

# BLUE RIDGE SPORTSMAN CLUB

# BYLAWS



## **ARTICLE I: NAME AND OBJECTIVES**

We, the Sportsmen of the Harrisburg area, do hereby organize the Blue Ridge Sportsman Club for the following purposes and objectives: To promote and encourage sportsmanship, outdoor shooting and activities, and conservation in all its related forms. To promote safety, educate and instruct individuals in outdoor shooting and activities. To work with or be associated with any group or organization for the betterment and promotion of any of the outdoor shooting and activities or those implied in these articles. To encourage true sportsmanship by obeying and supporting the enforcement of the game and fish laws and regulations of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

## **ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP**

### **Section 1. Membership**

The membership period is July 1 to June 30 and shall be renewable on an annual basis. Any legal resident of the United States, 18 years of age or older, of good character, being sponsored by any member of the club in good standing can apply for membership. Applicant must fill out an application for membership and subsequently submit payment of the current annual dues.

### **Section 2. Family Membership**

Family membership is open to all applicants and shall include the member and spouse or significant other plus any dependent children under the age of 18. Names and ages of children are to be included on the membership application. Any dependent child reaching the age of 18 must apply for an individual membership and pay dues by the end of the current membership year or will need to re-apply.

### **Section 3. Life Membership**

Any member who has attained the age of 65 years and maintained 15 years of continuous club membership will be granted a life membership. Any active member who has been selected by the Board in recognition of outstanding service or contribution to the club may be granted a life membership. A life member shall be assessed no dues.

### **Section 4. Military Service Membership**

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

### **Section 5. Special Membership**

A special membership may be granted to an individual by the Board on a case-by-case basis. Membership granted under this section waives annual dues for the current membership period.

### **Section 6. Termination of Membership**

An individual's membership may be suspended for any reason upon recommendation of an active club member and two-thirds vote of the Board. The accused member shall be given two (2) weeks' notice by registered letter from the Membership Secretary to attend the next scheduled Board meeting and present their own defense. At which time after hearing their defense, the Board may lift or extend the suspension or terminate the membership of the accused by a two-thirds vote.

## **Section 7. Dues**

Payment of annual membership renewal dues is accepted by mail, online or the Drop Box in the clubhouse. 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.

The initial and annual dues structure shall be established on an annual basis by the Board and shall be subject to re-evaluation as financial needs arise.

## **ARTICLE III: BOARD**

### **Section 1. Officers and Directors**

The Board Officers and Directors shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, nine (9) Directors elected from the voting membership, and the immediate past President.

The Directors on the Board shall consist of nine (9) Directors and the immediate past President. Of the Directors, 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, and six (6) Directors shall be elected for a term of one (1) year.

### **Section 2. Duties of the Officers**

#### **President**

It shall be the duty of the President to call and preside at all club meetings and to coordinate and assist in the planning and execution of the activities of the club. The President shall appoint all regular and special committees and make appointments to fill all vacancies with the advice and consent of the Board.

#### **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.

#### **Secretary**

The Secretary shall keep an accurate and proper record of all Board and regular meetings of the club and shall make a report of Board meetings to the membership at a regular club meeting.

#### **Membership Secretary**

The Membership Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the members and report membership status at Board meetings. He/she shall issue membership cards upon payment of dues, oversee the collection and transfer of all dues, and submit the dues to the club Treasurer.

#### **Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds of the club and disburse funds upon receipt of a proper invoice and upon instruction of the Board. He/she shall receive all monies due to the club from any source and deposit monies in a depository designated by the Board. He/she shall keep accurate records of all transactions and furnish a report of all funds and expenditures at scheduled Board and regular meetings. An annual report is to be presented to the Board at the end of each fiscal year, which runs from July 1 to June 30. Completion of a yearly financial audit and the filing of taxes shall be the responsibility of the Treasurer.

### **Section 3. Duties of the Board**

Duties of the Board shall be to represent the club in all legal matters, to have charge of all club property, and to administer the same according to these bylaws. All capital investments up to \$5,000.00 (five thousand dollars) shall be within the power of approval of the Board. Capital investments in excess of \$5,000.00 (five thousand dollars) must be submitted to the voting membership for approval. The Board shall have the power to approve operational expenditures.

## **ARTICLE IV: ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS**

### **Section 1. Nominees and Elections**

Election of Board members shall be conducted at the last meeting of the fiscal year. A member nominated to the Board must be a member in good standing. No nomination shall be made by the Nominating Committee unless the committee has ascertained that the nominee has met the eligibility requirements.

All elections of Board members shall be made by secret ballot unless only one (1) member is nominated for each position. Simple majority shall constitute the winner. Elected Board members shall assume responsibility at the next meeting.

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

### **Section 2. Director Eligibility**

In order to serve as a Director, members must remain in good standing for no less than two (2) years, must have attended no less than one (1) regular meeting per quarter in the previous 12 months prior to the date of the election, and must volunteer or contribute to club operations.

### **Section 3. Officer Eligibility**

In order to become an Officer, Directors must have served on the Board for no less than two (2) years.

### **Section 4. Resignations and Vacancies**

Any Board member must announce their resignation at a monthly Board meeting or submit their resignation in writing to the Board.

Any vacated position shall be filled by appointment by the Board as may be necessary and appropriate for the operation of the club until such time as the Board elects a permanent replacement for the vacated position.

## **ARTICLE V: MEETINGS**

### **Section 1. Regular Meetings**

Regular meetings of the general membership shall be held bi-monthly unless otherwise ordered by the Board. Regular meeting months shall be February, April, June, August, October and December.

### **Section 2. Board Meetings**

The Board shall meet monthly unless otherwise deemed necessary. A majority of the total number of Board members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

## **ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES**

### **Section 1. Regular Committees**

Regular committees shall consist of an odd number of members no less than three (3) and no greater than nine (9).

#### **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.

#### **Rifle Range**

At least one (1) member of this committee shall be a certified range safety 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 Board.

### **Handgun Range**

At least one (1) member of this committee shall be a certified range safety 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 Board.

### **Archery**

It shall be the duty of this committee to maintain the archery facilities for the purpose of archery practice and shooting and to plan and supervise all organized archery shoots.

### **Education**

It shall be the duty of this committee to provide programs, speakers, and relevant information and to organize events for resource education to club members and the community.

### **Security**

It shall be the duty of this committee to supervise proper maintenance of all security equipment on the club property, to address facility-specific security issues, and to approve the implementation of security measures and practices.

## **Section 2. Nominating Committee**

It shall be the responsibility of the President to appoint a Nominating Committee two (2) months prior to the election of Board members and shall consist of three (3) club members. The committee must consider all potential candidates, verify eligibility of the candidates, and report a slate of candidates one (1) month prior to election.

## **Section 3. Special Committee**

The President may appoint a Special Committee as the need arises. A Special Committee may have standing or ad-hoc status as designated by the President.

## **ARTICLE VII: NON-CLUB USE OF PROPERTY**

### **Section 1. Rental**

The Board, as they see fit, may at times choose to rent the property to organizations for events or activities. Such organizations shall provide proof of liability insurance and shall save harmless the Blue Ridge Sportsman Club and Board from all claims. Rental fees shall be established for each event or activity based on the degree of usage of the club property.

### **Section 2. Shooting Events**

The Board may, from time to time, grant use of the club buildings and property to organize shooting events. Such organizations shall provide proof of liability insurance for the event which shall save harmless the Blue Ridge Sportsman Club and Board from all claims. Event fees shall be established for each event based on the degree of usage of the club property.

## **ARTICLE VIII: RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **Section 1. Alcoholic Beverages and Controlled Substances**

Alcoholic beverages of any kind shall not be permitted on the club property at any given time unless attending an event or activity approved by the Board and meeting the following criteria and applicable State Law: Individuals are not allowed to 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, archery and club-owned equipment or machinery.

No individuals on club property shall possess or consume controlled substances not prescribed to them.

The Blue Ridge Sportsman Club and Board is not responsible for the actions of members or nonmembers who choose to consume alcohol beverages or controlled substances. Actions of members or nonmembers consuming alcohol beverages or controlled substances are the sole responsibility of said individuals.

### **Section 2. Members Use of Club Property**

Members shall possess proof of membership while on club property. Proof of membership must be presented upon request by a club member.

Any club member under the age of 18 shall be accompanied by an adult member while on club property.

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

Motorized vehicles, equestrian trail rides or unauthorized recreational activities are prohibited on club property.

Hunting is not permitted on club property. Any member found hunting on club property shall be subject to disciplinary action up to or including termination of club membership. Any nonmember found hunting on club property shall be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

### **Section 3. Responsibilities of Members**

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

It is the responsibility of all members to monitor the proof of membership by fellow members and report to the Board any unauthorized personnel and the circumstances of any event.

## **ARTICLE IX: CLUB PROPERTY**

### **Section 1. Real Property**

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

### **Section 2. Personal Property of the Club**

It shall be the duty of the Board to negotiate and obtain the best possible value for unserviceable or surplus club equipment. Proceeds from such sale shall revert to the club treasury.

### **Section 3. Acquisition of Real Property**

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

### **Section 4. 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 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.

**ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS**

Every proposed amendment to the Bylaws of the Blue Ridge Sportsman Club shall be submitted in writing to the President. The President shall present the proposed amendment to the Board for review.

At the next regular club meeting, the President shall read the proposed amendment at which time it will be e-mailed to members and posted in the clubhouse and on the club website. At the next regular meeting, the proposed amendment will be open for discussion, after which it will be voted upon. The proposed amendment will be enacted if accepted by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

BYLAWS AMENDED OCTOBER 12, 2022.

THIS EDITION OF THE BYLAWS SUPERSEDES ALL PREVIOUS EDITIONS.