

BYLAWS OF THE WATAUGA GUN CLUB

Revised July, 2013

Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be Watauga Gun Club, Inc.

Article II – Object

The object of this organization shall be the encouragement of organized shooting events among the citizens of the United States in our community, with a view toward better knowledge on the part of such citizens of safe handling and proper care of firearms, as well as improved marksmanship. It shall be further object and purpose to forward the development of those characteristics of honesty, good fellowship, self-discipline, team play and self-reliance, which are the essentials of good sportsmanship and the foundation of true patriotism.

Article III – Membership

Any citizen of the United States at least 18 years of age may become a member to this organization on vote of the membership after subscribing to the following pledge and on payment of the usual initiation fee and dues.

The NRA Pledge

I certify that I am a citizen of the United States of America and that I am not a member of any organization or group which has as any part of it's program the attempt to overthrow the government of the United States or any of it's political subdivisions by force or violence; that I have never been convicted of a crime of violence, and if admitted to membership I will faithfully endeavor to fulfill the obligations of good sportsmanship and good citizenship.

Article IV – Dues

1. The member's annual dues to the club shall be \$150.00 (Amended 2009) due no later than February 1st of each year.
2. No member of the club in arrears shall be eligible to vote or enjoy any of the privileges or benefits offered by the club.
3. 10% of memberships dues go to a Capital Reserves Fund until the account is equivalent to one years dues. The fund is for club improvements or emergencies. (Approved October 12, 2001) *(note: minutes in the October 3, 2001 and October 31, 2001 newsletters are both dated September 13, 2001. October 13, 2001 minutes are assumed to be for the meeting on October 12, 2001. Corrected in copy of newsletter on file by Tom Bennett October 13, 2004)*
4. Annual dues are prorated for new members only and not prorated for renewal. (Approved October 12, 2001)

Article V – Meetings

1. **Annual Meeting** The annual meeting of the club shall be held on the second Thursday of December in each year. If the annual meeting shall not take place within a reasonable time thereafter the officers shall hold over until their successors shall have been elected.
2. **Regular Meetings** The regular business meeting of the club for the transaction of ordinary business shall be held on the second Thursday of each month, at 7:00pm at the Watauga Gun Club club house or, at such time and place as may be fixed by the Executive Committee.
3. **Special Meetings** A special meeting of the club may be held at any time upon the call of the President or upon the call of the Executive Committee, or upon the demand in writing, stating the object of the proposed meeting, and signed by not less than 20% of the members entitled to vote. The Executive Committee shall fix the place of such special meeting. Notice of the time, place, and object of any special meeting shall be given all officers and members in good standing in writing by US Mail or email not less than seven days prior to the date fixed for the holding of the meeting.
4. **Quorum** All members present at any regular or special scheduled meeting shall constitute a quorum, provided time and place of regular meeting has been previously announced.

Article VI - Finances

1. **Expenditure Limit** All major motions and club expenditures over \$1000.00 shall be published in the newsletter prior to being voted on at the next meeting. (Approved February 2001)(changed from \$300 to \$1000 July 11, 2013)
2. **Expenditures in excess of \$1000.00** require a hearing by the Executive Committee before being presented to the membership, except in the case of emergency expenditures. If a loan of club funds is being requested, a reasonable amount of time must be given to assess the funds are available. (Approved July 2001)(changed to \$1000 July 11, 2013)
3. **Emergency Expenditures** The Executive Committee shall be responsible for any expenditures necessary to ensure access to the club, prevent further damage, and possible injury. The Executive Committee may access money from the Capital Reserves Fund [Article IV Section 3] with a limit of \$5000.00, Emergency expenditures require a Quorum of the Executive Committee to approve such expenses, quorum as defined in Article VII Section 4. If expenses will exceed this limit, the President may call a special meeting of the membership to approve any such expenses and suspend the 30 day notice.
4. **Discipline Finances** Each discipline may/shall maintain its own financial accounting and bank account. There must be at least two signature persons for that account. A monthly finance report will be given to the club treasurer to be included in the club treasurer's report at the regular meeting. The Discipline finances are property of Watauga Gun Club and may be used by the club for emergency expenses only, with the exception of percent due to the club. Each discipline shall transfer to the club 25% of that discipline's profit. Disbursement may be made Annually.

Article VII – Officers

1. The Officers of this club shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chief Instructor, Range Officer, Publicity Officer, and Membership Coordinator who, acting together shall constitute the Executive Committee. They shall be elected by a majority vote by ballot of the members in good standing present at the annual meeting of the club. They shall hold the office for one year or until their successors are elected. (The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined.)
2. The Executive Committee shall have general supervision and control of all activities of the club.
3. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held regularly at such time and place as the committee may determine. Three members of the committee may hold special meetings at any time on the call of the President or on demand in writing to the Secretary.
4. Four members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.
5. Resignation of any officer shall be accepted by the remaining officers of the Executive Committee.
6. A vacancy in the Executive Committee may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the committee. However, if more than one vacancy exists, a special meeting of the club shall be called and new officers shall be elected to fill the vacancies until the date of the next annual meeting as provided in paragraph (1) above.

Article VIII – Duties of Officers

1. **President** The President shall preside at all meetings of the club and of the Executive Committee. He shall be a member ex-officio of all regular and special committees, and shall perform all such other duties as usually pertain to the office.
2. **Vice-President** The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in his absence or at his request, and shall be responsible for programs, refreshments, meals, and scheduling events to be posted on club calendar. (Amended January 2010 [added calendar])
3. **Secretary** The Secretary shall conduct all official correspondence pertaining to the proper preparation of forwarding of all reports required of the club by the NRA and by the Director of Civilian Marksmanship. He shall notify all members of special and annual meetings, as required in Article V. He shall keep a true record of all meetings of the Executive Committee and of the club and have the custody of the books and papers of the club. The Secretary shall add all passed amendments to the By-Laws of the Watauga Gun Club. All above mentioned books and papers shall remain the property of Watauga Gun Club.
4. **Treasurer** The Treasurer shall have charge of all the funds of the Club and place the same in such bank or banks as may be approved by the Executive Committee. Such money shall only be withdrawn by check signed by the Treasurer and President and for the payment of such bills as shall have been approved by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate account of all his transactions and render a detailed report with vouchers at any meeting of the Executive Committee when requested and a monthly report to the organization at it's monthly

meeting.

5. **Chief Instructor** The Chief Instructor shall have the charge of all small arms instruction with authority to appoint assistants. He shall contract no bills without the authorization of the Executive Committee.

6. **Range Officer** The Range Officer shall have charge of the Range of the Club, the printing of scorecards, the arranging of competitions, etc. He shall contract no bills without the authorization of the Executive Committee.

7. **Publicity Officer** The Publicity Officer shall distribute publicity and advertisement for the club, and be responsible for publishing and distributing the newsletter.

8. **Membership Coordinator** (Approved January 2010) The Membership Coordinator shall keep a record of all current members, a record of Range Safety/Operations Briefing for each member. The Membership Coordinator shall also be responsible for scheduling Range Safety/Operations Briefing. This officer shall be responsible for providing the member with a membership card and gate code after the member has received a Range Safety/Operations Briefing. The Membership Coordinator is responsible for duties defined in Amendment I Section 3 concerning membership eligibility.

Article IX – Suspension or Expulsion

1. Any officer may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the members in good standing present at any special meeting called for this purpose. No vote on suspension or removal may be taken unless at least fifteen days notice in writing shall have been given to the officer of the reasons for his removal and of the time and place of the special meeting at which such ballot on his removal is to be taken. At such special meeting the officer shall be given a full hearing.

2. Any member may be suspended or expelled from the club for any cause deemed sufficient by the Executive Committee by two-thirds affirmative vote of the members of the committee present at any regular or special meeting. No vote on suspension or expulsion may be taken unless at least fifteen days notice in writing shall have been given to the member of the charges preferred and of the time and place of the meeting of the Executive committee at which such charges will be considered. At such meeting the member under charges will be accorded a full hearing.

3. Any member in good standing may prefer charges against any officer or member. They shall be in writing clearly stating the facts relied upon and accompanied by all affidavits or exhibits which are to be used in their support. Such charges shall be filed with the Secretary, who will immediately notify the President. The President will call a meeting of the Executive Committee and to the accuser and the accused, which notice shall be in writing and will include a true copy of the charges and of the supporting affidavits and exhibits.

4. Any member suspended or expelled by the executive committee may appeal to the full membership of the Club. Such appeal shall be made in writing to the Secretary who will notify the President. The president will call a special meeting of the club for the purpose of acting on the appeal. The Secretary shall give at least fifteen days notice in writing to all members of the club in good standing stating the date, time, place, and reason for such meeting. At the meeting

of the full club the Secretary will read the original charges, the supporting affidavits, and will read or display the accompanying exhibits, and will read the minutes of the special meeting of the Executive Committee at which the charges were heard and the action taken. A full hearing will be given the accuser and the accused. A vote will be taken by the ballot of the members in good standing present and a two-thirds vote shall be required to reverse the action of the Executive Committee.

5. Any member involved in drinking and/or illegal drug use while on club property constitutes grounds for suspension or expulsion. (Approved May 2002)

Article X – Amendments

Any proposed amendments to these bylaws may be introduced by any member of the club at any regular meeting or special meeting called for the purpose. Discussion of the proposed amendment will proceed as usual at this meeting, but no vote may be taken. The proposed amendment shall be acted upon by the membership at a regular meeting or a special meeting called for the purpose, provided a copy of the approved amendment has been sent to each club member by US Mail or email at least ten days prior to the meeting. The floor may be opened again for discussion at this meeting. A two-thirds vote of the members present will be necessary to pass or reject the proposed amendment.

Amendment I – Regular Membership

1. The person desiring membership must be a National Rifle Association member or applying for membership.
2. He must attend a meeting to announce his desire to become a member.
3. The Membership Coordinator shall perform a background check of the applicant for [firearm or domestic violence violations and/or some other information here] A current/valid North Carolina or North Carolina reciprocal Conceal Handgun permit shall be accepted in lieu of a background check. If a background check is not required at this point, the applicant may be voted on at their first meeting.
4. After the applicant has had a background check or equivalent, the applicant shall be voted upon at the next regularly scheduled meeting. If approved by a majority of the members present, the new member shall be a probationary member for six months with all privileges of regular membership.
5. At the end of the six months the probationary member shall automatically become a regular member unless a complaint against same has been voiced to the Membership Coordinator.
6. New members shall be assessed an initiation fee of \$50 (Amended 2000). In addition it will be determined that he is a member of the National Rifle Association.
7. In order to be eligible for annual membership renewal, each member must have attended at least one Watauga Gun Club Regular Monthly Business Meeting and a Range Safety/Operations Briefing in the prior calendar year. If a member fails to attend both a WGC Regular Monthly Business Meeting and a Range Safety/Operations Briefing in the prior calendar year, then he

will be ineligible for renewal and required to attend a WGC Regular Monthly Business Meeting and a Range Safety/Operations Briefing, as indicated in Section IV of the Membership and Safety Manual, prior to renewal of membership and range use privileges which will satisfy this requirement for the previous calendar year. (Approved July 2012)

8. All new members will undergo an orientation before becoming active members. (Approved March 2001)

9. Work trade for membership is not allowed. (Approved March 2001)

Amendment II – Associate or Junior Membership

1. Associate or Junior membership shall be restricted to any regular member's immediate family – that is, his spouse, and real or legally adopted children, twenty-one years of age or under.

2. It shall be a non-voting membership.

3. Associate member applicants over eighteen years of age shall hold regular or associate membership in the National Rifle Association, and junior members (under eighteen years of age) shall hold junior membership in the National Rifle Association. Proof of application shall be required at application.

4. Annual dues for each associate or junior member shall be \$5.00.

5. No Associate or junior member can fire on a club range unless accompanied by a regular member.

Amendment III – Open Weekend

A designated weekend each month is to be left open for unorganized shooting by Club members; no organized shooting event or activities shall be scheduled for any of the ranges. This weekend, first, second, third, or fourth weekend, shall be announced at the beginning of the year once the disciplines have agreed on their scheduled weekend each.

Amendment IV – Members Aged 18-21 Unsupervised Long-gun Use

All Club members between the ages of 18 and 21 may use the long-gun (rifle and shotgun) ranges without supervision by a regular member. All associate club members (under 21 years of age) must be directly supervised by a regular member (over 21 years) to use and fire a handgun on any of the club ranges. In this regard, transporting the handgun to and from the club should be in compliance with the North Carolina Law. (Amended June 1997)

Amendment V – Range Officer Empowered Authority

The primary duty of the Head Range Officer shall be to enforce all club rules and regulations pertaining to club safety. Specifically, the Range Officer is empowered with the authority to verify at his discretion the safety and legality of any firearm used on the ranges, including a Class 3 FFL for any firearm classified by BATF as such. It is the obligation of members to

report any unsafe act or non-complying firearm to the Executive Committee or any officer.
(Amended May 1998)

Amendment VI – Guests and Other Groups (Approved April 2007)

1. Members shall be allowed to bring guests to the range at their discretion. The only restriction on this is that the member is totally responsible for these guests and shall monitor these guests. Guests are limited to 3 per member. These guests are under direct supervision of the member and must be in the same range or area, that is, not shooting on different ranges and the same time. (Amended June 2008 to a limit of 3)
2. Non-profit organizations such as the Boy Scouts should be allowed use of the range at no charge. They shall schedule use of the range with enough time so that the club can have one or more of our safety officers present while the organization is using the facilities.
3. For-profit groups shall be required to pay a fee of \$10 per person per day for use of the range. This would include police department and/or private groups that use the range for instruction, training, or similar.