

# BY-LAWS of the West Texas Practical Shooters

(As adopted December 21, 2007)

## ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the Club shall be as specified in its charter, and it shall hereinafter be referred to as the "Club."

## ARTICLE II - OBJECT

The object of the Club shall be as specified in its charter and shall include the encouragement of organized shooting activities among its members and guests so as to provide a better knowledge of the safe handling and proper use and care of firearms, as well as improved marksmanship. The Club will be a private, members only, not-for-profit, USPSA affiliated Club, for recreational purposes only.

## ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

**(a)** Any citizen of the United States, 21 years of age or over, may be admitted to membership by the Club after submission and approval of an application along with full payment of the applicable membership fees.

**(b)** Applications for membership must be in writing, shall have attached the applicable membership fees prorated for the current year, and each application must have the endorsement of at least two active Club members (provided, however, that Preferred Members may refuse to endorse applications) before the application may be considered by the Club. The Club may appoint one or more of its Officers to review and investigate applicants whose names have been submitted for approval. Each applicant approved for membership must be acceptable based upon the applicant's individual qualifications, and not solely as the representative of any group, business or organization. The membership application forms and fees will be prepared by the Executive Committee and reviewed annually.

## ARTICLE IV - CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Club shall consist of the following classes:

**(a) Foundation Member.** Foundation Members shall be limited to those persons who provided the leadership and initiative to establish the Club. The following shall govern Foundation memberships:

- (1) Dues. Foundation members are required to pay the annual membership fee.
- (2) Voting. Foundation members may exercise all voting rights provided they are classed as active members.

**(b) Preferred Member.** Preferred members shall be those persons named in the Letter of Understanding dated December 6, 2007, attached to this document. The following shall govern Preferred memberships:

- (1) Dues. Preferred members are not required to pay annual membership fees.
- (2) Voting. Each Preferred member named in the Letter of Understanding may exercise all voting rights

**(c) Annual Members.** Annual members shall be those members who have met the membership requirements and have paid the required annual membership fee as may be established by the Club. The following shall govern annual memberships:

- 1) Dues. Annual members are required to pay the annual membership fee.
- (2) Voting. Annual members may exercise all voting rights provided they are classed as active members.

(d) A member is active provided membership fees are not in arrears.

**(e)** Membership of the Club will not exceed 30 members, including the Preferred Members.

**(f)** All classes of membership are family memberships and shall include the immediate family (spouse and dependent children) of the member. Voting rights are not passed to the immediate family.

## **ARTICLE V - TRANSFER of MEMBERSHIPS**

Memberships are not transferable.

## **ARTICLE VI - PROPERTY**

**(a)** The property of the Club shall include such leased real estate in Texas, together with improvements thereon, and such other property, real and personal, tangible and intangible, as may be necessary for its purposes.

**(b)** The beneficial interest in the property of the Club shall belong to the current members of the Club. Upon dissolution of the Club, existing (as of December 6, 2007) props, targets (steel and otherwise), and materials will be clearly identified and noted as the property of the Preferred members and returned to them. The lease on the real estate will revert to the previous leasehold. All property of every kind shall be liquidated and the resulting monies shall be distributed to the members in the following order and manner, after all debts and obligations of the Club have been satisfied or otherwise provided for:

Any remaining funds will be allocated to the active members in equal shares.

## **ARTICLE VII - DUES AND ASSESSMENTS**

**(a) Annual dues.** The annual dues for members shall be for a fiscal year from January 1 to December 31, shall be such amount as the Club may determine, and shall be due and payable on January 1, or such other date as the Club may determine each year. Dues for annual members enrolled after January shall be prorated on a monthly basis for the remainder of the fiscal year. The annual dues will be set and published by the Executive Committee as a matter of policy.

**(c) Arrearage.** No member of the Club who has been determined to be in arrears in the payment of dues, assessments, or otherwise indebted to the Club, shall enjoy any privileges or benefits offered by the Club until such arrearage is paid.

**(d) National Organization Membership.** Each member of the Club, of whatever class, is encouraged to join and maintain membership in the international or national sanctioning body (IPSC/USPSA) at the member's own expense.

**(e) Reinstatement.** The Club shall be authorized to reinstate Annual members who have been dropped for non-payment of dues, under such terms and conditions as the Club shall establish.

## **ARTICLE VIII -- MEETINGS**

**(a) Annual Business Meeting.** The Club shall hold an annual business meeting on such date during November of each year as the Officers may determine.

**(b) Annual Election of Officers.** The meeting for the election of the President and Officers shall be held during the annual business meeting.

**(c) Installation of Officers.** The President and Officers shall assume office on January 1 of each year.

**(d) Monthly Meetings** Monthly meetings will be held in conjunction with monthly matches.

**(e) Special Meetings.** Special meetings of the Club members may be held at any time upon (1) the call of the President, or (2) upon the call of two or more Officers, or (3) upon demand in writing by any active member, stating the purpose of the proposed meeting, signed by not less than 3 active members. Written notice of the time, place and purpose of any special meeting shall be given to all Officers and active members not less than seven days prior to the date fixed for the holding of the meeting. The time, date, and place of such meeting, which must be held not more than 30 days from receipt of such demand, shall be fixed by the Officers.

**(f) Quorum.** A majority of the total number of active members of the Club present at any meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

**(g) Rules of Order.** All meetings of the members and of the Officers shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 10<sup>th</sup> ed. where they apply.

## **ARTICLE IX -- VOTING**

### **(a) Right to Vote.**

(1) Each active member shall be entitled to one vote in elections of officers, and in all other matters duly presented to the active members for action.

**(b) Proxies.** Proxies may be used in instances requiring membership voting of the Club. No proxy shall be valid after 90 days from its date unless otherwise provided in the proxy. The proxy vote of a member must be in substantially the form shown in Appendix A, and shall be registered with the Club secretary prior to opening of the meeting at which it is to be used.

## **ARTICLE X -- BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**(a) Composition.** The government and management of the Club shall be vested in the Club officers and no Board of Directors will be appointed or elected. The Executive Committee may formulate *policy* to govern the day-to-day operations of the Club including, but not limited to, membership requirements, fees and safety rules.

## **ARTICLE XI -- DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

**(a) President.** The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club. He shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Club, exercising all authority not otherwise delegated or assigned under these By-laws, and shall appoint all committees, shall be an ex-officio member of all regular and special committees and shall perform all such other duties as pertain to his office.

**(b) Vice-President.** The Vice-president shall perform the duties of the President in his absence or at his request, and such other duties as the President may direct. The Vice President will be the designated Range Master of the Club.

**(c) Secretary.** The Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining files of all official correspondence of the Club, shall notify the members and officers of the Club of all meetings, shall notify the Club members of all special and annual meetings of the Club as required under Article VIII, and shall attend and keep a true record of all meetings of Club. The Secretary shall be responsible for the maintenance and preservation of all official papers, documents and records of the Club. All applications for membership and renewals shall be processed by the Secretary, who shall maintain the waiting list of prospective Annual Members. The President may transfer any of such duties to an Administrative Secretary, and may assign to the Secretary such other duties not inconsistent with the duties of corporate or Club secretaries generally for the proper operation of the Club.

**d) Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection of all fees and dues. The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds of the Club and place the same in such bank or banks as may be approved by the Club. Such money shall only be withdrawn by check or other instrument signed by the Treasurer or the President, and expended only for payment of bills or expenses such as 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 Club or Executive Committee when requested, and an annual report to the Club at its annual meeting. No bank accounts shall be maintained except as provided for in this section.

**(e) Sergeant-at-Arms** The Sergeant-at-Arms is charged with keeping order at Club meetings and activities and may eject from meetings or Club property, any person found to be in violation of the charter, the by-laws or the Range Rules.

Other duties as may be assigned by the President of the Club.

## **ARTICLE XII -- SUSPENSION, REMOVAL OR EXPULSION OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS**

**(a)** A Club Officer may be removed by a vote of two-thirds of the active members present at a special meeting called for this purpose, or suspended by a vote of two-thirds of the active

members present at such meeting. No vote on suspension or removal may be taken unless at least 15 days written notice shall have been given to the Officer of the reasons for his proposed removal or suspension and of the time and place of the special meeting at which such removal or suspension is to be considered. At such special meeting, the Officer shall be given a full hearing, including the right to question witnesses and present evidence on his behalf.

**(b)** Any member of the Club may be suspended, or expelled from the Club for any cause deemed sufficient by a two-thirds vote of the active members present at a special meeting called for such purpose. No vote on suspension or expulsion may be taken unless at least 15 days written notice shall have been given to the member of the charges preferred and of the time, date and place of the meeting of the Club at which such charges will be considered. At such meeting the member under charges will be accorded a full hearing, including the right to question witnesses and present evidence on his behalf.

**(c)** Provided however, should any member engage in such conduct, that in the opinion of the Range Master, Range Officer, or the Club Officer, is a threat to the safety of such member or any other member, the Range Master, the Range Officer, or the Club Officer observing such conduct shall have the authority to require said member to vacate the Club premises immediately. Within 48 hours of taking such action, the Range Master, the Range Officer, or the Club Officer shall notify the President. The President and the full complement of Club officers shall meet within 24 hours of notification and shall by majority vote ratify or non-ratify the action of the Range Master, the Range Officer, or the Club Officer. Should the Officers ratify the decision of the Chief Range Officer, the Range Officer, or the Club Officer, the member's Club privileges shall be suspended until such time of the special meeting of the Club can be arranged.

**(d)** Charges against any officer or member may be prepared by any active member. They shall be in writing, clearly stating the facts relied upon, accompanied by any affidavits or exhibits which are to be used in support of such charges, and filed with the Secretary who will immediately notify the President. The President will call a meeting of the Club officers to hear the charges, and the Secretary will give at least 15 days written notice of the meeting to the active members, to the accuser and to the accused. Such notice shall include a copy of the charges together with any supporting affidavits and exhibits. A full hearing will be given the accuser and the accused. Vote will be by secret ballot of the active members present in person and not by proxy, and a two-thirds vote shall be required to approve or to rescind the action.

### **ARTICLE XIII – MATCH/RANGE RULES**

All registered, approved or sanctioned competitions held by the Club will be governed by the rules and regulations of the International Practical Shooting Confederation, the United States Practical Shooting Association, or other national organization registering, approving or sanctioning such competition, as appropriate. Range rules will be approved by the Club at the annual meeting and posted as a separate document by the Range Master.

### **ARTICLE XIII -- COMMITTEES**

**(a) Standing Committees.** The President shall appoint members of the Executive, Range, and Facilities committees, and the committee chairman of each, except for the Range Committee. The President shall serve as ex-officio member of all such committees. Recommended capital improvements and maintenance expenditures shall be brought to the President by the Chairman of each committee for approval and action.

**(1) Executive Committee:** shall be composed of two Club Officers together with the President, and shall be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Club.

**(2) Range Committee:** shall be composed of the Range Master and the various Range Officers appointed by the President for the range activities on all ranges. It shall be chaired

by the Range Master, who shall oversee and coordinate all range activities and operations, and shall be responsible for informing the membership in the maintenance and repair of all ranges, and shall make recommendations for improvements or additions to the ranges.

**(3) Facilities Committee:** shall be in charge of maintenance and capital improvements of the Club, and shall make recommendations to the President.

**(b) Other Committees.** The Club may provide for other committees as may be needed, and the President shall serve as ex-officio member of each such committee.

**(c) Expiration.** All committee memberships shall terminate at the end of the next Annual Business Meeting following appointment, except that the President, when creating such committee or appointing committee members, may provide that membership shall terminate at some earlier date.

## **ARTICLE XV -- AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS**

**(a) Amendments.** These By-laws may be amended by the Club. Proposals to amend the By-laws may be made at any Club meeting, but such proposed amendment may not be acted upon until the next regular meeting and after all active members have been notified of the proposed amendment, and notice of the proposed amendment has been furnished to the active members at least seven days prior to the meeting at which it is to be considered. Approval shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of the active members present, in person or by proxy. If approved, notice of the change to the By-laws shall be provided to all Club members in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (b) below.

**(b) Notice of Amendments and Voting Thereon.** Notice of all amendments approved shall be given to all Club members as soon as may be conveniently done, but not later than seven days prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting.

**Appendix A**

**PROXY**

The undersigned member of the West Texas Practical Shooters Club does hereby name, constitute and appoint

\_\_\_\_\_ as my sole proxy to vote for and in my behalf at the meeting of the CLUB.,

to be held on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, and I do hereby ratify and confirm the action of my proxy named herein in all

votes or actions taken by my proxy at such meeting or any continuances thereof.

Date:\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Membership class: \_\_\_\_\_ (Foundation, Preferred, Annual)

**PLEASE PRINT** Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_

City:\_\_\_\_\_

Phone:\_\_\_\_\_