

WGC Newsletter

March 2022



Watauga Gun Club

Physical:
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Boone, NC 28607

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Club Hours

8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, Friday &
Saturday.

8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Wednesday

1 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday

We are on the web!

www.WataugaGunClub.com

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Membership Renewals

Annual membership dues were past due on February 1. If your dues remain unpaid, you will have to reapply for membership. Discussion of the new renewal requirements began in this newsletter one year ago. This change in the club bylaws was advertised and approved by club members. The new renewal requirements have been published several times since, particularly toward the end of 2021. There is no reason to blame anyone for not knowing about the new rules, particularly our treasurer and membership coordinator.

March Monthly Member Meeting

The March monthly member meeting is March 10th at 7PM in the clubhouse. New applicants introduced for club membership at the February Member Meeting were:

Dwain Henson, Boone

James Lawrence, Boone

Steven Pressley, ASU ROTC

Porter Lockhart, ASU ROTC

If these applicants have submitted all required information and paid all fees and there are no objections, the above applicants may be voted on for membership at the March Member Meeting.

Club Dues to Increase in 2023

At the February Member Meeting, the club Treasurer Jason Dancy spent a good deal of time explaining the prior year's club finances and the projected budget for 2022. A financial data handout was available to all members present. Given the number of members and anticipated operating costs, there should be a shortfall in available operating funds toward the end of 2022. Jason has been diligently exploring ways to cut anticipated costs and has made some changes to reduce the shortfall. Unanticipated expenses may create additional financial burdens.

It was proposed to the members present that annual member dues in 2023 should be increased by \$50.00 across the board. All members present agreed to the increase and a motion was made and accepted to give notice of this increase. The final vote on the increase should be held at the April Member Meeting on April 14.

Rimfire Benchrest

Six hearty souls were greeted with windy, crusty and cold conditions at the February match. While some shooters initially intended to shoot four flights, only three flights were endured. For the conditions, the scores were quite good, a testament to the ever increasing level of competition at these matches. Also, even though the conditions were poor, there was a good deal of fun and comradery to go around for all.



Come on out for the next match on March 13. The entry fee is \$5 per rifle. Bring your friends. All welcome!

New Membership Application Adjustments

The Executive Committee discussed and resolved to make the new membership application process more efficient. The process outlined on the club web site has been altered to add

more specificity to the process.

For more information see:

<https://wataugagunclub.com/membership/>

WGC Action Pistol

According to the club calendar, the next match is Saturday, March 12th. This will be the first match of the 2022 season. Come on out and try something new. The previous matches have been a load of fun and very rewarding.

Divisions:

- Single stack
- Double stack
- Carry optics (SINGLE OR DOUBLE STACK)
- Revolver
- PCC (Same as IDPA PCC)
- Open (USPSA OPEN TYPE PISTOLS)
- Rimfire pistol
- Rimfire rifle
- Shotgun (stay tuned)

Shooter free to solve problem while remaining within delineated boundaries.

Standard safety rules apply.

Target:

Head and down 1 area scored as down zero. Down 3 area scored as down 3 (3 seconds). A miss will be counted as down 5 (5 seconds).

Single head shot renders target neutralized. So shooter, unless otherwise specified, can

make a single head shot OR two body shots. (This helps the revolver shooters with their limited capacity).

Shotguns ONLY shoot the steel in the stages, no paper. (since they compete only against other shotguns, this won't be an issue). This will be considered in stage setup.

All firearms loaded to capacity.

140mm rule as in USPSA to govern magazine size. (Includes open division).

Basically, the only penalty is for hits on a non-threat at 5 down (5 seconds) and/or a safety issue, that are DQ offences, (180 degree rule, or going outside the delineated area, or doing something specifically addressed prior to shooting by the match director, that may be a safety issue).

Rimfire pistol starts at low ready, no holster needed.

Carbines start at low ready. Same bagging of long guns as in steel match, with chamber flags.

Rimfire just has to hit steel, not knock over. Same rules as per scoring as other divisions.

Steel must be painted between rimfire shooters to ensure steel indeed hit.

For information, please contact the discipline director, Bill Rudder at: oceanview1031@gmail.com.

WGC Steel Matches

Only one more month before WGC Steel starts a new season. This discipline is very popular and a good deal of fun.

Limit of 2 guns per shooter. First gun is \$10 and second gun is \$5. Registration opens at 0900, match starts at 1000.

Six (6) stages with 5 targets in each. Shoot each stage 4 times, throw out slowest string and add the remaining 3 strings for the stage time. Plus 1 fun/ fast stage.

Rimfire handguns and all rifles and carbines start from a low ready. Centerfire handguns start holstered.

Long guns come to the line flagged and bagged. Handguns must be bagged, cased or holstered.

Web Site

A good deal of current general information as well as scheduled events can be found on the club web site. Please have a look at the site from time to time in order to stay current.

<https://wataugagunclub.com/>

Steel Targets

Longtime member and always active participant Steve Byerly presented updated language for changes in the club Range Use Manual at the February Members Meeting. Per the club minutes for that meeting –

- o Steel targets are permitted on bays 3, 4, and 5 and the 300 yard line. On the rifle range, the targets must be set at the back berm, not the 100 or 200 yard lines.

- Addendum Proposed is as follows:

- o Targets on each range must be placed as close to the backstop as possible within the identified boundaries of the base. Only personally owned steel targets are permitted for use by the general membership. Use of club owned steel targets is strictly prohibited unless prior authorization is granted by club officials and/or disciplined directors,

whichever is applicable. This addendum corrects page 14 of the range use manual – Targets, paragraph 2, section I, second sentence where it erroneously restricts metallic targets to bays 3 and 5. It also restricts club owned target use. All other regulations as they pertain to metallic targets stand as they appear in the range use manual. Eye and ear protection as stated on page 4 of the range use manual GENERAL FIREARMS HANDLING RULES, paragraph 5, cannot be overstated. It is highly recommended when shooting anything, especially metallic targets, to use impact resistance safety glasses with a minimum ANSI safety rating of Z87.

- o Addendum approved by members present with none opposed.

Updates to the actual manual will follow.

Range Violations Guidelines

While we had Steve Byerly working with us on the steel targets issues, the Executive Committee also solicited his assistance, while he is on a roll, with the language and content of the club's rules violation guidelines.

Steve and the EC subsequently reviewed and updated the club rules violation guidelines in late February at the EC meeting. The results of the discussion are presented in the next two pages. It is difficult to anticipate all violations that may occur and also what considerations might arise in enforcing such violations. It would be best if no rule violations occurred at all.

WGC Violation Guidelines

Violation of the Watauga Gun Club (WGC) safety or general rules may result in the SUSPENSION or EXPULSION from WGC. When dealing with violations, it is the obligation of the WGC Executive Committee to promote uniformity in the enforcement of gun club rules.

Because all violations are not equal, WGC has classified violations into three levels, along with penalties based on the gravity of the violation.

Individuals who are prohibited by Federal or State law to possess firearms and ammunition are not allowed on club property at any time.

Violation Classifications:

MINOR: These violations do not constitute a threat of safety to people or property.

INTERMEDIATE: These violations have a potential to cause bodily harm or damage to property.

MAJOR: These are violations that place people and/or property in immediate or imminent risk to injury or damage

Penalties for Violations:

MINOR:

Handled on the spot as they occur by any WGC member or Club Officer. After a verbal warning, the violation is logged into the WGC Violation Log Book. If the violation is repeated several times, then the Club's Board President issues a written warning to the individual and the Club's Secretary files the written warning. Repeat violations can lead to a penalty up to a 3-month suspension of shooting privileges.

INTERMEDIATE:

Immediate corrective action should be taken by any WGC member or Club Officer. The violation is logged into the WGC Violation Log Book. The Club's President is notified, and the President issues a written warning to the individual which could include a request to meet with the Executive Board. The purpose of the meeting is to review the case and determine if it constitutes a major violation. The Club Secretary files all written correspondence. Based on the severity of the Violation, a 3-to-6-month suspension of shooting privileges at the WGC is in order. The Board President will follow the WGC Suspension or Expulsion By-Law Procedures.

MAJOR:

Immediate corrective action should be taken by any WGC member or Club Officer. Members or Officers may escort the person in question off of the club's property. The Club's President is notified immediately. The incident is placed on the agenda for discussion at the next Board Meeting. The Board President follows the WGC Suspension or Expulsion By-Laws and requests the member in question to attend the Executive Committee Meeting. The Club's Secretary files all written correspondence. Based on the severity of the violation, a 6-month to multiple years'

suspension of shooting privileges or permanent expulsion from the WGC is in order.

Note: A failure of the member in question to attend the disciplinary Executive Meeting without notifying the Board shall constitute a waiver of the member's rights and an understanding that they agree to the Board's decision without further review.

WGC Range Violations Delineated (It is understood that the following items are not meant to be all-inclusive):

MINOR

1. Range badge not visible
2. Member has more than 3 guests at any given time
3. Eyes and hearing protection not utilized
4. Driving onto or parking on the ranges when wet
5. Improperly placed targets
6. Failure to clean up around shooting position
7. Steel target rules not followed
8. Failure to remove magazine/cartridges or empty cases in cylinder/fixed magazine
9. Use of improper targets or frames
10. Firing firearms in an area other than the designated bay or range.
11. Shotgun shooters having closed action when the shooter moves from post to post, or anywhere else on the range
12. Leaving firearms unattended and unsecured
13. Horseplay within the bay/range

INTERMEDIATE

1. Discharging firearms with the muzzle behind adjacent shooters
2. When leaving the firing line, the firearm is NOT cleared and in a safe condition
3. Firing at objects placed on protective berms
4. Failure to keep firearms pointed downrange when clearing a misfire or addressing another malfunction
5. Charging a muzzle-loading firearm from a bulk powder container
6. Firing on any of the WGC bays/ranges when they are closed
7. Firing of incendiary or explosive ammunition
8. Unauthorized storage of ammunition or ammunition components on WGC property
9. Arguing with a WGC member, Board Officer, or RSO over a rule infraction
10. Failure to keep firearms pointed downrange while casing or uncasing
11. Aiming and/or dry firing in prohibited spaces
12. Stepping forward of firing line when the line is hot

13. Member not supervising guest, or guest not shooting within the same bay/range
14. Loaded firearms in the clubhouse other than a handgun that is holstered by a concealed handgun permit holder.

MAJOR

1. Pointing a firearm at others at any time
2. Leaving a loaded firearm (containing ammunition) unattended at any time.
3. Racking or storing a loaded (containing ammunition) firearm at any time
4. Refusing to follow the Range Officer or Executive Committee's directives
5. Repeated range rule violations
6. Intentionally firing at any permanent range structure or fixture
7. Vandalism, destruction, or theft of Club property or that of a member or guest
8. Drinking alcoholic beverages on the WGC property before, during, or after shooting
9. Handling of a firearm on WGC property while impaired by drugs or alcohol
10. Handling a firearm during a ceasefire
11. Handling a firearm when others in the bay or range are downrange
12. Uncontrolled rounds (rounds not striking the impact area for the shooter's position)
13. Firing at wildlife
14. Loaning your badge to, or permitting its possession or use by, another person
15. Violent, rude, disorderly, threatening, unsportsmanlike or intoxicated behavior directed to any WGC member and/or guest

16. Assault, threats, or any behavior that disrupts the harmony of the club
17. Any violation of the 4 Rules of Gun Safety as follows:
 - I. Treat every firearm as if it is loaded.
 - II. Never point a gun at anything you are not willing to destroy.
 - III. Keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to fire.
 - IV. Be sure of your target and what is beyond it.
18. Any violation of North Carolina Statutes or Federal Laws