



# **Membership Handbook**

Developed February 2024

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# **A Mission Driven Social Club**

## **Mission of TPL Social Club**

TPL Social Club, a registered nonprofit in the state of Maine, operates with the mission to preserve and support the culture, facilities, wilderness, and community of Twin Ponds Lodge, ensuring the lodge and its programming prioritize the experience of naturists, specifically that of gay men.

## **Twin Ponds Lodge Agreement**

TPL Social Club has an exclusive agreement with Twin Ponds Lodge, granting access to the facilities ten months of the year. Thomas and Roberto Swider own Twin Ponds Lodge and oversee the day to day management and upkeep of the facilities. They, and their staff, are responsible to provide a safe and welcoming environment for all members, while also ensuring that the guidelines and expectations of TPL Social Club are met and adhered to, especially as they relate to membership recruitment and renewals.

## **Membership Qualifications**

Anyone applying for membership with TPL Social Club must meet specific criteria, adhere to outlined protocols and processes, and remain in good financial standing with Twin Ponds Lodge. Potential members must provide a valid, government issued, photo ID. This ID must identify the potential member as male and must reflect a date of birth which places the member at 18 years old or older. All members must support the mission of TPL Social Club, adhere to the guidelines and policies outlined by Twin Ponds Lodge, read, understand, and sign a membership agreement, and pay an annual membership fee of \$40.

## **Zero Tolerance: Harassment and Bullying**

Mutual respect is essential to advancing the mission of TPL Social Club. Twin Ponds Lodge will not tolerate bullying or harassment. Harassment can include name calling, body shaming, gossiping, or disclosing private information without permission of that individual. Touching someone without their consent, pressuring someone to do something, and following a person around the grounds can also be considered as harassment. It is at the discretion of Twin Ponds Lodge ownership if a behavior or experience is considered to be harassment or bullying, meaning this list is not exclusive or exhaustive. Any member found to be harassing or bullying at Twin Ponds Lodge may have their membership revoked or denied future access to the lodge.

## **Fuck Around & Find Out**

The mission and a top priority of TPL Social Club is to provide a safe, comfortable, body positive, clothing optional space for men. Zero tolerance means no second chances. This isn't a public facility, Twin Ponds Lodge is not a democracy. If a member acts in such a way that they impede on the lodge's ability to achieve its mission, that member will be removed. There is no "burden of proof", allowing Twin Ponds Lodge to act purely on perception/appearance. Fuck around, and you will find out.

# TPL Social Club Expectations

TPL Social Club operates with ten key expectations of its members. Adhering to these expectations ensures our community continues to be a safe and welcoming space for all qualifying individuals. We view this list as the Ten Commandments of Twin Ponds Lodge and all members *must* adhere to these expectations.

1. **Don't be a cunt**  
Respect everyone's privacy. Respect everyone's boundaries. Be kind.
2. **Relax and have fun**  
Twin Ponds Lodge is meant to be enjoyed. Relax, leave your stress and problems at the gate.
3. **Be at least 18 years of age**  
You must have a valid ID upon check in. Membership is open to anyone 18 years of age or older, but you may only consume alcohol if over the age of 21.
4. **No illegal drug use**  
Illegal drug use will not be tolerated and will result in revocation of membership.
5. **Do not be a bully**  
Twin Ponds Lodge is a body positive and judgment free zone. No one needs your approval to enjoy themselves. (See number one)
6. **No glass**  
Shoes are a rarity at the lodge, making glass an enemy to our mission. Beverages should be in aluminum or plastic containers.
7. **Don't stress about nudity**  
Twin Ponds Lodge is clothing optional. That means nudity is an *option* and so is being clothed. Do what you feel comfortable with and *never* pressure someone else to do something they aren't comfortable with.
8. **Shower often**  
Sweat, lotion, bug spray, lube, and soap, all throw off the PH levels in the pool and the hot tub. Please shower and rinse off all of the soap before using the indoor water features.
9. **No smoking in the lodge**  
Smoking, including the use of vapes and e-cigarettes, is not allowed inside the lodge and any area considered to be a service area for the bar.
10. **Membership is required**  
We are a private men only club. In order to remain as such, everyone on the property must be a dues paying member and must have an ID and signed membership agreement on file.

## **Illegal Activities (Zero Tolerance Policy)**

Twin Ponds Lodge has a zero tolerance policy in regards to illegal drug use. The possession, use, sale, and/or distribution of any illegal substance is grounds for immediate revocation of membership, removal from the property, and/or permanent ban from returning.

Solicitation is illegal. Any person appearing to solicit sex in exchange for financial compensation may face immediate revocation of membership, removal from the property, and/or permanent ban from returning.

Sexual assault is an act in which one intentionally sexually touches another person without that person's consent, or coerces or physically forces a person to engage in a sexual act against their will. Any member determined to have assaulted another member will face immediate revocation of membership, removal from the property, and/or permanent ban from returning.

Members are not permitted to act in a threatening or violent manner.

The aforementioned crimes are not an exhaustive list. Twin Ponds Lodge may take any action they feel necessary to protect the mission if a member is found to have broken a local, state, or federal law.

Twin Ponds Lodge reserves the right to notify local/state/federal agencies for illegal actions/behaviors.

If anyone in a "party" acts in a way that is illegal, everyone in the "party" may face immediate revocation of membership, removal from the property, and/or permanent ban from returning.

## **No Distribution or Selling**

No member may sell, distribute, or perform goods/services at Twin Ponds Lodge, without explicit, written permission from the owners of the Lodge.

Prostitution is not permitted and may be grounds for immediate revocation of membership, removal from the property, and/or permanent ban from returning.

## **Member Privacy Policy**

Twin Ponds Lodge holds the privacy of its members in the highest regards. As such, members are not permitted to have any recording devices, including cell phones, in the Bear's Den, Little Bear's Den, or any of the play rooms.

Any photos or videos taken at Twin Ponds Lodge may not capture any individual who does not give permission prior to the photo being captured. It is strongly encouraged that this permission be in writing or via text message.

### **Drones**

The use of drones is prohibited on the entire property, unless permission is granted by the owners of Twin Ponds Lodge.

# **Fees, Dues, and Outstanding Balances**

## **Annual Membership Dues**

As a members only social club, TPL Social Club collects membership dues each year in the amount of \$40. A yearly membership is good for 365 days from the day it is paid for. Day passes, lodging, and sleepover fees are not included with your annual dues and must be paid for each visit. Each time you visit Twin Ponds Lodge you must immediately check-in at the camp office/store.

## **Bar/Restaurant Tabs**

If any member wishes to run a tab at the bar or restaurant they must leave a credit or debit card on file with the office. This allows for the member to have charges from the bar, restaurant, and store added to their tab. Members must settle this tab by the end of their visit. Purchases made at the bar and restaurant will have a 20% gratuity added automatically. Tabs must be settled at the end of each visit.

## **Lost Key Charges**

Members visiting Twin Ponds Lodge may be offered a secure locker and key at time of check-in. (Members utilize these lockers at their own risk. Twin Ponds Lodge is not responsible for lost or stolen items.) Failure to return a key (for any reason), will result in \$20 fee charged to the card on file for the member. Twin Ponds Lodge has a finite number of lockers, availability of a locker is not guaranteed.