

BYLAWS
OF
THE METHUEN ROD & GUN CLUB, INC.
REVISED September 20th, 2022

Article I
Name, Purpose, Place of Business

1. The name of the corporation shall be The Methuen Rod and Gun Club Inc., which will be referred to as Club in these Bylaws. The purpose for which the Club is formed is as follows: “To promote the interest of good clean sport with rod, gun, and dogs; to enforce the laws for the protection of fish and game; to create a fraternal and social organization for the betterment of its members; to educate the members socially, mentally, and intellectually; and to perpetuate among its members a spirit of friendliness and sociability”. The principal place of business of the Club shall be 240 Tyler St. in the City known as The Town of Methuen in the State of Massachusetts.

Article II
Regular Club Meetings

1. The regular meetings of the Club shall be held on the first and third Tuesday of each month. The starting time of the meeting shall be at 7:30 p.m. A quorum shall be ten members. A called meeting of the Club shall be required when transacting business of the following nature: disbursements of allocations of more than \$500.00 except for regular Club expenses, such as the purchase of clay targets, elections, and / or bylaw changes. Notification to all members in writing, by telephone call or by email, 10 days prior to a meeting shall constitute a called meeting. The combinations for the gates and doors shall be changed after the 1st meeting in January.

Article III
Election of Officers and Directors

Section 1. Nominations

- A. Nominations for office will be made from the floor at a series of called meetings preceding the meeting for election. The two meetings in November and the first meeting in December will be called meetings where nominations will be held and closed at the adjournment of the first meeting in December.

Section 2. Voting and Term of Office

- A. The second meeting in December will also be a called meeting where elections will take place. No new nominations will be accepted at this meeting. At all elections of officers and directors, the President is to preside. He / she may appoint two members to act as tellers to assert and count the ballots. Ballot boxes must be placed in full view of the members of the club. Elections shall be by written or printed ballots. After all who have voted, the ballot shall be declared closed. The tellers shall count the votes for each elected position and present the totals to the Clerk, who shall record the results of the election and the presiding officer shall declare the candidate receiving the plurality of votes cast duly elected. The officers and directors shall hold office for one year or until a successor is chosen by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Eligibility

- A. No member shall be eligible for any office unless he / she has been a member of the Club in continuous good standing for at least **one year** immediately prior to nominations.

Section 4. Presence Exception

- A. Due to hardship or any unforeseen trouble, nominee(s) can still be nominated to an office without being present.

Article IV President

1. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Club, call special meetings when necessary, appoint all committees created by the bylaws or a vote of the

Club, have general supervision of all matters pertaining to the Club, to see that harmony is preserved, to enforce the laws of the Club, and to perform such other duties as may be required of him / her by the bylaws of the Club.

Article V Vice President

1. It shall be the duty of the Vice President to assist the President in the discharge of his / her duties, fill his / her place in the case of absence and perform such other duties as are required of him / her by the President and the bylaws of the Club.

Article VI Clerk

1. It shall be the duty of the clerk to get and keep the correct minutes of all meetings of the club. He / she shall attend to all correspondence subject to the approval of the President and shall promptly present all communications received by him / her to the Club, having first submitted the same to the President. He / she shall issue all certificates pertaining to the business of the Club, notify rejected applicants, and require members to pay their dues.

Article VII Treasurer

1. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all monies of the Club, pay all bills against the Club as ordered by the members, get a correct account under their proper dates of the amounts and sources of receipts and disbursements. He / she shall at such times as the Club may direct or the President requires, present for examination all books, papers, vouchers, etc., that may be necessary for a proper auditing of the accounts. He / she shall deposit all funds of the Club as the Club shall designate and shall also perform all other duties as required by the Club and are consistent with this office. He / she shall present a written report at the second meeting of each month showing the condition of the funds of the Club and shall have the records audited annually by the outgoing and incoming officers before the second meeting in January.

Article VIII

Board of Directors

1. The Board of Directors of the Club shall consist of the four officers and five members elected as at-large directors. The Board of Directors shall have general supervision of the Club's property and shall control Club expenditures, make rules for the use and care of the Club's property, and transact any business in the club's interest in a manner that is not inconsistent with the Club's By Laws.
2. The board of directors shall be responsible for determining the course of discipline of all members of the club. If a member is accused of "conduct unbecoming", the board shall utilize the following to ensure fair and proper means are met to either prove or disprove a violation.
 - A. "Conduct unbecoming a member of the MRG" shall be defined as any conduct that:
 - Is incompatible with the best interests of the members of the MRG or of the public
 - Tends to harm the standing of MRG in the local community
 - Deviation of any part of the range rules without proper permission
 - Violation of any part of the range rules
 - Violation of the MRG Bylaws
 - B. If a written or verbal allegation of "conduct unbecoming a member of the MRG" is made against a member of MRG club, the club president shall immediately appoint an investigator to investigate the matter (or, if the club president is accused, the vice president shall act).
 - C. The Board shall consider the investigation report and determine whether to hold a hearing on the matter. The President shall notify the accused member of the investigation results and whether the Board intends to pursue the allegation(s). If a hearing is held, the board shall then meet and report its decision, whether the member did or did not engage in "conduct unbecoming" and, based on that decision, the appropriate disciplinary action, if any, as follows: informal counseling, a verbal reprimand, written reprimand, suspension from office or club membership, or removal from office or club membership. The determination of the discipline should be based on the seriousness of the unbecoming conduct. All disciplinary actions shall be documented in club records.

Article IX

Board of Directors Meeting

1. There shall be a meeting of the Board of directors at the first meeting of each month in the principal office of the club. Roll call shall be taken of officers and directors and minutes taken and read at the second regular monthly meeting of the Club.

Article X Membership, Fees and Dues

1. Upon formal written application and payment of the appropriate fee, the applicant shall be recognized at a regular meeting. The application fee shall be \$50.00. The annual fee shall be \$100. If the application is voted on between January 1st and June 30th, the dues shall be \$100. If the application is submitted between July 1st and December 31st, the dues shall be \$8.50 a month plus the following year's dues.
2. Only members in good standing shall have key and voting privileges. The Board of Directors shall govern key privileges for the indoor pistol range.
3. Junior membership shall be available to anyone under the age of eighteen. The annual dues for this membership shall be \$25.00. There shall be no key or voting privileges for junior members. A junior member must be a member for at least 5 consecutive years prior to becoming a regular member in order to have the application fee waived.
4. A regular member who has held membership for at least ten consecutive years prior to reaching the age of sixty – five in addition to having been an active and productive member of the club, may become eligible to be voted in as an honorary life member by the membership. No dues will be required. However Life members are invited to pay \$25.00 annual dues. As a life member voting and key privileges will be retained.
5. Any member requesting privileges to shoot in the indoor range must be qualified by a member of the Executive Board or Board of Directors or their designee(s) in accordance with the requirements outlined in the current range rules.
6. Dues will be considered late if not paid on or before December 31st. Late dues will be assessed an additional fee of \$5.00 if paid in January and \$10.00 if paid in February. Members whose dues are not received by the last day of February shall be automatically dropped from the roster. Reinstatement shall be by reapplication only. The Board may grant hardship abatement.
7. All members will be required to work at least four hours on a work party or similar volunteer effort to satisfy membership to the Club. At the time of membership renewal a \$40 deposit will be required. If the member completes 4 hours of work, the deposit will be refunded. If the work requirement is not fulfilled by October 31st, the deposit

will be forfeited to the club. This does not apply to members with medical exemptions, per the board discretion.

8. Guest Pass.
 - a. All members in good standing will be allowed to purchase a guest pass in order to allow friends and family to use the facility under the direct supervision of members holding a guest pass.
 - b. The pass will cost \$100 dollars and will be valid from January 1st to December 31st of each calendar year and must be purchased no later than June 30th.
 - c. Only one guest per pass will be allowed on the property at any time.
 - d. All members in good standing will be allowed to bring one (1) guest three (3) times per year at no additional cost.
 - e. Any violation of guest pass rules will result in the usual sanctions for violations of club rules.
9. The membership may, from time to time, implement programs allowing the waiver of fees for new or former members as an incentive to join or renew old memberships.

Article XI Removal of Officers

1. If an officer shall miss three consecutive regular meetings of the Club, his / her office may be declared vacant at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The vacancy shall be filled by appointment from the Board of Directors.

Article XII Amendments

1. Amendments to these bylaws shall be made as follows: the proposed amendment(s) shall be read at a called meeting of the Club and voted upon at the next called meeting where passage shall be by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present.

Article XIII Club Records

1. When any officer or director retires or is removed from their position, he / she must immediately deliver all records, financial statements, bank checks, documents, keys and

any other Club property in his / her charge, pertinent to that position, to the President or whomever the Club may appoint.

Article XIV Parliamentary Authority

1. Robert's Rules of Order shall be the parliamentary authority that will be used to enhance the bylaws. The newest edition will be utilized by the club.