

# WATAUGA GUN CLUB

# MEMBERSHIP AND SAFETY MANUAL

REVISED 2013

## Membership and Safety Manual

The material contained herein shall be considered the official Rules and Handbook of The Watauga Gun Club. These Rules supersede all previously published, or otherwise communicated, rules, policies and procedures.

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# INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this book is to orientate the new member, as well as the veteran member, to the proper way of using the Watauga Gun club facility. Club members have the opportunity to participate in organized activities with pistol, rifle and shotgun and are encouraged to do so. Membership participation is important to insure smooth operation of an event, plus it helps to spread the work load so all members can enjoy the sport. Members also have the benefit of being able to use the range, individually or in small groups, to practice with their firearms, test ammunition, sight in weapons or simply practice. It is during this type of range use the Honor system is important to help maintain range equipment and keep the range clean and attractive.

Safety is a paramount concern at the Watauga Gun club. It is therefore the responsibility of each member to be aware of the Rules of The Club and especially safe handling of firearms. It is further the responsibility of each member to instruct any family member and or guest that use the Club.

Accidents are preventable; that is our goal. Please read the following information and listen to your range safety officer carefully. Please always be vigilant and do not hesitate to call a "CEASE FIRE" if you observe any unsafe situation. Please report all unsafe situations to a Club Official immediately.

READ THIS INFORMATION CAREFULLY

THINK SAFE, ACT SAFE, BE SAFE!

# Section I:

## FIREARMS SAFETY

Members of the Watauga Gun Club are responsible for the safe handling of firearms while on the Club property. These rules apply to all members, family members, and guests while at the Club for practice or sanctioned shooting events.

### FIREARMS IN SAFE CONDITION

#### Handguns

##### A. Unholstered

1. Revolvers: cylinder open and no ammunition in the charge holes.
2. Pistol: magazine removed, slide locked open, empty chamber, safety engaged if applicable.

##### B. Holstered

1. Revolvers: cylinder empty, hammer down
2. Pistol: magazine removed, slide released, hammer down, safety engaged

#### Rifles

A. Bolt actions: bolt open or out, chamber empty, magazine empty or removed, safety engaged.

B. Pump and semi-auto: action locked open, chamber empty, magazine empty or removed, safety engaged.

C. Lever action: action open, chamber empty, magazine empty or removed, safety engaged.

#### Shotguns

A. Hinged action (side by side, over & under, single barrel): action open, chamber empty, safety engaged if applicable.

B. Pump and semi-auto: action open, chamber empty, magazine empty or removed, safety engaged if applicable.

C. Bolt action: action open, chamber empty, magazine empty or removed, safety engaged if applicable.

# GENERAL FIREARMS HANDLING RULES

1. The use of alcohol before or during handling of weapons is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED**.
2. Insure that all family members and guests know firearm safety handling procedures. Children and guests must, at all times, be under direct and positive supervision of adult club member(s) when using the club and especially when firing weapons.
3. All firearms transported from a vehicle to the range must be in **SAFE (OPEN) CONDITION**. Each time a weapon is removed from a vehicle or passed to another individual, as visual inspection must be made to assure the weapon is in the **SAFE CONDITION**.
4. When a firearm is not in actual use, the safety will be activated and the breach open to show a clear chamber.
5. Eye and ear protection **MUST** be utilized at all times when firing or in the proximity of others firing a weapon.
6. All firearms will be presumed to be loaded at all times. **DO NOT** point a weapon at anyone or anything other than the designated target.
7. Dry firing is permitted only in designated ranges and always in the downrange direction.
8. No loaded firearms are allowed in the clubhouse.
9. The firing of firearms in other than the designated ranges is prohibited.
10. Unless approved by the Club, all forms of hunting on Club property is prohibited.
11. Shout "**CEASE FIRE**" if you witness a safety violation.
12. **IMMEDIATELY** notify club officials of safety rule violations.
13. Strict discipline will be followed while in the range. Horseplay will not be tolerated on the firing line.
14. In the event of a misfire or malfunction, keep you firearm pointed downrange and use extreme caution in clearing the firearm.
15. When you leave the firing line your weapon will be clear and in a safe condition.
16. Any violation of these safety rules can be grounds for expulsion from the Watauga Gun Club.

## Section II:

# ORGANIZED SHOTS AND ACTIVITIES

The Watauga Gun Club is very active with organized competition in arms in several different disciplines. Club members as well as nonmembers are welcome and encouraged to participate in these events. The benefits of competitions are numerous and one of the most important benefits is the credibility that competition in arms adds to our Constitutional Right to Keep and Bear Arms.

During organized shooting events, the range is controlled by the discipline hosting the event. In most cases, the entire range is restricted to use by the discipline (closed to general shooting). The club calendar of organized club shooting events is kept on the webpage and in the clubhouse POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD. Check it often to prevent scheduling conflicts. ([www.WataugaGunClub.com](http://www.WataugaGunClub.com))

Requests to conduct organized shooting events must be cleared by the Range Officer. Your organization, the type of match you wish to conduct, and requested scheduling must be given to the Range Officer *in writing* for approval.

## HANDGUN

### **.22 RimFire Steel Pistol**

Pistol matches using .22 caliber revolvers and pistols with iron or optical sights. Various timed strings of fire (3 or 4 per stage) on steel targets are shot over 6 to 8 stages with the worst string discarded to arrive at a cumulative score. The shooter normally starts at a shooting table with their weapon unloaded with adequate magazines or reloads available for the required number of strings. Accidents are extremely rare and this is possible because of the strict adherence to established safety rules and procedures. Violation of these rules will result in the shooter being disqualified from any further participation in that match.

New shooters are welcome. Prior to any match, new shooters are examined for proper equipment, safe gun handling is explained, and the new shooter must demonstrate safe gun handling. For more information, see a club official.

### **I.D.P.A.**

Pistol matches sanctioned by the International Defensive Pistol Association are held monthly at the Watauga Gun Club. Any basically stock center-fire handgun of 9 mm/.38 SPL or larger caliber is allowed. See a club official for a more complete listing of the rules. These matches use practical equipment including full charge ammunition to simulate "real world" scenarios. Shooters are required to use practical handguns and holsters that are truly suitable for self-defense. The shooter normally starts with their weapon loaded and holstered and on demand draws and engages the targets. Accidents are extremely rare and this is possible because of

the strict adherence to established safety rules and procedures. Violation of these rules will result in the shooter being disqualified from any further participation in that match.

New shooters are welcome. Prior to any match, new shooters are examined for proper equipment, safe gun handling is explained, and the new shooter must demonstrate safe gun handling. For more information, see a club official.

## **RIFLE**

### **.22 100 yd Rimfire Smallbore Competitions**

Almost any rimfire sporter rifle is eligible: .22 S/L/LR, .22 WMR, .17 HMR/HM2. Separate categories available for open sights, aperture sights and scopes to guarantee a class for each gun. Shooters may participate in as many classes as desired. Accidents are extremely rare and this is possible because of the strict adherence to established safety rules and procedures. Violation of these rules will result in the shooter being disqualified from any further participation in that match.

New shooters are welcome. Prior to any match, new shooters are examined for proper equipment, safe gun handling is explained, and the new shooter must demonstrate safe gun handling. For more information, see a club official.

## **TRAP**

### **LEAGUE TRAP**

Each year, there are three sessions of league trap held at Watauga Gun Club. Much like a bowling league, the league trap is formed out of four teams and there are spring, summer, and fall leagues. Shooting is scheduled for Thursday evenings and starts at 4:30 pm. The conduct of league trap is relaxed and a good way to unwind after a long day. This is an excellent form of practice for ATA sanctioned events.

### **ATA TRAP SHOOTING**

Trap events that are sanctioned by the Amateur Trap Association are held at Watauga Gun Club monthly. These events are generally held on the last weekend of the month and may be one, two or three day events. Shooters from all over the east coast converge on Watauga Gun Club for the fine matches, as we are as well known for our friendly atmosphere as our mild weather. For more information on ATA Trap, see a club official.



# MONTHLY CLUB MATCHES

The Range Officer conducts ten club matches during the year, starting about 5:00 PM, preceding the monthly club meeting. During these club matches no other shooting on any other range is allowed.

The matches are open to all members, applicants, and guests, although only the scores of members are counted for a trophy. Each match ranks shooters by raw score for the First, Second, or Third place trophies. Shooters participating in all ten matches receive an award for such.

## Shooter of the Year

The Shooter of the Year award is presented annually to the shooter having the highest adjusted score as determined by dividing all scores of each particular match by the highest score, then multiplying each score by 100, thereby giving the scores of each match the same percentage equivalence. All 10 of the club matches qualify toward this award, but only the best seven scores for each club shooter are considered toward the Shooter of the Year award. (Rev. 2002)

## JANUARY .22 CALIBER REVOLVER

DISTANCE-	50 feet
FIREARM-	Any .22 caliber sport revolver, iron sights only either fixed or adjustable.
SIGHTS-	Excludes aimpoint, scope, or laser.
AMMUNITION-	.22 caliber short, long, or long rifle rim-fire.
TARGET-	B-3 Timed and Rapid Fire 50 foot Pistol.
PROCEDURE-	10 shots within a 10-minute time limit, employing a standing, off-hand position.
LOCATION-	Rim-Fire Indoor Range (Quonset Hut)

## FEBRUARY .22 CALIBER TARGET HANDGUN

DISTANCE-	50 feet
FIREARM-	Any .22 caliber target pistol or revolver with a two-pound minimum trigger pull, a barrel length not of nor over ten inches, and sight radius of not over ten inches.
SIGHTS-	No restrictions

AMMUNITION- .22 caliber short, long, or long rifle rim-fire.  
TARGET- B-2 Slow-fire and B-3 Timed and Rapid-fire.  
PROCEDURE- All shots shall be taken standing and employing the off-hand position (one hand, one arm).

- 1) Slow-Fire: 10 shots within 10 minutes on the B-2 Target.
- 2) Timed-Fire: 2 five round strings, 20 seconds per string on the B-3 Target.
- 3) Rapid-Fire: 2 five round strings, 10 seconds per string on the B-3 Target.

Malfunctions shall cause the complete re-firing of the 5-shot timed and/or rapid-fire strings, or all three sequences, if more appropriate. Ties shall be resolved in favor of the shooter having the highest rapid-fire score. Each shooter must call his target before firing for record and have it witnessed.

LOCATION- Rim-Fire Indoor Range (Quonset Hut)

### **MARCH .22 CALIBER TARGET RIFLE**

DISTANCE- 50 feet  
FIREARM- Any .22 caliber rim-fire rifle conforming to current NRA specifications.  
AMMUNITION- .22 caliber rim-fire short, long, or long rifle; excluding .22 magnum.  
TARGET- A-17, 50 foot 10 bull

PROCEDURE- The match shall consist of 10 shots fired from the prone position and 10 shots fired from the standing position, with a 10-minute time limit allowed for each position. Targets fired for record must be called for, so identified, and witnessed to be scored for record. Only one shot allowed per bull for record. Sight-in and practice shots are limited to 5 minutes on the sight-in bull. Ties shall be resolved in favor of the shooter having the highest standing score.

RESTRICTIONS- A sling may be used in the prone position only.

LOCATION- Rim-Fire Indoor Range (Quonset Hut)

### **APRIL .22 CALIBER TARGET RIFLE MATCH**

DISTANCE- 50 yards  
FIREARM- Any .22 caliber rim-fire rifle conforming to current NRA specifications.  
AMMUNITION- .22 caliber rim-fire short, long, or long rifle; excluding .22 magnum.

TARGET- A-23 four bull target

PROCEDURE- Two positions are used for this match; NRA approved standing and prone. In the standing position, 10 shots are fired in 10 minutes onto the A-23 4 bull target set at 50 yards with a limit of 3 shots per bull. In the prone position 10 shots are fired in 10 minutes onto the A-23 4 bull target set at 50 yards with a limit of 3 shots per bull. A new target is used for each position. Targets to be scored for record must be so identified and witnessed. Ties shall be resolved in favor of the shooter having the highest score in the standing position.

RESTRICTIONS- Slings may be used in the prone position only.

LOCATION- 50 yard Bench-Rest Range

## **MAY BIG-BORE HANDGUN MATCH**

The May handgun match is the most complex of the Club matches having two sight categories and three firing modes with timed strings in each mode.

DISTANCE- 25 yards and 50 yards

FIREARM- Any handgun of .32 caliber or larger qualifies, but with the following restrictions: neither barrel length nor sighting radius may exceed 10 inches and the trigger pull must be no less than 2 pounds.

SIGHTS- The iron-sight division is restricted to iron sights only. The enhanced division allows usage of aimpoint, laser, or scope. Shooters may use only one handgun and shoot in only one division.

TARGET- B-6 and B-8

PROCEDURE- All shots shall be taken in the standard NRA approved off-hand position, standing. The slow-fire mode consists of 10 shots within 10 minutes using the B-6 target set at 50 yards. The timed-fire mode consists of 2 five round strings, 20 seconds per string on the B-8 target set at 25 yards. The rapid-fire mode consists of 2 five round strings, 10 seconds per string using the B-8 target set at 25 yards. Ties shall be resolved in favor of the shooter having the highest rapid-fire score. A malfunction shall cause the complete re-firing of the string it occurs in or mode, if appropriate. All shots for record must be called for, so identified, and witnessed.

LOCATION- Pistol Range #2

## **JUNE TRAP SHOOTING**

DISTANCE- 16 yards

FIREARM- Any breach loading shotgun having a bore no larger than 12 gauge.

**AMMUNITION-** Shells shall comply with Amateur Trapshooting Association specifications, except for gauge; shell length may not exceed 2 ¾ inches, powder charge may not exceed 3 ¼ drams equivalent, and weight of shot may not exceed 1 1/8 ounces.

**TARGET-** Standard trap clay pigeon (90mm).

**PROCEDURE-** The first string of 25 rounds is shot from Trap Range #1 and the second string is promptly shot from Trap Range #2. Shooters must call for their target and be witnessed for it to be scored. Ties are resolved in favor of the shooter scoring the longest string of consecutively broken targets, the two strings counting as one long string of 50 targets.

**LOCATION-** Trap Ranges #1 and #2

## **JULY MATCH**

The July meeting is traditionally the Club Picnic and match has no set parameters. At the discretion of the Range Officer various small matches for all club disciplines are encouraged.

## **AUGUST VARMINT RIFLE**

**DISTANCE-** 100 to 300 yards

**FIREARM-** Any center-fire rifle of .17 caliber or larger but less than .50 caliber.

**TARGET-** Paper facsimiles of various varmints; mouse, rat, gopher, skink, raccoon, or ground hog.

**PROCEDURE-** Targets set at 100, 200, and 300 yards with the shooting line directly in front of the bench-rests. Shooters have 15 minutes to engage all three of their targets. Sequence of target engagement is at the shooter's preference. Four shots are to be directed onto the 300-yard target, 3 shots onto the 200-yard target, and 3 shots onto the 100-yard target. Ties shall be resolved in favor of the shooter having the largest number of X's. Only bipods or sandbags may be used for rifle support, as the shooting position is prone with only one round loaded at a time.

**LOCATION-** Bench-Rest Range

## **SEPTEMBER HUNTER RIFLE**

**DISTANCE-** 100 yards

**FIREARM-** Any center-fire rifle of .24 caliber or larger qualifies, but must weigh less than 10 pounds and have a trigger pull of at least 2 pounds (in the spirit of competition, any rifle normally used to hunt medium and/or large size game).

**SIGHTS-** Iron sights or a scope may be used. The power of the scope may not exceed 6X; the power setting on variables may not be set greater than 6X.

**TARGET-** Hunter Rifle 6 Bull; 5 bulls for record and 1 bull for sight-in.

**PROCEDURE-** Shooters have a 5-minute sight-in/practice period. Thereafter shooting for record will commence. Shooters have a 10-minute time limit to engage the 5 for-record bulls with 1 shot per bull; a total of 5 shots expended for score. All shots shall be taken sitting from the bench-rest and single loaded only. Each shooter must identify their for-record target before firing and have it witnessed. Sand bags may only be used for support of the front and/or butt of the stock.

**LOCATION-** 300 yard Bench-Rest

## **OCTOBER NRA HANDGUN QUALIFICATION**

### **RANGE OFFICER'S CHOICE**

The currently elected Range Officer shall select firearm and a course of fire for competition. The details will be publicized in the newsletter and on the website following the September club meeting.

## **NOVEMBER .22 RIM-FIRE SPORTER RIFLE**

**DISTANCE-** 50 feet

**FIREARM-** .22 caliber rim-fire rifle

**AMMUNITION-** .22 caliber short, long, or long rifle. Excludes .22 caliber magnum.

**TARGET-** NRA A-32 experimental light rifle target.

**CONDUCT-** All shots shall be executed in the standing off-hand position. Shooters have a 10-minute time limit to direct 10 shots onto their respective target. There are no restrictions on sights and slings may be used.

**EXCLUSIONS-** Target or match grade configuration rifles

**LOCATION-** Rim-Fire Indoor Range (Quonset Hut)

## Section III:

# CLUB RULES, POLICIES, AND PROCEDURES

## GENERAL RULES

All Club rules, policies and procedures will be subject to and in accordance with the Club's By-Laws. New members are given a copy of the Club's Range Handbook at time of acceptance. Members may receive a copy of the Range Handbook by requesting same from any club officer.

1. The annual membership dues are \$150.00 per year and due on February 1<sup>st</sup> each year. New members are assessed an initiation fee of \$50 and National Rifle Association membership status will be determined. (As WGC is an NRA club this membership is required.)

New members will undergo an orientation course before becoming active members. Renewing members must attend at least one regular business meeting and a Range Safety/Operations Briefing in the prior calendar year to be eligible for renewal.

2. Combinations on all locks will be changed prior to the March meeting. The new combination for the current year will be provided in new member or renewal membership packets and published in the club minutes on the webpage. The combination is the password for the club minutes. **DO NOT GIVE OUT THE COMBINATION TO ANY NON-MEMBER OR MEMBER NOT IN GOOD STANDING!**

3. An incident reporting log is located in the clubhouse on the table beside the water cooler. Any safety incidents or machine problems, etc. should be carefully documented in detail to facilitate appropriate and timely action.

4. The last member leaving the club property will be responsible for insuring that the facility is properly secured; all equipment turned OFF, all buildings LOCKED and the gate LOCKED. If a member is the only one on the range it is advisable to lock the gate while using the range to ensure limitation of access by persons who are non-members or members not in good standing.

5. It is important that all members display their membership badge while on the club property. Members who observe someone they do not know on the club property are asked to please ask to see their membership badge or card. If they do not have their club identification, get their name, enter the information in the incident log and report them to a club officer.

6. Members should leave the facilities in better condition than they found it.

Violation of the following rules, but not limited to, may result in the SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION from The Watauga Gun Club.

1. Revealing the Club Combination to any non-member or a member not in good standing is STRICTLY FORBIDDEN.
2. Vandalism, destruction, or theft of Club property or that of a member or guest.
3. Assault, threats or any behavior that disrupts the harmony of the Club.
4. Involvement in drinking and or illegal drug use while on club property.
5. Repeated rules violations.
6. Pointing or firing a weapon, regardless of loaded condition, at anyone or anything other than a designated target.
7. Use of Club facilities without having first received training contained in this manual and a signed acknowledgement of same on file with the Secretary.

# Section IV:

## ***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 7:00 pm 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 its 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
5. 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.
6. 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
8. 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)
9. All new members will undergo an orientation before becoming active members. (Approved March 2001)
10. 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.