



Gun Owners of South Carolina

Bylaws

ARTICLE I – NAME

The official name of this organization will be the Gun Owners of South Carolina, hereinafter referred to as the “Association”. This is a nonprofit organization incorporated in the State of South Carolina and affiliated with the National Rifle Association of America.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES

The primary purpose of the Association is to provide the citizens of this state with educational endeavors in the proper use of firearms through qualified instruction in all aspects of the shooting sports, open forums, organization of local clubs, and to promote and support the legitimate ownership and use of firearms and those activities as provided under the laws of the State of South Carolina and to identify and maintain communication with the individuals and organizations interested in promoting the purposes of the Association.

More specifically, these purposes shall include, but are not limited to the following objectives:

1. The protection and defense of the constitutional right of the individual American citizen to acquire, transport, possess, carry, and transfer ownership of firearms, in order that the people may exercise their right to self preservation and defense of family, person and property, as well as defend the Nation and the individual liberty of its citizens.
2. To promote the use of safe handling of firearms and good marksmanship of firearms, both as a sport and as a fundamental aspect of national defense.
3. The promotion of organized competitive firearm shooting among the residents of the State of South Carolina.
4. To encourage the acceptance of marksmanship as a major competitive sport in the state's publicly and privately endowed school systems, at all levels.
5. To support the objectives and purposes of the National Rifle Association of America (NRA) as defined in the NRA By-Laws and the NRA State Association Officers' Handbook.

6. Supporting the Civilian Marksmanship Program and encouraging member clubs to enroll and participate in that program.
7. Promoting the highest degree of sportsmanship and good fellowship among membership of the GOSC, and preventing the occurrence or tolerance of unsportsmanlike conduct.
8. Supporting the conservation and wise use of our wildlife and other natural resources, and cooperating with conservation organizations.
9. Supporting public safety, law and order.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 - Classes of Membership

Membership in the Association shall be composed of two classes: (1) Individuals, and (2) Affiliated Organizations. Members and Affiliated Organizations shall pay such dues as may be set by the Board of Directors for the respective classes of membership and shall meet all other requirements of membership as set forth in this Article.

Section 2 - Individual Membership

- A. Individual Membership shall be open to all citizens or residents of the United States, who are of good repute, who have never been convicted of a crime of violence, who subscribe to the purposes and objectives of the Association, and who meet the specific requirements for the type of membership for which application is made.
- B. Types of Individual Membership include the following:
 1. Annual Membership shall be open to any adult meeting the requirements of Section 2(A) who makes application on the prescribed form, pays the required dues, and otherwise meets all criteria for such membership.
 2. Junior Membership shall be open to any person who has not yet achieved his/her twenty-first (21st) birthday, and who otherwise meets the qualifications for membership meeting the requirements of Section 2(A). Dues for a Junior Member shall be one half of the dues of an Annual Membership. Such members shall not be eligible to vote or hold office.
 3. Non - Resident Annual Membership shall be open to any person who meets the qualifications for membership, except for residency in the State of South Carolina . Such members shall exercise all privileges of membership, except the right to vote and hold office.

4. Life Membership shall be open to any resident of the State of South Carolina who makes application, tenders the required dues and is approved by the Board of Directors of this Association. Life Members will be entitled to exercise all privileges of an Annual Member for life and will enjoy such special recognition and privileges accruing to Life Members as may be determined by the Board of Directors. The Secretary shall make a list of all current Life Members available to all Officers and Directors of the Association upon request.

Section 3 - Club Membership

Club Membership will be open to all organized and operating clubs, associations, schools, colleges, or other nonprofit corporations existing within the State of South Carolina which have ten (10) or more members subscribing to the purposes and objectives of the Association, which make application and tender the required dues, and which are approved for membership by the Board of Directors. Such membership shall be for a period of one calendar year.

A. Types of Club & Organizational Associations

1. Adult:
2. Junior, School, College: Membership is open to any Junior Club, School/College Shooting Teams who have submitted the proper application and dues. The Club, School/College Shooting Team shall have at least one adult advisor/coach.

Section 4 - Rights and Privileges of Membership

- A. Except as otherwise provided in the Bylaws, Annual, Life, Club and Organizational Members will have the right to attend and be heard at all meetings of the Association and exercise such other rights and privileges as may accrue to members of this Association.
- B. Club representative, or his/her designee, will have the right to cast the vote of the Club in all matters which are put to a vote of the membership as provided below.

Section 5 - Voting

Each Annual and Life Member will be entitled to cast one vote on any matter which may come before any open meeting of the Association. Each Club will be entitled to one vote to be cast by an officially designated delegate. The President or Secretary of the Club must certify the delegate to the Association Secretary. All voting will be done in person, and not by proxy. Proxy voting is prohibited. No member of any type who is in arrears on any payments to the Association will be eligible to vote.

Section 6 - Expiration, Suspension and Expulsion

- A. If dues remain unpaid, Membership in the Association shall automatically terminate on expiration date.
- B. A member may be suspended or expelled from membership for cause in the Association by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
- C. No vote on suspension or expulsion of a member may be taken unless the Secretary shall have sent to the accused member the following document: (1) notice of the proposed suspension or expulsion; (2) the charges which are thought to merit such action; and (3) notification of the members right to request a hearing on the charges. These documents shall be sent by first - class mail not less than fifteen (15) days before the date of the meeting of the Board of Directors at which the vote on suspension or expulsion will be taken.

If the member does not request a hearing on the charges, he will be deemed to have waived his right to a hearing on the matter and indicated his willingness to abide by the decision of the Board of Directors. If the member requests a hearing, the Board of Directors must convene a hearing within thirty (30) days at which the accused member shall have the right to confront his accusers, examine witnesses, and present evidence bearing on the charges.

The location of the hearing shall be at a site practicable for both the accused and the Board of Directors, as determined by the Board of Directors. At the completion of the hearing, the Board of Directors by majority vote may: (1) affirm the charges and impose a suspension or expulsion; (2) affirm the charges and impose some lesser penalty; or (3) reject the charges.

- D. Charges against a member may be brought by any member of the Association in good standing, but they must be made in writing with supporting documents, if any, attached to the written charges. Charges should be submitted to the attention of the Secretary or President of the Association. If the charges are made against the Secretary and / or President, then they should be submitted to the next highest official.
- E. Any person who has been suspended by the Association shall not be permitted to hold office or vote until his suspension can be reviewed in accordance with Article III Section 6.

Section 7 - Resignation

A member may resign from the Association by sending his resignation in writing to the Secretary of the Association. In the case of an Affiliated Club Member, a resignation must be in writing accompanied by a resolution of resignation adopted by a majority vote of the Affiliated Club's Board of Directors. Resignation shall not release a member from any financial obligations to the Association nor shall any member be entitled to any refund of dues or fees paid to the Association.

Section 8 - Access to GOSC membership list

The purpose of this section is to protect the legitimate privacy rights of all GOSC members while providing access by members-in-good-standing of GOSC to the GOSC membership list in a manner which complies with all applicable laws, rules and regulations.

- A. Any member-in-good-standing of GOSC may review a copy of the GOSC membership list during any meeting of the GOSC Board of Directors, during the GOSC annual meeting, and upon prior request at the office of the GOSC President during normal business hours (9:00am – 5:00pm) at a mutually-convenient date and time agreed to by both the requesting member and the GOSC President. If the member wishes to copy any information regarding any member other than him/herself, the member may do so after signing an Agreement of Non-Disclosure and No Commercial Use as approved by the GOSC Board of Directors.
- B. Any member-in-good-standing of GOSC may submit a request in writing or by e-mail to the GOSC President for a copy of the GOSC membership list. A copy printed on 8 ½ x11 paper will be provided within ten (10) calendar days of receipt by the GOSC President of (1) payment for the reasonable production costs (\$0.40 per page) plus the cost of delivery by certified return-receipt-requested first class United States mail sent to the address of the requesting member as shown in the GOSC membership list, and (2) an Agreement of Non-Disclosure and No Commercial Use as approved by the GOSC Board of Directors signed by the requesting member. Payment shall be by check payable to GOSC.
- C. Copies of the GOSC membership list will not be provided in any other form (including but not limited to disc, mailing labels, e-mail attachment or other electronic media) other than that specified in these bylaws. The membership list will be provided in alphabetical order as maintained in the GOSC records; other sorting or formats will not be provided.
- D. No information from the GOSC membership list may be released by the requesting member to any other party who is not also a member-in-good-standing of GOSC.
- E. No information from the GOSC membership list may be used for any commercial purpose or solicitation without the prior written approval of the GOSC Board of Directors.
- F. The requesting member shall be and remain personally responsible and liable for the release of any information from the GOSC membership list received pursuant to his/her request and for any and all costs, losses and damages accruing to any party including but not limited to GOSC resulting from or otherwise attributable to that release.



Gun Owners of South Carolina

AGREEMENT OF NON-DISCLOSURE AND NO COMMERCIAL USE

The requesting member of GOSC whose name and signature appear below having requested a copy of the GOSC membership list hereby agrees to and accepts each and every of the following provisions in consideration for and as a condition for receipt of the requested copy:

1. No information from the membership list regarding any member other than the requesting member may be released to any other party other than another member-in-good-standing of GOSC for any reason and for any purpose, and
2. No information from the membership list may be used for any commercial purpose or solicitation without the prior written approval of the GOSC Board of Directors, and
3. The requesting GOSC member shall be and remain personally responsible and liable for the release of any information from the GOSC membership list received pursuant to his/her request and for any and all costs, losses and damages accruing to any party including but not limited to GOSC resulting from or otherwise attributable to that release.

I have read all of the forgoing, and in consideration for and as a condition for receiving a copy of the GOSC membership list I agree to and accept all of the above provisions.

Signature of Requesting Member

Date

Printed Name of Requesting Member

ARTICLE IV MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Section 1 - Annual Meetings

There shall be an annual meeting held each calendar year. The Association will conduct the annual meeting for the election of Directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting. The Board of Directors will determine the exact date, time, and place of this meeting. The Secretary will mail the notification by U.S. mail to each member and club in good standing not less than two (2) weeks prior to this meeting, specifying the time, date and place of the meeting.

Section 2 - Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Association may be held at any time, upon the call of the President, a majority of the Board of Directors, or upon petition of ten percent (10%) of the members in good standing of the Association. A Petition by the membership shall state the purpose of any proposed special meeting. Notice of the special meeting shall be mailed to all members by the Secretary to each of the members of the Association postmarked not less than fifteen (15) days before the meeting.

Section 3 - Quorum

At any annual or special meeting, a quorum shall consist of the voting members present.

Section 4 - District Meetings

Each District will hold at least one meeting each year prior to the Association's Annual meeting. At this meeting the election will be held for the District Director. Other meetings may be held to conduct business or interest. These meetings may be called by the District Director, or by a signed petition of at least ten (10) Association members within that District.

Section 5 - District Organization

Each District shall develop an outline to carry out the necessary business and interest of the members of the Association. Efforts should be made to develop contacts in each county and municipality within the District to ensure communication networks that will carry out the Purpose and Objectives of the Association.

Section 6 - Order of Business - Annual Meeting

- A. Reading of minutes of the previous annual meeting and the report of the Secretary/ Treasurer to each qualified member present.
- B. Role call of Officers and Directors.
- C. Determination of a quorum.

- D. Approval of the minutes of the previous annual meeting.
- E. Auditors Report of the Associations transactions for the preceding year.
- F. Approval of the financial report.
- G. Reports by the District Directors on the activities of each District.
- H. Report of the standing committees.
- I. Unfinished business.
- J. New Business.
- K. Report of the Nominating Committee.
- L. Election of Officers and District Directors.
- M. Announcements for the good of the Association.
- N. Adjournment.

ARTICLE V - THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1 - Composition

- A. The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the following:
- B. The ten (10) District Directors elected as provided in this Article by members of the Association who are entitled to vote. Two (2) members from each Congressional District.
- C. One member of each club.
- D. One Director for each position: Legislative Affairs, Women's Affairs, and Public Exhibitions.

Section 2 - Term of Office

- A. The President, Vice - President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected to a one (1) year term.
- B. District Directors must be residents of the district they are representing. They must be nominated by at least two (2) members who reside in that district. The District Directors shall be elected to a two (2) year term.

C. The Directors for Legislative Affairs, Women's Programs, and Public Exhibitions shall be appointed by the Executive Board on an annual basis.

Section 3 - Powers and Duties

The governing body of the Association shall be the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have overall supervision, control, and direction of the business of the Association, its committees, and publications; shall determine its policies or changes to them; shall actively prosecute its objectives and supervise the disbursement of its funds; and shall establish the dues and fees to be paid by the Association members. The Board may adopt such rules and regulations that is deems necessary and proper to conduct the business of the Association.

Section 4 - Regular Meetings

Upon proper notice being given, the Board of Directors shall meet to transact business of the Association not less often than once a year.

Section 5 - Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President or by a signed petition of not less than one - third (1/3) of the Board of Directors. The petition shall state purpose of the special meeting. The President shall determine the date, time and place of the special meetings

Section 6 - Quorum

At all meetings of the Board of Directors a majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

Section 7 - Proxy Voting

All votes at meetings of the Board of Directors shall be cast in person and not by proxy. This Section shall not preclude the use of mail ballots as defined by these bylaws.

Section 8 - Nomination and Election Procedures

At least four (4) months prior to the Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors shall require the President to appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of at least three (3) members . The Chairman of the Nominating Committee must be a member of the Board of Directors. They shall provide to each District a list of Officers and Directors whose offices are vacant, and receive and list the nominations from these District Meetings.

All nominees must be present at the Annual Meeting to be eligible for election, or, if unable to be present, must submit a letter of acceptance of the nomination to the Secretary. All members nominated to be an Officer or Director must be Annual or Life

Members of the Association for at least two (2) consecutive years and must be a NRA member. The Nominating Committee shall verify the qualifications of every nominee.

The Chairman selected by the Nominating Committee shall submit these nominees to the voting membership at the Annual Meeting. If there are more nominees than vacant positions, the vote shall be done by secret ballot.

Officers and Directors shall be elected by a majority vote of those members present who are entitled to vote. Nominees to uncontested vacancies shall be declared elected by unanimous ballot.

Section 9 - Suspension or Removal of Directors

The Board of Directors may, at its discretion, by affirmative vote of two - thirds (2/3) of its members, suspend or remove any Director for cause by following the same procedure to suspend a Member as stated in Article III, Section 6(c).

Section 10 - Vacancies

If a vacancy occurs on the Board of Directors, the President, with the concurrence of a majority of the Board of Directors, shall appoint a Member who shall serve until the next regular election of the Board of Directors.

Section 11. Voting by Mail

When authorized by the President, action taken by a mail ballot of the members of the Board of Directors, in which a majority of the Directors, in writing, are in agreement, will constitute a valid action of the Board if reported at the next regular meeting of such Board.

Section 12 - Voting by Conference Call

A member of the Board may participate in a meeting by means of conference telephone or similar communication equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other if deemed appropriate by Board members. Participation in a meeting pursuant to this subsection constitutes presence in person at the meeting.

Section 13 - Compensation of Directors

No Director shall receive any compensation, for duties as a member of the board of directors. A director shall be entitled to reimbursement for expenses incurred as a director on behalf of the Association as authorized or approved by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS

Section 1 - Number and Election

The Officers of the Association shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary and a Treasurer. Nomination and election procedure shall be that specified in Article V, Section 8. Officers must be Annual or Life Members in good standing of the Association, and at least twenty - one (21) years of age. The Board of Directors may establish other appointive offices as it deems proper to conduct the business of the Association.

Section 2 - Powers

A. President. The President shall serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors, and shall preside at all meetings of the membership, board of director and committees. He shall serve as a member, ex - officio, with right to vote, on all committees except the Nominating Committee. He shall make all required appointments of committees as well as their chairpersons, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors.

At the Annual Meeting of the Association, and at such other times as he deems proper, the President shall communicate to the members, in person or through the Official Journal, such matters and make such recommendations as may in his opinion tend to promote the welfare and objectives of the Association, and he shall perform all such other duties as usually pertain to this office or which shall be assigned to him by the Board of Directors.

B. Vice President. The Vice President shall perform the duties of President in his absence, at his request, or in the event of his inability or refusal to act. He shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the President.

C. Secretary

The Secretary shall:

1. Attend and keep minutes of all membership and Board meetings.
2. Be responsible for providing notice to each Director as required by law, the articles of incorporation, or these bylaws.
3. Be the custodian of corporate records.
4. Shall attest to all official documents and resolutions of the Association.
5. Issue such credentials of membership as may be required by these By - Laws, or as directed by the Board of Directors.
6. Receive all applications for membership in the Association.

7. Keep a register of the names and addresses of each officer and Director and maintain an accurate roster of all current members, including Life Members, in good standing, including their mailing addresses, and such other information as may be required by the Board of Directors.
8. Conduct all official correspondence, such as notifying members of their appointments to committees and annually submit the re - affiliation notice to the National Rifle Association.
9. Unless otherwise authorized by these bylaws or the Board of Directors, be solely responsible for signing all documents and certification on behalf of the Association.

D. Treasurer

1. Have charge and custody over corporate funds and securities.
2. Shall be responsible for the collection of all dues, fees, and assessments.
3. Keep accurate books and records of corporate receipts and disbursements.
4. Receive, have in charge, and be responsible for all money, bills, notes, bonds, and like property coming into his possession belonging to the Association.
5. Establish and maintain proper accounting standards for the handling of the Association's funds, and shall be responsible for the keeping of the funds in such banks, and other financial institutions and / or investment media, as shall be determined by the Board of Directors.
6. Deposit all moneys and securities received by the corporation at such depositories in the corporation's name that may be designated by the Board.
7. Complete all required corporate filings.
8. Report on the financial condition of the Association at all meetings of the Board of Directors, at the Annual Meeting, and at such other times as requested by the President.
9. For assisting a firm of Certified Public Accountants, selected by the Board of Directors, in conducting an annual compilation, review or audit, as directed by the Board of Directors, of the Associations books of account, and preparing a statement of financial condition as of the close of each fiscal year, and shall furnish a copy of such statement, together with the compilation, review or certificate of audit, to each member of the Board of Directors.

10. Serve as Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee.

11. Perform all duties incident to the office and other duties assigned by the Chairperson or the Board.

At the expiration of his/her term of office, The Treasurer shall promptly deliver to his successor all books, money, and other property of the Association in his charge, or, in the absence of a successor, he/she shall deliver such properties over to the President.

Section 3 - Vacancies

In case a vacancy shall occur in the office of President, the Vice President shall be elected by the Board of Directors to serve as President for the balance of the term.

In the event of a vacancy in any other office, the vacancy shall be filled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 4 - Suspension and Removal

The Board of Directors may, in its discretion, by affirmative vote of two - thirds (2/3) of its members, suspend or remove any Officer for cause, by following the procedure for suspension of a Member as stated in Article III, Section 6 (c). Any suspension or removal from office shall have no effect upon the Officer's status as a member of the Association.

Section 5 - Compensation of Officers

No Officer shall receive any compensation, but all such persons shall be entitled to reimbursement for expenses incurred on behalf of the Association, as authorized or approved by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES

Section 1 - Committees

The President shall appoint the members of the following standing Committees:

A. Budget and Finance, whose purpose is to recommend to the Board of Directors policy to maintain fiduciary responsibility, fundraising, programs to maintain the appropriate financial condition of the Association and meet the financial needs of the Association that are consistent with the Association's objectives.

B. Women's, Junior and Club programs, whose duties are to recommend to the Board of Directors programs that will support educational and shooting sports activities for women and youth within the Association and to continue approved programs.

C. Membership, whose duties are to recommend to the Board of Directors programs to maintain and increase the membership of the Association, to provide member services and to continue approved existing programs.

D. Nominating, whose duties are set forth in Article V, Section 8.

Section 2 - Special Committees

The President may establish such special committees as he/she deems necessary and shall appoint the members of them.

Section 3 - Reporting Requirements

At least once each year, every committee shall submit a written report to the President, with a copy to the Secretary, and shall report at such other times as requested by the President. Committees may also make reports or recommendations in person or in writing to the Board of Directors at any regular or special meeting.

ARTICLE VIII FINANCE

Section 1 - Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Association shall be the calendar year.

Section 2 - Budget

With the recommendations of the Secretary/Treasurer, the Board of Directors shall adopt in advance of the next fiscal period an annual operating budget covering all activities of the Association.

Section 3 - Audit

The accounts of the Association shall have an annual compilation, review or audit by a Certified Public Accountant selected by the Board of Directors, who shall provide a report to the Board.

ARTICLE X – CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Section 1 - Disclosure

If there is any possibility of a conflict of interest between a board member and the Association, such conflict shall be disclosed to the other members of the board and made a matter of record at the first available meeting after the potential conflict is discovered.

Section 2 - Participation

Upon disclosing such conflict of interest, the affected shall not be physically present during any discussions of the conflicting matter and shall not vote on any such matter. The minutes to the meeting shall reflect the disclosure made, that the member left the meeting during discussion of the matter and did not participate in the vote. The foregoing requirement should not be construed as preventing the board from questioning the board member with conflict and in order to obtain as much knowledge as possible concerning the matter. Board members shall be obligated to disclose to the other members any reason known to that member why the contract or other transaction is not in the best interest of the association.

ARTICLE XI – DISSOLUTION

Section 1 – Distribution of Assets to another organization

Upon the winding up and dissolution of the Association, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the Association, the remaining assets shall be distributed to a non profit fund, foundation, or corporation which is organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, and/or scientific purposes and which has established a tax exempt status under section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section 2 – No Distribution of Assets to Director or Officer

Except compensation for services rendered in to make payment and distribution to further the purposes of the Association as set forth in these bylaws, no part of the net earnings of the Association shall be distributed or inure to the benefit of any director or officer of the Association, contributor or individual, nor to any organization organized and operated for profit.

Section 3 – No Distribution to Members

The Association shall use its funds only to accomplish the objectives and purposes specified in these By - Laws and no part of said funds shall inure, or be distributed to the members of the Association. Should it be found necessary to dissolve the Association, a two - thirds vote of the members at an Annual or Special Meeting of the Association shall be required for dissolution. Upon dissolution, after payment of all outstanding obligations, any funds or assets remaining shall be forwarded to the National Rifle Association of America.

ARTICLE XII - Amendments

These Bylaws may be revised by a two-thirds vote of the members entitled to vote, present at any Annual Meeting of the Association duly called and regularly held, notice of such proposed changes having been sent in writing to the members entitled to vote

thereon not less than thirty (30) days before such meeting. Proposed revisions will be reviewed and approved by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors before they may be submitted to the Association membership for a vote. Any Officer, Board member or Association member in good standing may submit a proposed revision to the Board for consideration

These Bylaws of the Gun Owners of South Carolina are adopted as amended

on _____, 20____

Gerald W. Stoudemire, President
Gun Owners of South Carolina

Jackie Haltiwanger, Secretary
Gun Owners of South Carolina

Donnie L. Bobb, Webmaster/Membership
Gun Owners of South Carolina

Gun Owners of South Carolina

Bylaws

Membership Dues

Effective

January 1, 2012

1. Individual Membership

- a.** Annual Member: \$15.00
- b.** Three Year Member: \$45.00
- c.** Life Member: \$300.00 (May be paid in equal payments of \$75.00)
- d.** Junior Member: \$7.50 (Must be under 21 y.o.a.)

2. Organization/Club/School

- a.** Adult: \$45.00 (This fee shall be waived if the Organization/Club/School has at least 10 paid active members of GOSC).
- b.** Junior/School/College Shooting Team: \$15.00 (These dues shall be waived if the Junior/School/College Shooting Team has at least 10 paid active members and one (1) paid active Shooting Coach/Advisor of GOSC).

Approved by the Board of Directors on _____