



BLUE RIDGE SPORTSMAN CLUB

BYLAWS

AMENDED 2016

PREAMBLE

We, the Sportsmen of the Harrisburg area, do hereby organize the Blue Ridge Sportsman Club (club) for the following purposes: To promote good sportsmanship, to foster the propagation and protection of fish and game, to establish game preserves, to cooperate with the PA Game Commission, PA Fish and Boat Commission, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and US Environmental Protection Agency in supporting benevolent and charitable institutions and undertakings and for general social enjoyment.

1.0 ARTICLE I MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be renewable on an annual basis. Membership period is July 1 to June 30.

1.1 Membership

Any legal resident of the United States, 16 (sixteen) years of age or older, of good character, being recommended by any member of the club in good standing, and upon payment of the current annual dues may be admitted to the membership by the majority vote of the voting members present at any meeting of the club. A social member will have the same privileges as a regular member with the exception of holding an office. If you wish to become a regular member you must attend six (6) regular monthly meetings in a fiscal year or perform voluntary service accepted by the Board of Directors.

1.11 New Membership

New applicants must fill out a membership application and send through the US Postal Service to current club business address or submit an application online. If voted into club membership, dues must be paid in full at that time.

1.2 Special Membership: Life

Any member who has attained the age of 65 (sixty-five) years or more and has been a regular member of the club for a period of 15 (fifteen) years shall be granted a life time paid-up membership.

1.3 Special Membership: Family

Family membership is open to all applicants and shall include the member and spouse plus any dependent children under the age of 16 (sixteen). Names and ages of children are to be included on the membership application. Any family member upon reaching the age of 16 (sixteen) must apply for an individual membership and pay dues by the end of the current membership year. If not paid, member will need to re-apply.

1.4 Termination of Membership

An individual's membership may be suspended for any reason upon recommendation of an active club member and at a two-thirds majority vote of the voting members present at a regularly scheduled meeting. The suspended member shall be given two (2) weeks' notice by registered letter by the Membership Secretary to attend the next regular scheduled meeting and present his own defense. At which time after hearing his defense, the club may terminate the suspension or dismiss him by a two-thirds majority vote. The Board of Directors may immediately dismiss any individual who maliciously destroys club property or violates any club regulations, and any Federal or State Statutes that are within the purposes and aims of this club. Any member, who makes his key card or the combination to any lock on club property available to a nonmember, shall be subject to immediate dismissal.

1.5 Dues

Payment of membership renewal dues is accepted by mail, at the clubhouse during sporting clays or meeting hours, or online. Renewals will not be accepted at the Membership Secretary's residence. Failure to pay renewal dues by August 1 of the new membership year will result in cancellation of membership and the member will need to re-apply.

1.6 Armed Service Membership

Any member of the club called to active military service shall, upon written notice to the club of such call to duty, shall be granted a paid-up membership for a period not to exceed six (6) months following the date of his Honorable Discharge or release from active military duty.

1.7 Honorary Membership

The club may grant to any interested salaried officers of State and Federal Conservation Agencies an Honorary Club Membership for the duration of the tenure.

(Section 1.11 added April 2013. Sections 1.0, 1.1, 1.3, 1.4 & 1.5 amended April 2013. Sections 1.0, 1.11, 1.3 & 1.5 amended November 2015.)

2.0 ARTICLE II OFFICERS

2.1 Appointment of Officers

Officers of the club shall be derived from the membership and shall consist of President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, and six (6) Directors-At-Large consisting of five (5) elected members from the voting membership and the immediate club past President, or in his absence, an additional elected Director from the voting membership.

2.11 Trustees

Three (3) Trustees will be selected from regular club membership. They will have a term of one (1) year. One (1) shall be elected by the club membership, two (2) shall be appointed by the President.

2.2 Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected officers, the 6 (six) Directors at large and the immediate past President. Of the Directors-At-Large one (1) Director shall be elected for a term of three (3) years; two (2) Directors shall be elected for a term of two (2) years; three (3) Directors shall be elected for a term of one (1) year.

2.3 Duties of the Officers

2.31 President

It shall be the duty of the President to call and preside all meetings of the club, to appoint all committees - standing and special - and to make appointments to fill all vacancies with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors.

2.32. Vice President

It shall be the duty of the Vice President to perform all the given duties of the President in the absence of the President.

2.33 Secretary

A. Corresponding Secretary - The Corresponding Secretary shall keep an accurate and proper record of all general meetings of the club in a book provided by the club for such purpose, and shall make a report of board meetings to the general membership at a general club meeting.

B. Membership Secretary - The Membership Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the members, shall issue membership cards upon payment of the annual dues, shall be the sole recipient of all membership dues, and shall submit the same with an orderly record of the dues to the club Treasurer. In addition, the Membership Secretary shall assume the duties of Corresponding Secretary in the absence of the Corresponding Secretary.

2.34 Treasurer

The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds of the club, shall pay all normal operational bills upon receipt and any other bills upon instruction of the Board of Directors, shall keep accurate records of all transactions and render a statement of all funds on hand and all bills paid at the regularly scheduled club meetings. In addition, he shall conduct and secure investments as directed by the Board of Directors of the club. An annual report is to be presented at the end of each fiscal year.

2.35 Board of Directors

It shall be the duties of the Board of Directors to represent the club in all legal matters, to have charge of all club property, and to administer the same according to the Preamble of this Charter. All capital investments up to \$500.00 (five hundred dollars) shall be within the power of approval of the Board of Directors. Expenditures in excess of \$500.00 (five hundred dollars) must be submitted to the voting membership for approval. In addition, the Board of Directors shall perform any other such duties as the club may deem appropriate from time to time and may direct in the power of them to do so.

2.36 Trustees

It shall be the duties of the Trustees to oversee, audit, and recommend improvements to the fiscal transactions of the club. They will have the responsibility to inspect all club records, receipts, invoices, etc., as they deem necessary to complete this task. They will meet at their own discretion each month, and report to the general membership at each monthly meeting.

(Sections 2.11 & 2.36 added May 2011. Section 2.33B amended April 2013. Section 2.33B amended November 2015.)

3.0 ARTICLE III CLUB OPERATION

3.1 Fiscal Year

3.11 The Fiscal Year shall run from July 1 through June 30.

3.2 Meetings

3.21 The club shall hold regular monthly meetings, and annual calendar meetings shall be established at the pleasure of the voting membership. This will be established at the time of election of new officers. Eleven (11) members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a regular meeting.

3.22 The Board of Directors shall meet at the call of the President but shall meet no less than twice a year at such time and place as they themselves may direct. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called in such a manner as prescribed by the bylaws. All members of the Board shall be notified in advance of all meetings.

3.3 Dues

3.31 Dues structure shall be established on an annual basis by the Board of Directors and shall be subject to reevaluation as financial needs arise.

3.32 New members applying in the last quarter of a fiscal year, upon payment of an application fee and dues, shall be given a paid-up membership for the next fiscal year.

3.4 Committees

3.41 There shall be the following Standing Committees: Sporting Clays, Rifle Range, Handgun Range, Archery, Forestry, Education, Recreation, Kitchen, Building and Grounds, and Wildlife. The committees shall consist of an odd number of members no less than three (3) and no greater than nine (9). The committees shall establish their rules of procedure which shall be approved by the Board of Directors and posted as notice to members.

3.42 Nominating Committee - It shall be the responsibility of the President to appoint a Nominating Committee. This will be appointed two (2) months prior to the election of officers and shall consist of three (3) patron members. It will be their duty to report a slate of officers one (1) month prior to election.

3.43 Special Committees - The President may appoint Special Committees as the needs arise. These committees may have standing or ad-hoc status as may be designated by the President.

3.44 Standing Committees -

A. Sporting Clays - It shall be the duty of this committee to maintain the sporting clays facilities, plan and supervise sporting clays shoots, and promote sporting clays shooting within the club.

B. Rifle Range - At least one (1) member of this committee shall be a certified range officer. It shall be the duty of this committee to maintain the range facility, including targets, backstops, range signs, and posted range boundaries, to plan and supervise all organized rifle shoots, and to enforce the range rules and range hours and report infractions of the same to the club officers.

C. Handgun Range - At least one (1) member of this committee shall be a certified range officer. It shall be the duty of this committee to maintain the range facility, including targets, backstops, range signs, and posted range boundaries, to plan and supervise all organized handgun shoots, and to enforce the range rules and range hours and report infractions of the same to the club officers.

D. Archery - It shall be the duty of this committee to maintain the archery facilities for the purpose of archery practice and shooting.

E. Forestry - It shall be the duty of this committee to provide for the development and maintenance of all wooded areas of the club property.

F. Program Committee - It shall be the duty of this committee to provide education and funding for the advancement of the cause of natural resources in the club. It should select and provide programs, speakers, and relevant material in keeping with the stated purpose of this club, and to disseminate information and provide the opportunity for resource education to club members and youths of the community. It shall be, in part, its responsibility to organize social events and fund raising projects to facilitate these programs.

G. Kitchen - It shall be the duty of this committee to maintain all kitchen equipment and secure food and refreshments for all club activities as directed by the club President.

H. Building and Grounds - It shall be the duty of this committee to keep in good maintenance the facility and buildings of the club property.

I. Wildlife - It shall be the duty of this committee to aid the wildlife commissions in the distribution of wildlife species, the advancement of the cause for perpetuation of wildlife and to stimulate interest in private land holders of the same, and to promote the propagation of wildlife on the club property.

3.5 Election of Officers

3.51 Election of the slate of officers of the club shall be conducted at the last meeting of the fiscal year. A member nominated to office shall be a member in good standing in the association. No nomination shall be made by the Nominating Committee unless the committee has ascertained that the nominee is willing and able to serve if elected, and no nomination shall be accepted from the floor unless the same conditions are met.

3.52 All elections of officers shall be by secret ballot unless only one member is nominated for each office. Simple majority shall constitute the winner. Elected officers shall assume responsibility at the first meeting of the fiscal year.

3.53 Qualified voters shall be members in good standing who present their current membership card in order to receive their ballot.

3.6 Maintenance

3.61 The President and Committee Chairman, in an attempt to reduce financial expenditures, shall designate days for work parties on specified club projects. Work parties shall be open for the total club membership; all members are encouraged to participate in order to reduce the financial burden to the club.

3.7 Non-Club Use of Property

3.71 The Board of Directors, as they see fit, may at times choose to rent the property to local civic organizations for nonprofit and non-shooting activities. Such organizations shall provide proof of liability insurance, and shall save harmless the Blue Ridge Sportsman Club from any and all claims.

3.72 Rental fees shall be established with each particular circumstance and based on the degree of usage of the club property.

3.73 The Board of Directors may, from time to time, grant use of the club building and property to organize shooting activities presenting proof of liability insurance for the event which shall save harmless the Blue Ridge Sportsman Club from any and all claims.

3.8 Rules and Regulations

3.81 No alcoholic beverages of any kind will be permitted on the club property at any given time unless the event or activity is approved by a two-thirds vote of the executive board members and meets the following criteria and applicable State Law. No individuals will consume alcoholic beverages until their shooting has completed and their weapons are secured. Individuals who have consumed alcoholic beverages are not permitted to use firearms and/or archery. Non-club members are not allowed to consume alcohol on club property unless attending an approved event. No rental parties are allowed to provide or consume alcohol on club property. Blue Ridge Sportsman Club is not responsible for the actions of members who choose to consume alcohol. Actions of members consuming alcohol are the sole responsibility of said member.

3.82 Members shall display proof of membership while present on the club property. This system will be enforced by the Board of Directors.

3.83 Any club member under the age of 16 (sixteen) shall be accompanied by an adult while on the club property.

3.84 Use of the club property by nonmembers or unauthorized personnel shall be the subject to prosecution under the trespass laws.

3.85 Use of the club shall be limited to expressed club purposes. No exception shall be made to include any use by motorized vehicles, equestrian trail rides or other recreational activities.

3.86 Hunting is not permitted on club property. Any member found hunting on club property shall be subject to immediate dismissal.

3.9 Responsibilities of Members

3.91 It is the responsibility of all members to retain the key card and the combination to any lock on club property, and shall refrain from providing unauthorized access to any and all non-club personnel. Failure to comply with this could result in termination of club membership.

3.92 It is the responsibility of all members to monitor the display of proof of membership by fellow members and to identify and reject any unauthorized personnel and to make a report to the Board of Directors of the circumstances of the event.

(Section 3.81 amended 2008. Sections 3.31, 3.91 & 3.92 amended April 2013. Sections 3.41, 3.44A, 3.44B & 3.44C amended November 2015.)

4.0 ARTICLE IV DISPOSITION OF CLUB PROPERTY

4.1 Rentals

4.11 Abodes or dwelling houses may be leased to individuals under standard agreements prepared and approved by the Board of Directors for the purpose of deriving income and defraying the expenses of the club property.

4.12 Short Term Rental of Club Facilities - Periodically, the Board of Directors may consider requests for the use of the club facilities by organizations or individuals for purposes compatible with club policies and objectives. A standard agreement, including provisions for insurance, maintenance, and fees will be prepared and approved by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors reserves the right to refuse any and all requests, and requires prepayment of any and all rental fees. A certificate of insurance must be presented at the time the lease agreement is signed.

4.2 Disposal of Property

4.21 Real Property - Sale of real property shall be negotiated by the Board of Directors. Legal or contractual agreements shall be presented to the voting membership for approval. Any monetary gains shall revert to the club treasury.

4.22 Personal Property or Chattels of the Club - It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to negotiate and obtain the best possible value for unserviceable or surplus club equipment. Proceeds from such sale shall revert to the club treasury.

4.23 Acquisition of Real Property - In the event requiring relocation of club property, or acquisition of additional club property, the Officers and Board of Directors shall negotiate such acquisitions and present legal and contractual agreements to the voting membership for approval of same.

4.24 Dissolution of the Club - In the event that the club should be permanently dissolved, all proceeds from the sale of club property, both real and personal, shall revert to the club treasury for payment of its creditors. Net proceeds shall be placed in a trust fund as directed by the Board of Directors and shall be expended only for the purpose of advancement of conservation specifically through the education of youth in shooting sports and shooting sports foundations.

5.0 ARTICLE V AMENDMENTS

5.1 Every proposed Amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Blue Ridge Sportsman Club shall be submitted in writing to the President, who shall read the proposed Amendment at a regular club meeting strictly for the purpose of hearing. This will then be read at the next following regular meeting for approval of posting for proposed Amendment. If approved for posting, at the third and subsequent regular meeting, the Amendment shall be offered for final approval, and will be enacted if accepted by a two-thirds vote of members present.