

**GEORGIA
SPORT SHOOTING
ASSOCIATION, INC.**

By Laws

*As approved by the General Membership
at the GSSA Annual Meeting:
15 January 2011*

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As approved by the General Membership at the GSSA Annual Meeting: 15 January 2011
GEORGIA SPORT SHOOTING ASSOCIATION, INC.
By Laws

Article I - Name, Purpose, and Objectives

SECTION 1. NAME. This corporation shall be known as the Georgia Sport Shooting Association, Inc., and shall hereinafter be referred to as the Association or GSSA.

SECTION 2. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES. The Association shall be a non-profit membership corporation with the specific purposes and objectives set forth in its Articles of Incorporation and shall pursue such other objectives, not inconsistent with its Articles of Incorporation as may be approved from time to time by the Board of Directors. GSSA is committed to the proposition that no government may infringe the fundamental right of individuals to keep and bear arms safely and responsibly. GSSA will act in defense, support, and furtherance of this commitment.

Article II – Membership

SECTION 1. MEMBERSHIP. Membership shall be open to all citizens of the United States who are natural persons of good reputation and good moral character, subscribe to the purposes and objectives of the Association, are not prohibited from possessing a firearm under state or federal law and who meet the additional requirements for the type membership for which making application. Associate Club Memberships shall be available to those organizations that subscribe to the purposes and objectives of the Association and meet additional requirements as set forth in Section 2(g).

SECTION 2. TYPES. Membership shall consist of seven types: (a) Annual, (b) Junior, (c) Family, (d) Life, (e) Nonresident, (f) Honorary and (g) Associate Club.

(a) Annual. Annual membership shall be open to any resident of the State of Georgia who is a natural person twenty-one years of age or older at the time of application, who shall make application on the prescribed forms, and pay the required dues. After approval, the Secretary shall issue a membership card which shall expire one year from the date of issuance unless renewed. Annual members shall have all rights and privileges of membership, including voting rights, receipt of Association publications, right to hold any office for which eligible, and such additional rights and privileges of membership which may hereafter accrue, except those reserved to life, patron and benefactor members.

(b) Junior. Junior membership shall be open to any resident of the State of Georgia who is a natural person below the age of twenty-one the year of application, who shall make application in the same manner as for annual members. Such membership shall entitle the member to all privileges and rights of annual membership except voting and the holding of elected office.

(c) Family. Family membership shall be open to all persons who are dependent members of either an annual, life or greater member's household (temporary absence for school or military service shall not disqualify one from family membership), and who shall make application for membership in the manner prescribed for annual members. Such membership shall entitle only the adult member whose name is on the application to vote or hold office and only one copy of Association publications shall be sent to each such household.

(d) Life. There are three classes of Life membership: **Life, Patron and Benefactor.** Life membership shall be open to any person meeting the requirements for annual membership who shall make application and tender the required dues. However, no Life, Patron or Benefactor membership will be accepted if to do so will cause the combined total of such memberships to exceed 20% of the total paid memberships at the time of application. This provision shall not be construed to prohibit any current life member from upgrading their membership to patron or benefactor. A special membership certificate or other indicia of the class shall be issued by the Secretary. Said member shall be entitled to all the benefits accruing to an annual member and shall enjoy such special recognition and benefits accruing to life members as may be determined from time to time by the Association.

(e) Non-resident. Non-resident membership shall be open to all persons who meet the qualifications for annual membership other than residency in the State of Georgia, and who make application in the prescribed manner. Such members shall not be eligible to vote or hold any office.

(f) Honorary. Honorary membership may be conferred upon any individual for any period from one year to life by action of the Board of Directors, provided that approval by a majority of the Board shall be necessary to confer honorary membership for one year, and approval by two-thirds of the Board shall be necessary to confer a membership for any period in excess of one year. Such members shall not be eligible to vote or hold any office.

(g) Associate Club. Club membership shall be open to all duly organized and operating clubs, associations or non-profit corporations resident in the State of Georgia who subscribe to the purposes and objectives of the Association, make application and tender the required dues. Such membership shall be for a period of one year or life as appropriate. Clubs shall not be eligible to vote or hold any office.

SECTION 3. DUES. The Board of Directors will propose amounts for membership dues for each class of members for the coming year. Any proposed changes must be published in the

newsletter at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting. The changes must be approved by a two-thirds majority of voting members present and voting at the annual meeting. The board of directors, upon affirmative vote by a majority of the Board, shall have the authority to levy an assessment on the membership for special purposes. The total of all such assessments during any calendar year may not exceed 50% of the annual membership dues during that year. Family, Life, patron and benefactor members shall be assessed in the same monetary amount as the assessments against annual members. Junior, Non-resident, Associate Clubs and Honorary members shall not be assessed.

SECTION 4. VOTING. Each annual, family (subject to Article II, Section 2(c)), life, patron and benefactor member present at any meeting of the Association who has been a member for at least one year shall be entitled to one vote. No vote of an annual, family, life, patron or benefactor member may be cast by proxy. No member shall be entitled to cast any vote if indebted to the Association for dues or assessments. Clubs shall have no voting privileges at any meeting of the Association.

SECTION 5. TERMINATION. Annual membership shall automatically terminate upon expiration, unless renewed prior to termination. Membership shall terminate automatically with respect to any member who under state or federal law loses the right to possess a firearm. Payment of annual dues within a 3 month “grace” period following termination shall reinstate the member from the original expiration date with voting rights restored. The member may not hold office during this termination period. Any member who fails to renew within 3 months of expiration date will be deleted from the GSSA roster and will have to reapply for membership. He will lose his right to vote and hold office until he has again been a member for 1 year. A member may be expelled from the Association for cause upon affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Board. A member may be suspended from the Association upon affirmative vote of a majority of the Board. No vote for suspension or expulsion shall be taken unless fifteen days’ written notice by certified mail shall have been provided to the member by the Secretary. Such notice shall inform the member of the charges against him and shall include a copy of all documents relevant to the charges. The notice shall also state the time and place of the meeting, the member’s right to appear and be heard and the right to present evidence and examine witnesses. Charges may be preferred against a member by any member in good standing, but must be in writing, shall be specific, and the charges shall be presented to the Board of Directors for hearing. A suspended member may be reinstated by vote of a majority of the Board. He will not be eligible to vote or hold office for the duration of his suspension.

Article III – Meetings

SECTION 1. ANNUAL MEETING. The annual meeting of the Association shall be held on a Saturday in September each year as determined by the Board. The place of any meeting shall be at a place centrally located within the state designated by the President. If the annual meeting cannot be held at the appointed time due to a lack of a quorum, the Secretary will

send out notices of a new meeting to elect officers to take place within 3 months after the originally scheduled annual meeting. The current officers and directors will continue to serve until new elections are held. The annual meeting shall be for the purpose of electing officers and directors, receiving reports of officers and committees, all regular business, and for any other business properly brought before the Association. Prior to adjournment of the annual meeting the minutes of that meeting will be read for approval. A notice containing the results of the election and the contact information for the officers and directors shall be placed on the Association official website within 15 days of the Annual meeting and must be included in the first issue of the official journal of the Association.

SECTION 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS. Special meetings of the Association may be held at any time upon call of the President, upon call of two-thirds of the Board of Directors, or upon written demand by not less than twenty-five members of the Association, or ten percent of the membership, whichever is greater. The demand shall state the purpose and object of such meeting. Written notice of time, place, and purpose of any special meeting shall be mailed to all members by the Secretary not less than fifteen days prior to the date of the meeting. The place of any meeting shall be at a place centrally located within the state, designated by the President, subject to change by vote of two-thirds of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 3. QUORUM. A quorum of **twenty-five members** in good standing with the Association and who are eligible to vote shall be necessary in order to conduct business at any annual or special meeting.

SECTION 4. All meetings required or authorized by these bylaws shall be held within the boundaries of the State of Georgia and shall be governed by the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

Article IV – Board of Directors

SECTION 1. GENERAL. The Association shall be managed by a Board of Directors who shall have charge of all the affairs and property of the Association, except as may be otherwise assigned herein.

SECTION 2. NUMBER, QUALIFICATION. The board shall consist of the immediate past President of the Association, directors from each congressional district in the State of Georgia, and Directors At Large selected as provided below. Each director shall be an annual, family, life, patron or benefactor member of the Association in good standing, eligible to vote and a current NRA member.

SECTION 3. SELECTION, TENURE. Only those members eligible to vote under Article II, Section 4 and present at the annual meeting of the Association are eligible to elect any director.

(a) District Directors. In even-numbered years, those members who reside in an even-numbered congressional district shall elect one director from their district who shall serve a two-year term. In odd-numbered years, those members who reside in an odd-numbered congressional district shall elect one director from their district who shall serve a two-year term.

(b) Directors-At-Large. A slate of directors from the State at large, without restriction as to the district of residence, equal in number to the number of congressional districts in the State of Georgia shall be elected to serve two-year terms. The number of Directors-At-Large elected in each even-numbered year shall be equal to the number of odd numbered congressional districts and the number of Directors-At-Large elected in each odd-numbered year shall be equal to the number of even-numbered congressional districts.

(c) Directors shall be eligible to succeed themselves. Directors who have missed 2 consecutive annual meetings will not be eligible to run for election nor continue to hold their seat, even if no one runs against them, unless they are present to be elected. In the case of directors whose absence is due to active duty military service, 3 consecutive annual meetings may be missed before the director becomes ineligible to hold his seat or run for election without being present.

(d) In order to nominate to the Board a member who is not present, the nominator must be a GSSA member in good standing, eligible to vote, and must show signed written permission from the nominee at the time of the nomination. If the nomination is for a district post, the nominator must be a GSSA member from that district.

(e) If a person unqualified for the position at the time of the election is elected to the Board, he will forfeit his position immediately upon discovery of the error and the person with the next highest vote count from the original election will take the position. (Paying dues after the election is not acceptable.)

SECTION 4. MEETINGS. The annual meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held immediately after the annual meeting of the Association, and the Board may conduct such additional meetings of the Board throughout the year as it may deem necessary. Each director shall be entitled to not less than seven (7) days' notice of any Board meeting. Meetings may be called by the President, or on demand of one fourth of the members of the Board. Meetings are to be centrally located within the state. Emergency Board meetings may be held by e-mail with the same quorum requirements as a regular board meeting. Prior to adjournment of the meeting, the minutes of this meeting will be read for approval.

SECTION 5. QUORUM. Eight members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board.

SECTION 6. REMOVAL. A director may be removed for cause by affirmative vote of three-fourths of the entire Board, provided that fifteen days' written notice of the specific charges, the time and place of meeting, the opportunity to appear and be heard, and the right to present evidence and examine witnesses, shall be given the director.

SECTION 7. VACANCIES. Should a vacancy occur on the Board for any reason, the Board may, at any meeting, elect a member otherwise qualified under Section 3 above, to serve the remaining portion of the unexpired term of office.

SECTION 8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to hire an Executive Director to carry on all business of the Association, as may be delegated to such office by the Board of Directors and to provide the Executive Director with such facilities and staff as may be required to carry out his duties.

Article V - Officers

SECTION 1. NUMBER. The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, a Vice President, three Division Vice Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer. They shall be duly elected and qualified Directors and shall hold office for one year or until their successors are elected and qualified. No person may hold more than one office at one time except that the offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined, and that a person holding the office of Division Vice President may also hold the office of Vice President or President.

SECTION 2. ELECTION. The officers shall be elected by majority vote of the Directors at their annual meeting and shall be installed immediately upon election.

SECTION 3. DUTIES.

(a) President. The President shall be the principal executive officer of the Association and shall exercise general executive supervision over all its affairs, subject to direction and review of the Board. He shall preside at all meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors. He shall be a member of the Board of Directors and of all regular and special committees of the Association. He shall perform all other duties incident to the office of President and such other specific duties as may be required and assigned to him by the Board.

(b) Vice President. In the absence of the President or in the event of his inability or refusal to act the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President and when so acting shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the President. He shall be a member of the Board of Directors and shall perform such other duties as may be required or assigned to him by the President or the Board.

(c) Division. Vice Presidents. The Association shall be broadly organized into three operating divisions of equal importance. Division Vice Presidents shall be responsible for the management of the Divisions, subject to the direction and review of the Board. Regarding Qualification, Election, Vacancies, and Removal of Division Vice Presidents, the general provisions of Officers apply. The three Vice Presidents are: Vice President-Sports Shooting & Development; Vice President-Education & Training; Vice President-Political Action.

(c) Secretary. The Secretary shall attend and keep minutes of all meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors. He shall see that all notices are duly given in accordance with these bylaws or as otherwise required, shall be custodian of all books, minutes, and records of the Association (except financial records), the corporate seal and shall attest to all official documents and resolutions of the Association. He shall receive all applications for membership and shall be responsible for the collection of all dues, fees, and assessments and shall remit the same promptly to the Treasurer, taking proper receipt therefore. He shall issue such credentials and indicia of membership as may be required by these bylaws or as directed by the Board and shall be responsible for maintaining an accurate roster of all members, including their post office addresses and such other information as the Board may require. He shall conduct all official correspondence and shall perform all other duties incident to the office of Secretary or as may be required or assigned to him by the President or the Board. In the performance of his duties he may employ persons and/or organizations to maintain records and prepare and mail notices and newsletters so long as the terms of such employment and rates of payment shall first be approved by the Board of Directors. Periodically, but not less than once a quarter, the Secretary shall provide complete and updated membership lists to the President and Vice President.

(d) Treasurer. The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds of the Association. He shall establish a checking account in a bank approved by the Board of Directors in the Association's corporate name. Monies shall be withdrawn only by check signed by the Treasurer and for payment of authorized expenditures. The Association president or vice-president shall also be named signatories on this account in the event of incapacitation of the Treasurer. He shall keep accurate books of account and fiscal records, and all expenditures shall be supported by vouchers. He shall attend all meetings of the Board and shall make a report when required to the Board and shall make an annual report to the Association at its annual meeting. He shall perform such other duties incident to the office of Treasurer and as may be required or assigned to him by the President or the Board.

SECTION 4. VACANCIES. In the event of a vacancy in any office other than President because of death, resignation, removal or otherwise, the President may name a qualified member to serve as an acting officer until the vacancy is filled by action of the Board of Directors. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President the Vice President shall automatically succeed to the office of President and the office of Vice President shall be thereafter filled as prescribed herein.

SECTION 5. REMOVAL. Any officer may be removed for cause, and the office declared vacant, by affirmative vote of three-fourths of the Board of Directors, provided that fifteen days notice of the reasons therefore, and of time, place, and purpose of meeting, and of the right to appear, present evidence and examine witnesses, shall be given such officer. In the event of death, incapacity, or permanent removal from the State of any officer, the office may be declared vacant by action of a majority of the members of the Board.

Article VI – Committees

SECTION 1. PERMANENT. The following shall be the permanent standing committees of the Association: High Power Rifle; Pistol; Cowboy Action; Membership; Women’s Programs; Youth Programs; Small-bore Rifle; International Rifle; Silhouette; Publicity/Editor; Conservation & Hunting; Shotgun; Black Powder Cartridge/Muzzleloading; Class III and Range Development.

SECTION 2. TEMPORARY. The Board or the President may from time to time create and appoint additional temporary committees for such purposes as they may see fit. No such committee may be created for a time beyond the close of the next annual meeting.

SECTION 3. MEMBERS. Each permanent committee shall be composed of a chairman and such other members as the chairman may require. The chairman of each committee shall be a voting member in good standing who shall be named by the President. The remaining committee members shall be selected by the committee chairman. All committee memberships shall expire at the close of the next annual meeting after appointment, but any chairman or member may be reappointed at the discretion of the President or committee chairman.

SECTION 4. DUTIES. Committees shall perform such duties relating to that committee’s area of interest as may be required of them by the President or the Board of Directors; shall make recommendations to the Board and to the Association and shall render a report at the annual meeting of the Association. The committee chairman shall make reports when requested by the President or Board.

SECTION 5. RULES. Each committee may adopt rules for its own government and operation not inconsistent with these bylaws or with rules or directives of the Board of Directors.

Article VII – Amendments

SECTION 1. BYLAWS. These bylaws may be altered or amended in whole or in part only at an Annual Meeting as defined in ARTICLE III, Section 1 and only if the intended alteration or amendment is provided to the members in any notice of such meeting at least thirty days in advance of the meeting. Adoption of any amendment, alteration, repeal, or substitution shall

require an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the eligible members present and voting at the meeting at which such vote was taken. Notice of the action taken with regard to revision or amendment of the bylaws shall be published in the issue of the official Association publication following such action. The entire bylaws of the association shall be published annually in the official publication of the Association at least 30 days, but no more than 90 days, before the annual meeting.

SECTION 2. DIVISION GOALS. Division goals shall be established and additions, deletions, or changes may be made either at the annual meeting by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members present and voting at the meeting or at a meeting of the Board of Directors by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Board members present and voting at the meeting.

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