

Abe Lincoln Gun Club

BY-LAWS

Amended: 10/3/2020

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the ABE LINCOLN GUN CLUB, Inc. In these By-Laws and related Rules, the acronym ALGC shall mean the same as the ABE LINCOLN GUN CLUB, Inc.

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Article II – Object

- 001 The object of this organization shall be the encouragement of organized rifle, pistol, shotgun and archery shooting in our community, with a view toward better knowledge on the part of such citizens of the safe handling and proper care of firearms as well as improved marksmanship. It shall be our further objective 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.
- 002 It shall be the further object and purpose of this organization to provide activities acceptable to the entire membership and provide as high an element as possible for spectator appeal to increase membership. To this end, special matches open to the public, upon payment of a suitable fee, shall be run at designated times during the year.

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ARTICLE III

Types of Membership, Benefits and Duties:

- 003 There shall be two types of membership:
1. REGULAR MEMBERS

- A. Regular Members, refers to a member as a person who is a citizen or resident alien of the United States, is at least 18 years of age, who was appointed to membership by the Executive Committee, who has agreed to abide by the club rules and has paid their annual dues and initiation fees for the current fiscal year.
- B. Regular Members, have full voting rights and may be elected to office for the club such as President, Vice President, etc. He/she may be appointed to various committees wherein to conduct work on behalf of the club.

2. LIFE MEMBERS

- A. Life Members, is a senior member of the club who has been a regular member for at least 20 years AND was at least 65 years of age as of his/her birthday on or prior to the end of the club's fiscal year.
- B. Life Members have the full rights, same as a regular member, without the obligation of paying the annual dues.

004 Limitations as to the number of members, admission to membership of family members and graduate juniors:

- 1. The membership roster shall be limited to 275 Regular Members.
- 2. Exceptions:
 - A. Graduates of the ALGC's Junior Program, who are recommended by their training instructor, may be admitted regardless of the limit on regular members, if such application for membership is submitted.
 - B. Children age 18-25 in the immediate family of regular or life membership may be admitted regardless of the limit on regular members upon application and approval of the Board.
- 3. The Executive Committee may from time to time grant an Honorary Membership to non-members who provide benefits or services to the club on a voluntary basis.
- 4. All applicants and persons admitted to membership in the club must meet the following requirements:
 - A. Must have a current membership in the Illinois State Rifle Association or National Rifle Association.
 - B. Submit a complete written application to the Executive Committee
 - C. Be sponsored by a Regular or Life Member in good standing.
 - D. Attend at least one interview session with the club officers, accompanied by his sponsoring member.
 - E. Be voted upon by the Executive Committee.

- F. Pay the appropriate initiation fee and annual dues.
- G. Read and sign a copy of the Club Rules and Membership.
- H. Must read and sign the member liability waiver.

- 5. Applicants submitting complete applications shall be considered for regular membership in the chronological order in which completed applications are received and dated by the Secretary. The Executive Committee will take into account the best interests of the Club in considering applications for possible membership.
- 6. New members shall serve a 1-year probation during which time they may be expelled for any infraction of club rules or policy. During the probation period, new members cannot sponsor applicants.

005 The above shall also apply to returning ex-members who have been forced to leave this area due to circumstances beyond their control.

1. INACTIVE STATUS:

- A. Inactive Status may be applied to members at their own request by action of the Executive Committee when for financial reasons the member is unable to continue his/her membership, or if he/she is moving from the area but may return to the area in the future.
- B. There is no general rule as to how long a member may be carried on Inactive Status. It shall be at the discretions of the Executive Committee.
- C. If the member has failed to pay his/her annual dues and the circumstances of that particular failure are known to the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee may choose to remove the member from the regular membership roster and place the member on inactive status as a courtesy, rather than to expel the member. The length of time that member remains on inactive status, shall be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- D. While on Inactive Status, these members do NOT have voting rights and they do NOT have usage rights of the club facilities; violation of the usage rights prohibition is punishable by expulsion based on a vote of the Executive Committee.
- E. While on Inactive Status, these members are given preference over new membership applications for vacancies in the regular membership roster and will be readmitted with the payment of the current annual dues (no initiation fee).

- 006 Members for whom the payment of annual dues is optional under Article IV, Section B (Life Members) shall not be counted against the roster limit.
- 007 All members in good standing shall have the privilege of using the facilities of the club under the regulations and directions issued by the Executive Committee.
- 008 Members in good standing shall have the privilege of voice and ballot in all matters pertaining to the activities and the welfare of the club except such matters of administration as are delegated by these By-Laws or subsequently by proper action of the membership to the Executive Committee, special committees or club officers.
- 009 It shall be the duty of all members to conduct themselves at all times in a manner becoming to the true sportsman and good citizen.
1. To observe the rules and regulations of the club and the Nation Rifle Association of America as pertains to competition and safety.
 2. To assist the officers of the club in maintaining proper order, discipline, safe conduct and fair play.
 3. To promptly report, to the Executive Committee any infractions of the rules by club members or visitors, which may result in danger to the persons, property or good repute of the ALGC or its members.
- 010 No member will be considered in good standing who is delinquent in the payment of dues (or) who has by proper action of the Executive Committee been suspended from privileges of membership. Members not in good standing shall be notified by the Executive Committee and denied use of the club facilities until such time that the Executive Committee has determined the final status of the member no longer considered to be in good standing.

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ARTICLE IV – Fees & Dues (Effective FY2018)

- 011 The annual dues for Regular Members shall be \$100 if paid in person at the Annual Meeting/Work Day. Annual dues not paid at the Annual Meeting/Work Day shall be \$125.
- 012 A one-time, \$100 initiation fee in addition to the annual dues shall be required from new regular members at the time of their acceptance into the club. This fee is waived for the minor children (Under 21) of a regular member in good standing.

013 Annual Dues, shall be payable no later than June 30. Dues not paid prior to July 1 shall be considered delinquent and the member shall be expelled from the club.

014 It shall be the duty of the Secretary or Treasurer to promptly notify such member of his expulsion and the reason therefore, and offer an opportunity for readmission. A member expelled for non-payment of dues may make application within 30 days and pay the initiation fee as a new member. (Meaning that if the expelled member wishes to reapply, he/she will have to pay not only the over-due annual dues but will also pay a new initiation fee). The application for readmission will be considered by the Executive Committee either in a special session or at the next regular meeting of the Executive Committee.

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ARTICLE V – Club Meetings

015 Annual Meeting/Work Day

1. The annual meeting shall be held the second Sunday of June.
2. All annual meetings of the ALGC are to be held at the club grounds.

016 The fiscal year shall run from July 1st of each year through June 30th of the following year.

017 If the annual meeting cannot take place at the time fixed, it shall be held within a reasonable time thereafter, and the Executive Committee shall hold over in their elected and appointed offices until their successors shall have been elected or appointed as the case may be.

018 Special Meetings:

1. A special meeting of the organization may be held at any time upon the call of the President.
 - A. Or upon the call of the Executive Committee.
 - B. Or upon demand in writing, stating the object of the proposed meeting signed by not less than twenty (20%) percent of the members in good standing.
2. Notice of the time, place and object of any special meeting shall be given to all officers and members in good standing, by email, posting on the club website and prominent display in the clubhouse or in writing by United States mail (if a member has requested U.S. mail as their preferred

method of notification), not less than seven (7) days prior to the date fixed for the special meeting.

3. The place of any such special meeting shall be fixed by the President (or Executive Committee, if the President is unable or fails to act).

019 A quorum of the Executive Committee shall hold Executive Committee meetings quarterly at a site of its choosing.

020 Quorum of Regular Members:

1. A quorum of members shall be a total of twenty-five (25) members in good standing at any meeting where the club is to acquire or sell any property (real estate) or where a capital (capital) expenditure of \$10,000.00 or more will be considered.
2. For such a meeting, written notifications by email, posting on the club website and prominent display in the clubhouse or by the United States mail (if a member has requested U.S. mail as their preferred method of notification) to each Regular and Life member, within thirty (30) days preceding said meeting is required.
3. For other, general business meetings where neither the acquisition or disposition of property (real estate) nor any capital expenditure exceeding \$10,000.00 will be considered, a quorum shall be defined as “the members present” except as provided under Article VI, paragraph 031.

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ARTICLE VI – Executive Committee

021 The ELECTED members of the Executive Committee shall be the:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Executive Officer

022 The elected members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by a majority vote, by ballot (verbal or written as the circumstances may require) of the members in good standing and present at the annual meeting of the organization.

023 Term of office: The elected members of the Executive Committee shall hold office for a two (2) year term.

- 024 There are no limitations on the number of terms an officer may be reelected by the members.
- 025 The Executive Committee shall have general supervision and control of all activities of the organization and activities at the club.
- 026 The Executive Committee shall be responsible for investigating all reports of violations of the club By-Laws and or rules, and imposing penalties.
- 027 The President may appoint sub-committee chairmen as needed, with confirmation by the Executive Committee, including but not limited to:
1. Chief Instructor
 2. Legislative Chairman
 3. Grounds & Maintenance
 4. Acres for Wildlife
 5. Trap and Skeet
- 028 Duties of the Chief Instructor
1. Shall have charge of all small arms “instruction” with the authority to appoint assistants.
 2. Shall coordinate with the Executive Officer in filing all reports for the National Rifle Association and the Civilian Marksmanship Program. Various training programs, i.e., Juniors Program, etc.
 3. Shall contract no bills without the authorization of the Executive Committee.
- 029 Duties of the Legislative Chairman:
1. While keeping in mind that we are a social/sports activity organization, not a political organization...
 - A. Shall have charge of and handle all club legislative activities.
 - B. Shall keep the Executive Committee and membership informed concerning any legislation that impacts the club’s purpose.
 - C. Shall have the authority to appoint assistants.
 - D. Shall contract no bills without the authorization of the President.
- 030 Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at minimum quarterly or at any other time on the call of the President (or) on demand, in writing to the Secretary by any three elected members of the Executive Committee.
- 031 For meetings of the Executive Committee (including annual and special membership meetings), a quorum of three (3) elected members of the Executive Committee shall be the rule.
- 032 Filling Vacancies on the Executive Committee (between elections):
1. A vacancy in the Executive Committee may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Executive Committee.

2. If more than one vacancy exists on the Executive Committee, a special meeting of the organization shall be called and new officer shall be elected to fill the vacancies until the date of the next annual meeting where an election of officers is scheduled.

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ARTICLE VII – Duties of the elected officers.

033 President:

1. Shall preside at all annual and special meetings and at all Executive Committee meetings.
2. Shall be a member ex-officio of all sub-committees.
3. Shall perform all such other duties as usually pertain to this office.
4. Shall be primarily responsible for all club activities.
5. Is hereby empowered to make contracts and commitments for the benefit and improvement of the club and its grounds and buildings, not in excess of \$10,000.00 with the approval of a majority vote of the Executive Committee.
6. Routine contracts for the club improvements shall not deplete the treasury lower than \$2000.00 except in cases of dire emergency.

034 Vice President:

1. Shall perform all the duties of the President in his absence or at the request of the President.
2. Shall be responsible for maintenance and improvement of the buildings, grounds and club facilities.
3. May appoint such assistants as he may need.
4. Shall oversee the recycle program.

035 Secretary:

1. Shall conduct all official correspondence, except as indicated in the responsibilities of other officers.
2. Shall notify the members of the Executive Committee of all meetings and all members of special and annual meetings.
3. Shall keep a true record of all meetings of the Executive Committee. The minutes, are to be available to the members upon request. Minutes of quarterly meetings of the Executive Committee shall be retained for 12 months. Minutes of Annual Meetings and Special Meetings shall be retained for a period of three years.

4. Shall have custody of the books and papers of the club, except the Treasurer's books of account and the operating papers of other officers and shall maintain the Club roster. A copy of an annual roster of the Club shall be retained for each fiscal year for a period of not less than 20 years.
5. Applicants for Membership:
 - A. Any person seeking to become a member of the ALGC must submit the completed application form to the club Secretary.
 - B. Complete applications shall be retained until such time as they are acted upon by the Executive Committee and for one additional year after an applicant is accepted as a regular member.
6. The Secretary (and) the Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection of and for the maintaining of an accurate record of membership (roster).
7. The Secretary shall promptly remit any fees or dues or other funds collected, to the Treasurer.
8. In the case of the absence of the Secretary, the Treasurer shall be empowered to act as Secretary.

036 Treasurer:

1. Shall have charge of all funds of the organization and shall place same in such bank or banks as may be approved by the Executive Committee.
2. Such money shall only be withdrawn by a check signed by the Treasurer, and only for the payment of such bills as shall have been approved by the Executive Committee.
3. Is hereby empowered to pay current, routine bills on behalf of the club (phone, propane, electric, taxes, postage, insurance, etc.) not exceeding \$2000.00 without further approval or delay.
4. Shall report to the President periodically and shall present to the Executive Committee, at each Executive Committee meeting, an itemized listing of all bills received and checks drawn.
5. Shall receive from the Secretary a list of names, of the members for who dues are being paid and the dates covered by the membership dues.
6. Shall keep an accurate account of all transactions and render a detailed report with vouchers at any meetings of the Executive Committee when so requested. A report to the organization at its annual meeting will be presented listing each account with balances, net worth of the club, etc.
7. Shall retain copies of annual audits and tax bills for a period of not less than 5 years.
8. In the absence of a member in the elected office of the Treasurer, the Secretary will be empowered to act for him until a replacement is secured.

- 037 Executive Officer:
1. Shall have charge of the ranges of the club. (Meaning any special use of the range must go through the Executive Officer.)
 2. Shall have charge of the printing of score cards.
 3. Shall have charge of arranging competitions, etc.
 4. Shall have authority to appoint assistants.
 5. Shall contract no bills without the authorization of the President.
 6. For competition duties, the Executive Officer may appoint a competent Assistant Executive Officer for:
 - A. Small bore
 - B. High Power
 - C. Pistol
 - D. Shotgun
 - E. Black powder
 - F. Archery
 7. Shall coordinate with the Chief Instructor for the ordering and storage of small arms and ammunition owned by the club and the filing of reports for the NRA and the CMP.
- 038 Ability to Adopt Rules:
1. The Executive Committee may adopt rules to govern its operation and the use of the club grounds, building and facilities.

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ARTICLE VIII – Suspension or Expulsion

- 039 Any officer or member may be suspended by a majority vote of the Executive Committee for infractions of the club By-Laws, executive rules, or Membership Agreement, pending a vote of the members of the club at an annual or special meeting.
- 040 At such annual or special meeting, the suspended officer or member may be reprimanded, suspended or expelled from the club by a majority vote of the members present.
- 041 The membership shall be notified seven days prior to the meeting, that a recall, suspension or removal of an officer or member will be considered.
- 042 The member of officer being considered for such action, shall also be so notified.

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ARTICLE – IX Amendments

- 0045 Amendments to these By-Laws may be introduced by any member at any annual or special meeting
- 0046 A notice shall be sent to all members notifying them of the time, date and place of said meeting.
- 0047 The notice shall also include the statement, “Amendment of the By-Laws will be considered”. (Meaning, there was no requirement for three notices to be published as is sometimes cited. Simply a notice to the members announcing the plans for a meeting where changes will be considered and the changes can be brought up for discussion, from the floor by any member.)
- 0048 A two-thirds vote of the members present shall be required to approve any amendment proposed.

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ARTICLE – Rules of Order

- 0049 All meetings of the club and the Executive Committee will be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order as condensed and approved by the National Rifle Association. (Meaning, that generally we run a friendly and easy going style of meeting, but if something comes along which presents a difficult question or situation, we are authorized to hold a formal style meeting.)

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ARTICLE X – Guests

- 0050 Guests:
1. Family & Friends:
 - A. Including wives, husbands, or other members of a club member’s family, shall be welcomed and encouraged.

- B. Children of members are welcome, but must be strictly controlled.
 - C. Children, under the age of 12, must be supervised by an individual NOT shooting.
 - D. Number of guests allowed: Any Regular or Life member may bring to the club a maximum of one guest and two (2) non-shooting guests at any one time.
 - E. N.R.A. Certified Instructors, who are members of this club, with prior notice to the Executive Officer, may conduct training classes using the club facilities. However, the normal guest policy prevails.
 - F. Official Agencies: Such as the IL Dept. of Corrections Sniper Team of the Springfield Police Dept., will NOT be allowed to use the club facilities for training purposes due to our concerns about liability issues.
 - G. Instructors would NOT be authorized to “close” the range and would be advised that club members have priority, except when a “Guest Group” closure is approved as below.
 - H. All guests are required to complete and sign a guest liability waiver whenever on club property whether they will be shooting or just visiting.
 - I. Members bringing guests shall be held entirely liable for their actions on club property.
2. Guest Groups
- A. Guest group training or shoots may be scheduled and held at the club with prior notice to and approval by the Executive Committee. No training exercises will be allowed which would conflict with the safety procedures and shooting restrictions applicable to the Abe Lincoln Gun Club. All group guest will sign in on a separate log and complete a guest waiver. A range may be reserved for the group and closed to members provided suitable advance notice postings are made. The date and time, type and size of the group, the nature of the activity, and the ratio of members to guests in the group shall be considered by the Executive Committee on a case-by-case basis.
 - B. The sponsoring member(s) will be responsible for Club property and interests while the group is on Club property and must be present during the event.

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ARTICLE XIII – Dissolution

0051 In the event that the club is dissolved for any reason in which the club shall cease to exist and will be deemed to be out of business, the net assets shall be donated to the National Rifle Association of which the club has been a charter member since 1946 and/or the Illinois State Rifle Association as determined by the Executive Committee in place at the time of the dissolution. (Meaning: This dissolution clause is NOT to be invoked by the club relocating or moving to a new location. It is only invoked if the club ceases to exist and is out of business.)

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SIGNATURE BLOCK

0052 The foregoing By-Laws are those approved by the club membership on June 26, 1969 and amended at the annual meetings of June 4, 1975; June 11, 1978; June 5, 1983; June 14, 2009, June 12, 2011; June 9, 2013; June 12, 2016 and June 10, 2018.

Signed: Pat Keen, President

Jim Leinicke, Secretary

Dated: October 3, 2020