveniently available in your cabin for review by an agent or prospective buyer.
- H. If you use a **real estate agent**, you are reminded that the agent is your guest on private Club property and is expected to follow all the Ground and Standing Rules for members and guests. You are responsible for informing the agent of the following rules before signing a contract:
 - I. Sign in at caretaker’s house at every entry.
 - J. Obey the speed limit of 10 mph.
 - K. Post no advertising on the highway or Club property. One For Sale sign may be posted on the lot of the seller.
 - L. Do not use the Club name and address anywhere in any advertising. Use your PUD address.
 - M. Do not allow real estate agents to use the Club Directory for any purpose.
 - N. No open house is permitted.
 - O. Assure that prospective buyers are always accompanied by the seller or an agent. Nonmembers without cause are not allowed to wander around the Club. The caretaker is not allowed to show a cabin.
 - P. The Board wishes to respect the privacy and security of *all members* and will take whatever action it deems necessary to protect their rights to same. Members can be fined or otherwise penalized for failure to follow the Club rules, at the discretion of the Board of Trustees. Article I, Section 2, Paragraph 3 & 4.
 - Q. When you have a prospective member and have agreed on the price and financial arrangements, contact the Club president and request an **Application for Membership**. The prospective member should submit the application and the nonrefundable application fee of \$100 to the Club President or to the corporate address.

- R. Arrange for the prospective member to meet with potential **sponsors**. They must meet in person; telephone interviews are not acceptable. We suggest arranging a social occasion with several potential sponsors. This should be a time for the applicant to learn more about the Club and to meet several members. Have sponsors send letters to the Club Secretary. The letters must be detailed and substantial, including at least how long and in what capacity the writer has known the applicant or when and where they met, what skills or experience the applicant would be able to contribute to the Club, and how the applicant intends to use the Club. The Board may return any letter it deems inadequate and request additional information or sponsors.
- S. The Board of Trustees will review the application and the credit and criminal background checks. The application will then be forwarded to the **Membership Committee** to schedule an interview with the applicant. After the interview, the applicant must obtain and sign the **Prospective Member's Statement of Agreement** and send it to the Club Secretary. This statement becomes part of the application.
- T. Upon recommendation of the Membership Committee, the President will schedule a **meeting of the applicant with the Board**. The Board is responsible for determining priorities in considering applications for vacated memberships in accord with the Bylaws (Bylaws, Article 1, Section 3). PLEASE NOTE: An interview will be scheduled as soon as possible, but it may not always be possible to schedule the interview at the next meeting. Special meetings just to interview prospective members should not be expected. *You should allow several weeks for the interview and approval process. If you use a real estate agent, it is your responsibility to make sure the agent understands this. Closing cannot occur until the applicant has been approved for membership.*
- U. The prospective member and the seller will be **informed by telephone** and letter of the Board's decision as soon as practical after the interview and following review of references and sponsors, but not more than 7 days after the interview.
- V. On approval for membership, the new member will pay the current **Membership Deposit** to the Club Treasurer.
- W. The buyer and seller may **complete the financial sale** of the improvements. The resigning member shall provide any evidence of ownership of improvements required by the new member.
- X. The resigning member is responsible for **payment of any legal obligations** such as real estate commissions, outstanding property taxes, and the real property transfer (sales) tax to Snohomish County.
- Y. "Both new and terminating members shall **pay dues** on a pro-rata basis for the portions of the fiscal year in which their memberships are effective." Bylaws, Article I, Section 6. Dues.
- Z. The resigning member will **surrender** his/her/their **Certificate of Membership** to the Club Secretary. A notarized Affidavit of Loss that the member has lost the certificate and is surrendering his/her/their interest in the SCC may be submitted if the Certificate is lost.
- AA. The Board will authorize the Club Treasurer to **refund the membership deposit** less the transfer fee and any remaining unpaid obligations. (See Bylaws Article I, Section 4, Paragraphs 3 & 4.)
- BB. When all the procedures are completed, the Board will instruct the Secretary to record the new member's name in the Corporation's records and to issue a new **Certificate of Membership**.