

North East Hunting & Fishing Club Incorporated a.k.a North East Sportsmens Club

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The North East Sportsmens Club is a Strong supporter of our 2nd amendment rights and supports the lawful, safe, and responsible use of firearms for Hunting, Sportsmanship, Marksmanship, and Personal Protection. The North East Sportsmens Club does not support, in any way, the unlawful use of firearms for any reason.

ARTICLE I

Name

Section 1:

The name of the organization shall be known as the North East Hunting & Fishing Club, Inc., a.k.a. North East Sportsmens Club.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

Section 1:

The object of this organization shall be to create fellowship and sportsmanship between the members of this organization, promote the safe use of all firearms, and all shooting sports.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1:

Any person of the community 18 years or older upon application and with the sponsorship and endorsement of a member in good standing of the North East Sportsmens Club may become a member, subject to the approval of members present, with the first year of membership being a probationary period. Membership may be limited at the discretion of the Board of Directors. A membership includes the member, spouse, and all the children 18 years of age and under, or age 23 and under if they are a fulltime student maintaining an address (driver's license or other government issued proof of residence) at a member's parent's residence.

Section 2:

The number of members may be limited at the discretion of the Board of Directors to best fulfill the purpose of the organization.

Section 3:

All Applications for membership shall be in writing upon forms prescribed by the club, which applications shall be submitted to the membership committee appointed by the President, which committee shall investigate all applicants and make a report to the Board of Directors.

Section 4:

A: Applicant for membership in the North East Sportsmens Club, subject to the provisions of **Section 1**, and upon payment of an initiation fee and one years' dues, and any surcharge as set by the provisions of **ARTICLE VII**, will enter the club as a member. Family members of a present member (children, dependents) may continue membership in The Club, without paying an initiation fee, by joining their first eligible year of membership, as set by **ARTICLE VII**. After one (1) year of active membership, membership will be continued upon payment of annual dues, surcharges as set by **ARTICLE VII**.

B. Any member not paying annual dues for 1 year will be purged from the North East Sportsmens Club roster and personal property must be removed from the club grounds within 30 days. Active-duty personnel are exempt from dues, providing they notify the club of their military status. Any member so purged, may be returned to the membership only as a new

applicant subject to all provisions of the North East Sportsmens Club and will not be subject to the initiation fee if rejoined within five (5) years.

Section 5:

Membership Card. For security purposes, any Club Member on the grounds **MUST** have their current membership card with them. Any family member, guest, or friend is not allowed to borrow the card to go onto Club property. This also applies to the gate lock. The combination code is not to be given to friends and/or family members. If the gate lock is replaced in the future to a keyed lock, no member is allowed to have extra keys made for family or friends. Any violation to this section will result in the loss of membership.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

Section 1:

The elected officers of this organization shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and six (6) Directors to be elected by the membership at the September meeting.

Section 2:

In addition, the President, with the approval of the other elected officers and elected Directors, may appoint additional directors to serve for the term or portion thereof coincident to his own.

Section 3:

Together, these Officers and Directors shall constitute the Board of Directors, or the Executive Board. These committees shall be:

- A. Executive, which shall be composed of all Officers named in **ARTICLE IV**, which shall act for the club in case of an emergency.
- B. Board of Directors, which will be composed of six (6) members in good standing elected by the majority rule at the September meeting in accordance with rules stated herewith:

Six (6) members in good standing shall be elected in this order.

Two (2) members to serve three (3) year terms.

Two (2) members to serve two (2) year terms.

Two (2) members to serve one (1) year term.

Each September thereafter, two (2) members will be elected to replace the two (2) retiring members for a three (3) year term.

Section 4:

In the event of the resignation of an elected or appointed Officer or Director, the President with the approval of the Board of Directors shall appoint a successor for the unexpired term.

Section 5:

Any non-probationary member of the North East Sportsmens Club in good standing shall be eligible for election to office.

ARTICLE V

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1:

President – The President shall preside at all meetings, appoint all committees not otherwise ordered, call all special meetings whenever believed an occasion shall arise therefore, or whenever requested to do so by any regular committee or by three (3) active members in good standing, provided that the date in time has been posted on the bulletin board and/or website for at least seventy-two (72) hours, and to perform the customary duties of the office. The President shall be a member of all committees.

Section 2:

Vice President – The Vice President shall assume the duties of the President in the President’s absence or at the President’s request.

Section 3:

Secretary – The Secretary, or Recording Secretary, shall have charge of the books and papers of the Club, keep correct records of the meetings and all activities of the club, and a list of the active members in a book which shall be the property of the Club. The Secretary shall assist the President in the preparation of all correspondence and shall further assist the various committee chairmen on correspondence relating to the North East Sportsmens Club activities and programs.

Section 4:

Treasurer – The Treasurer shall have charge of all the funds of the Club, shall notify members of all dues levied and collect the same, disburse the funds only as directed by the

club, keep a correct amount of all receipts and disbursements in which shall be the property of the Club and open at all times to inspection. At each regular meeting, the Treasurer shall report the financial condition of the Club. The Treasurer shall also accompany the Treasurer's report at each meeting with any suggestions they may deem for the financial good of the Club. The Treasurer shall maintain a checking account and a savings account in an institution specified by the Board of Directors, and all checks written shall bear the signatures of the Treasurer or the President, or Vice President. The Treasurer shall have the Club accounts audited each year.

Section 5:

Nominating Committee – A Nominating Committee consisting of the six (6) Directors will post their nominations in the August newsletter and on the clubhouse bulletin board by August 15th. The officers for the new year shall be elected and installed at the September meeting.

Section 6:

Vacancy – In case of vacancy of any of the above officers, a new person shall be elected to fill the office at the first or second meeting following the vacancy.

Section 7:

Board of Directors – The Board of Directors shall conduct the business, supervise activities of the North East Sportsmens Club and ratify the appointment of proposed Directors and Committee Chairmen. The Officers and Directors shall, at all times, maintain a democratic and cooperative spirit throughout the membership. This body shall abide by the decisions of the majority in attendance at a meeting of the board, a quorum consisting of not less than 50% of the Executive Board.

Section 8:

Duties of the Directors – The duties of the Directors, appointed and elected, shall be as directed by the President, with approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 9:

Directors Approvals – Approval of the Board of Directors shall be secured before any capital expense in excess of \$500 incurred, or any program is officially adopted.

Section 10:

Concerns of the duties of the Board of Directors –

- A. All proposals made at the general meeting involving monies must be approved by 70% of the Board of Directors present at the Board of Directors meeting, before the regular meeting, or as necessary.

- B. Minor proposals which involve minor monies may be approved by the Executive Committee at the general meeting.

Section 11:

Membership issues – Any program affecting the membership of the North East Sportsmen Club must have the approval of the Board of Directors before being officially adopted.

Section 12:

Director attendance – Any Director not attending 70% of the regular scheduled meetings may be removed at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI

ELECTIONS

Section 1:

The elective officers shall be elected by majority vote of the members present in good standing at the September meeting. Only one (1) vote per membership will be accepted.

Section 2:

In case of a tie for any office, except that of President, the President shall cast the deciding vote.

Section 3:

In case of a tie vote for the office of President, the deciding vote shall be cast in accordance with the majority opinion of the members of the Board of Directors duly elected to serve for the term for which the President is to be elected.

ARTICLE VII

DUES AND FEES

Section 1:

The annual dues for each coming year and the initiation fee for new members shall be set by the Board of Directors at a meeting to be held each year in the month of September. The rate of annual dues to be established shall require the approval of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors.

Section 2:

The annual dues shall be determined by consideration of the club's expense during the past year and anticipated expenses during the coming year. The objective will be to collect sufficient funds to meet the expected financial obligations plus reasonable contingencies, and maintain the tax-free corporation of the North East Sportsmens Club.

Section 3:

In the event that a majority of the Board of Directors cannot reach an agreement in approving the annual rate of dues, etc. for the coming year at the meeting, or in the unlikely event that a majority of the Board of Directors cannot or will not attend the meeting, the rate of annual dues, etc. for the coming year will remain the same as for the current year.

ARTICLE VIII

GENERAL

Section 1:

The annual meeting of the membership shall be held on the second (2nd) Monday of November of each year, at the clubhouse at 7:00 p.m. Regular business meetings of the membership shall be on the second (2nd) Monday of each month at the clubhouse at 7:00 p.m. with the exception of the months of December and January where there will not be a monthly meeting.

Section 2:

Twenty members in good standing shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3:

Only members in good standing shall vote. Only one vote per family membership is permitted.

Section 4:

A member shall be in good standing if dues are paid to date.

Section 5:

- A. Meeting called to order
- B. All rise and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America
- C. A call to the membership secretary for applications for membership who are in attendance in the clubhouse at this time
- D. A review from the applicant stating why they want to become a member, where they live, where they work, have they ever been a member of any other club like

- ours, and do they have a criminal record or background, and who is their sponsor. An applicant who filled out the application form at Valley Gun Works cannot use Cory Edwards as a sponsor unless Mr. Edwards is present to verify the applicant
- E. After all new member applicants have been reviewed and they pass the Section D screening, a vote by the membership to accept
 - F. Payment of dues
 - G. Reading of the minutes from the previous meeting
 - H. Any questions or corrections. Vote to accept
 - I. Reading of the Treasurers Report
 - J. Any questions or corrections. Vote to accept
 - K. Reports – from the officers, standing committees, and selected committees
 - L. Unfinished Business
 - M. New Business or Order of the Day
 - N. Vote to adjourn the meeting

Section 6:

Meetings shall be conducted according to Roberts’ Rules of Order

ARTICLE IX

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Section 1:

A member may be expelled from the club for following of a policy detrimental to the good name and well-being of the Club. The violating member and member’s actions / events shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors. Expulsion shall be enacted when 70% or more of the board members vote to expel the member. The club secretary shall record minutes of the board meeting and final vote by the board.

Grounds for expulsion include, but not limited to:

- Violating safe firearms practices at any time whether on the club grounds or not.
- Under the influence of drugs or alcohol while attempting to use the club ranges or unsafely handling firearms at the club.
- The handling of firearms in a dangerous or unsafe manner at any time

Grounds for immediate removal of anyone (member or not) from the club grounds includes all instances noted above and does not require a vote of the board of directors. Any NESC club members in good standing can ask the person(s) to leave the club grounds immediately should they be in violation of safe firearms practices or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

ARTICLE X

AMENDMENTS

Section 1:

These By-Laws may be amended by an affirmative vote of sixty (60%) per cent of the regular members at a general membership meeting and an affirmative vote of sixty (60%) of the Board of Directors present at the following meeting of that body, provided that a printed notice

containing the proposed amendments will be posted at the clubhouse at least thirty (30) days prior to the general membership meeting at which time the initial vote will be taken.

ARTICLE XI

IMPEACHMENT

Section 1:

Any regular member may initiate the impeachment of any officer of the Board of Directors at the North East Sportsmens Club by obtaining the signatures of not less than fifty one (51%) of the regular members on a petition which states the name of the officer and shall include specific reasons why the officer is being impeached. This petition shall be presented to the Board of Directors and other regular members at a meeting called at least two (2) weeks in advance. This meeting may be called by the member who initiated the petition.

Section 2:

Any member of the Board of Directors may initiate a motion at a regularly called meeting of that Board to remove any fellow officer from the Board, and this motion shall include specific reasons why the officer should be removed from the office. Removal will be effective upon an affirmative vote of at least seventy-five (75%) percent of the Board of Directors in attendance.

END

As amended up to March 7,1962
As amended up to October 25, 2000
As amended up to November 5, 2008
AS amended up to May 5, 2010
AS amended up to April 3, 2013
AS amended up to November 6, 2013
As amended up to December, 19, 2020
As amended up to June 13, 2023

Note: The above By-Laws were reviewed December 19, 2020 by the following Officers and Board members:

- John William (Bill) Sinclair – President
- Scott Hammer – Vice President
- Gary Jacobs – Treasurer
- Fred Blackburn – Secretary
- Scott Callahan – Board
- Ed Firment Sr. – Board
- Ed Firment Jr. – Board
- Ken Hitz – Board

Absence due to the Covid19 virus was Sue Concilla and Gary Himes
Typed by – Bill Sinclair 1/14/2021

Revision to Article IX - 6-13-23