Spirit of ‘76 Living History Association (Spirit of 76 LHA)

2022 Membership Application

Annual membership dues are $40 per adult, $30 per youth, age 12- 17 years; children under age 12 years are free. Family membership fee (for two or more residing at the same address) is $80.

Name, First and Last:

Street Address:

City, State, and ZIP Code:

Email address:

Phone number:

If a minor, name of parent or guardian:

Will parent be participating in events? Please circle YES or NO. If “NO”, who will be responsible for the minor at association events?

Please circle “I agree” to indicate your acceptance of the following statement relating to safety:

**I agree to abide by all prudent safety guidelines and regulations, as published by Spirit of ‘76 LHA, or those comparable guidelines provided by units while participating in reenactment and living history activities.**

**I agree**

**Member, please sign below (parent or guarding please sign for minor):**

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Andy House-Higgins is the Spirit of 76 membership coordinator and will receive all membership dues. Please send the above requested information, along with payment, to:

Andy House-Higgins

1202 Central ST SE

Olympia WA 98501

[abckhaha@hotmail.com](mailto:abckhaha@hotmail.com)

Please make checks payable to “Spirit of 76 LHA”.

Donations are greatly appreciated and are tax-deductible in accordance with the IRS.

The Spirit of ‘76 LHA is now a formally recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Liability insurance has been secured from Scottish American via Rhodes Warden Insurance Agency; membership includes liability insurance protection from third party claims. Insurance coverage does not protect you from other living historians/reenactors and it does not include medical coverage for yourself in case of injury.

Following are minimum safety standards that the Spirit of ‘76 LHA expects its members to abide by.

All participants using black powder must attend a scheduled safety brief and be conversant with the guidelines and display proficiency with their weapons.

**Weapons Safety**

**Firearms**

1. All firearms should arrive at the field unloaded.

2. All flintlock weapons must have installed flashguard and hamerstall.

3. No weapon will be allowed to field if it slips out of half cock when activated by the trigger on your finger.

4. All parts of the firearm must fit tightly and properly, and no weapon may field with cracks in the stock.

5. No smokeless powder in muzzle loading weapons.

6. Muzzle-loaded weapons to use black powder per manufacturer’s specifications.

7. Never aim at an opponent at a range of less than 100 feet.

8. The minimum safe firing distance is 30 feet. All weapons must be elevated (aimed above head height) at ranges under 100 feet

9. No unplanned, unchoreographed, unauthorized hand-to hand combat. Never discharge any weapon in camp.

**Maximum Blank Loads**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Pistol, Rifle | 70 grains FFFg/ 90 grains FFg |
| Fowler, Brown Bess, Charleville | 110 grains FFFg/125 grains FFg |

**Edged Weapons**

1. A proper scabbard is required for edged weapons, including but not limited to swords, bayonets, knives, tomahawks, and hatchets.

2. No knives, tomahawks, or hatchets may be drawn on the field

3. Bayonet charges no nearer opposing side than 20 feet.

4. Rehearsed and choreographed bayonet, cutlass, pike and sword demonstrations are permitted if deemed safe by the Safety Officer. No unplanned, unchoreographed, unauthorized hand-to hand combat.

**Artillery**

1. All members on a team to know job requirements and relevant safety rules.

2. The powder box to be maintained 15 feet to the rear of the trails.

3. No more than 4 oz per charge.

**Camp and Field Safety**

**Gun Powder**

1. No loose powder in camp. All rounds for muskets and artillery must be pre-rolled prior to the event and stored in spark resistant, fireproof containers – no plastic containers.

2. Keep powder away from fire pits, pipes, cigars, cigarettes and other sources of fires or sparks.

3. Store powder no less than 25 feet from fire pits.

4. Powder horns should not contain powder at any time, including weapon loading.

**Fires**

1. Build fires in a firebox, pit or on a steel plate.

2. Fires to be built 12 feet minimum from tents, with a water filled bucket at each pit.

3. Fires must be always attended.

4. Children must not tend fires and are not to play around fires.

5. No garbage in the fire.

6. When done, the fire should be soaked with water, stirred, and soaked again.  The earth should be leveled to original appearance.

**First Aid**

1. Groups should maintain a list of members who are medically trained.  When possible, first aid should be administered by those medically trained.

2. Each group must maintain a list of members who have illnesses or medical conditions, as well as a list of medications to help medical personnel if needed. [Alternatively, keep a note or other documentation on yourself listing medical conditions and medications.]

**Animals**

1. When animals are present, a knowledgeable safety officer should be present (for cavalry), and domestic animals should be in the direct control of their owner when in camp.

2. Only working animals to be allowed and should be kept away from the public and tents with a picket, rope line or corral.

3. Be aware of proper paperwork required by state laws. If the Event Host prohibits animals on site, then animals are not allowed.

**Alcohol and Drugs**

1. No alcohol or marijuana to be consumed during public hours of the event. Intoxicants may be prohibited depending on event host rules and applicable law. Intoxication may result in banishment from participation.

2. Drunkenness, non-prescribed drug use or being under the influence of a hallucinogenic substance is a safety violation and requires immediate event expulsion.

**Public Safety**

**Camp**

1. Maintain walkways through and around camp. Allow sufficient access for emergency vehicles in the camp layout.

2. Attend campfires and keep spectators at a safe distance.

3. No bonfires.

4. No firing of weapons in camp areas.

5. ‘Quiet Time’ is 11pm until 7am. Please be respectful.

**Demonstrations**

1. The public must be at least 30 feet from the action behind a rope line.

2. The public to be located at rear of closest participants or parallel to opposing lines.  Participants must never fire in the direction of the public.

3. Public to be at least 30 feet away from powder boxes and not ahead of the end of the trails. The size of guns should be considered when planning public lines.

4. Public should not be closer than 100 feet from gun muzzle and allow greater consideration for larger guns [cannon]. Participants should be made aware of pertinent physical distances during the morning safety brief.

5. A cannon crew should be 25 feet from roped off public viewing area and artillery must be fired away from the rope line.  Public should be no closer than 100 feet from cannons on field.

6. No firing or handling of weapons by public.

**Buildings**

*Do not use building if there is any possibility of causing damage.*

1. If building use is allowed, be careful of all glass and old wood.

2. Clean up before leaving building.

3. Do not fire cannons at buildings unless permission granted by site. Cannons should be at least 100 feet from the building with greater distances for larger guns.

**General**

We invite people of all ages to attend and enjoy our living history presentations as participants and spectators. Please be respectful of those around you.

\*\*\* END OF SAFETY STANDARDS. \*\*\*