

# **LUNENBURG SPORTSMEN’S CLUB, INC**

## **OFFICIAL BY-LAWS**

**(Revised and Approved on June 13, 2023)**

**ARTICLE I      NAME**

**SECTION 1**

This organization shall be known as the Lunenburg Sportsmen’s Club, Inc., a not-for-profit organization formed in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (hereinafter known as the Club).

**ARTICLE II      GOALS OF THIS ORGANIZATION**

**SECTION 1**

It shall be the goal of this Club to encourage the conservation of natural resources, the protection of fisheries and wildlife, and to provide local sportsmen and women with outdoor recreational activities.

**SECTION 2**

The Club shall also encourage organized rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery shooting among local citizens with a goal of increasing knowledge on the safe handling and proper care of their equipment while improving marksmanship.

**SECTION 3**

It shall be an additional goal and purpose to promote the development of honesty, good fellowship, self-discipline, team play, and self-reliance which are essential elements of good sportsmanship

**ARTICLE III      MEMBERSHIP**

## **SECTION 1**

All applications for membership shall be submitted to the Board of Directors in writing on a membership form provided by the Club.

## **SECTION 2**

All applications for membership will be acted upon at a Board of Directors meeting or the regular monthly Club meeting.

## **SECTION 3**

Applicants will be accepted as members of the Club upon a majority vote of the members present at a regular monthly Club meeting.

## **SECTION 4**

Any resident of the United States, being of sound mind and good character and fifteen years of age or older, may become members of this Club upon acceptance by the Club membership and payment of the required dues.

## **SECTION 5**

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## **SECTION 6**

Honorary membership shall consist of full membership privileges, without a dues assessment. Honorary Membership shall be granted upon a 2/3 vote of the members present at a Club meeting.

## **SECTION 7**

- A. A member is subject to suspension or expulsion from the Club for willfully violating the Club by-laws, any Club rules and regulations, or committing acts damaging to the Club as a whole.
  
- B. A member in good standing may tender charges against another member. Charges must be in writing, clearly stating the facts, and must be accompanied by supporting evidence which will be used to support the charges. Such charges shall be filed with the Secretary, who will immediately notify the President. If charges are filed against a member of the Executive Committee (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer) the charges shall be submitted to Executive Committee as a whole.

- C. Upon notification that charges have been filed, the President (or presiding officer of the Executive Committee should the President be charged) will call a special meeting/hearing of the Board of Directors. The accused and the accuser will appear at that hearing to determine if there is sufficient evidence to merit proceeding with suspension/expulsion procedures at the next regular Club meeting (or at a special meeting called for that purpose). The President (or presiding officer) will direct the Secretary to notify the Club membership of this special meeting/hearing via email and/or a letter giving them a minimum of 15 days' notice. This notice will include a true copy of the charges, supporting affidavits, and exhibits.
- D. At this special meeting/hearing, the President (or presiding officer) will allow the accuser to verbally relate the facts and for the accused to present a verbal and written defense. The Board of Directors after reviewing both sides will vote by secret ballot whether or not to proceed with the suspension or expulsion action.

The majority vote of the Directors present will prevail. Recommendations for the suspension will contain the recommended time frame of suspension (not to exceed one (1) year). Expulsion is deemed permanent.

- E. A vote to proceed will result in the matter being brought before the general membership at the next regular scheduled Club meeting or at a special membership meeting called for this purpose. At the general membership meeting, that portion of the minutes of the special meeting/hearing pertaining to the matter will be read, the accuser will be heard and the accused will be heard. A secret ballot vote of 2/3 of the members present and entitled to vote is required for suspension/expulsion to be put into effect.

## **SECTION 8**

A member in good standing may bring guests to the Club. Each guest is entitled to two complimentary visits. After the second visit that individual should apply for membership to the Club. It is the responsibility of the member-sponsor to encourage membership in the Club.

## **SECTION 9**

The default communication method for all Club business shall be via email

to the members, except as noted otherwise in these bylaws. Members will have the option to opt-out of email and receive their communications by first class mail.

## **ARTICLE IV DUES AND FEES**

### **SECTION 1**

Annual dues for members 18 through 70 years of age shall be sixty-five dollars (\$65.00). This assessment can be increased by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, affirmed by a majority vote of the members present at a regular Club meeting.

### **SECTION 2**

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### **SECTION 3**

Any member of the Club 70 years of age or older shall be exempt from dues, providing that they have been a member in good standing for at least five (5) years.

### **SECTION 4**

For family memberships annual dues shall be one hundred dollars (\$100). This must include at least one adult 18 years or older and may include their spouse and/or partner and any minor children living at the same address. Any family members 18 years old or older shall apply for their own individual membership. This assessment can be increased by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, affirmed by a majority vote of the members present at a regular Club meeting.

### **SECTION 5**

Dues are payable annually by October 1<sup>st</sup>. New Members joining on or after July 1<sup>st</sup> will have their dues applied to the upcoming calendar year.

### **SECTION 6**

Any member whose dues lapse for more than 30 days shall lose all usage of Club privileges.

### **SECTION 7**

Any member whose dues lapse for six months shall be dropped from the Club records. If he (she) wishes to regain membership he (she) must apply as a

new member.

## **SECTION 8**

Every paid-up member shall be issued a combination to the Club gate lock. The combination number for the gate will be changed on October 31<sup>st</sup>. The combination is not to be given out to non-members. If any person or persons are found to have given out the numbered Club gate lock combination to a nonmember, they shall be called before the Board of Directors and at that time the Board shall make a determination as to whether the member shall face further disciplinary action as stated in Article III, section 7.

## **ARTICLE V      OFFICERS OF THE CLUB**

### **SECTION 1**

A President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall constitute the Executive Committee and are the four Officers of the Club.

Their terms of office shall be for one (1) year, expiring co-terminally on December 31<sup>st</sup>.

## **ARTICLE VI      DIRECTORS OF THE CLUB**

### **SECTION 1**

There shall be a Board of up to thirteen (13) Directors. The Board has the authority to govern this Club by directing its policy and operations. The Board of Directors shall consist of eight (8) elected members (Directors), plus the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and the immediate Past President.

### **SECTION 2**

The eight Director members of the Board (not including the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Immediate Past President) shall each serve a three (3) year term with the elections staggered at the direction of the Board and membership. A special election may be called for to replace a dropped or resigned board member after the membership is advised by email of the special election.

### **SECTION 3**

A Membership Secretary shall be appointed annually by a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors. The Membership Secretary can be any member of

the Club, including any of the Officers.

#### **SECTION 4**

The immediate Past President shall also be a member of the Board of Directors for one (1) year after his (her) elected term expires. The Past President has voting privileges on the Board.

#### **SECTION 5**

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to pay bills normally incurred in the operation of the Club. Any member of the Board of Directors who, without good cause, misses three consecutive board meetings may be dropped from the board by a two-thirds vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may immediately seat a replacement Director.

### ***ARTICLE VII DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND APPOINTEES***

#### **SECTION 1**

The President shall be the executive officer of the Club. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Club, all Board meetings, and all special meetings. The President may appoint members to all committees created by the by-laws or by vote of the Club, have general supervision over all matters appertaining to the Club, and see that harmony is preserved and the laws of order enforced. The President may act as the representative of the Club at special meetings and events outside of the Club and perform such other duties as may be required by him (her) by the by-laws of the Club.

#### **SECTION 2**

It shall be the duty of the Vice President to assist the President in the performance of his (her) duties as above stated in section 1 of Article VI, to officiate for him (her) in his (her) absence, and to be vested with full powers of the President in the President's absence. If the President and Vice President should be absent, the meeting shall be called to order by the Secretary and the Secretary shall thereafter conduct the meeting.

#### **SECTION 3**

The Secretary shall be Secretary to both the Club and to the Board of Directors and shall attend all of their meetings and keep accurate minutes there-of. The Secretary shall attend to all of the correspondence and shall promptly present

all communications received by him (her) to the Club. The Secretary shall file the required Annual Report with the Corporations Division of the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by November 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The Secretary shall notify the members of all committees of their appointment together with the subject given into their charge. He (she) shall immediately deliver all books, papers, and other records of the Club under direction of the President. When he (she) retires from office, he (she) shall immediately deliver all books, papers, and other property in his (her) charge belonging to the Club to his (her) successor in office, or whom so ever the Club may appoint.

#### **SECTION 4**

The Treasurer shall have the custody of all the funds and securities of the Club. It shall be the Treasurer's duty to receive all Club moneys, giving a receipt thereafter, and depositing same at the earliest practical moment in such bank or banks or depository as are approved by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall pay all bills of the Club so authorized by the Board of Directors and keep accurate accounts. Payments and receipts shall be recorded under their proper date, amounts, and sources. At the end of the fiscal year (July 1 to June 30) the Treasurer will prepare a balance sheet accompanied by copies of the Club's most recent bank statements. The Treasurer shall deliver the balance sheet to a certified accountant that does not sit on the Board of Directors by or before August 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The Treasurer shall also perform such other duties as are required by the Club and are compatible with his (her) office. The Treasurer shall present a report at each monthly meeting of the Club showing the status of the funds of the Club.

#### **SECTION 5**

The Membership Secretary shall inform persons admitted to membership and notify rejected applicants. The Membership Secretary shall assign each member his (her) membership card and keep correct mailing lists of the members of the organization in his (her) office. He (she) shall produce, publish and send via email to each member a monthly newsletter announcing the date, place, and time of the regular monthly meeting program. The newsletter may contain information about other Club activities and other matters of interest to the members. He (she) may at his (her) discretion, delegate the production, publishing, distribution of the newsletter to another member of the organization.

The Membership Secretary shall receive any moneys acquired from membership dues and fees, etc., paying same to the Treasurer at the earliest practical moment. The Membership Secretary shall require members to pay

their dues in advance, send a notice to all members in arrears for dues, attend to all duties required by the by-laws and all such other duties as may be legally imposed upon him by the organization and are inherent and pertain to the dues of his (her) office.

## **SECTION 6**

The Board of Directors shall have entire charge of the property interest and the general management of the organization, full power and authority to conduct the same and may adopt such rules and employ such officers or agents and fix their compensation as they deem proper to carry out the objects of the organization. The Board of Directors shall hold regular meetings on the last Tuesday of every month unless convenience requires a change of date. Meetings may be in person or virtual (online, phone, etc.).

## **ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES**

### **SECTION 1**

At the first regular meeting of the Club after his (her) installation the President shall appoint the Chair for each of the following standing committees: A committee on archery and archery ranges, a committee on the pistol and rifle ranges, a committee on fish and game, and a committee on building and grounds.

### **SECTION 2**

Except as otherwise provided, committee members may be appointed by the committee chair. The President and Secretary shall be ex-officio members of all committees. If necessary or expedient any member may be appointed chair of more than one committee, standing or special. All committees other than standing committees shall be classified as special committees. A special committee may be formed at any time by the President to fulfill a current or anticipated need, and rules governing the operation of same shall be set when the committee is established. All committee appointees, both standing and special, shall be approved by the majority of the Board of Directors.

### **SECTION 3**

All requests for committee operating expenses shall be approved by the majority vote of the Board of Directors for funds up to two-hundred dollars (\$200.00) and any amount greater than two hundred dollars shall be brought up to the general membership for a vote.



## **SECTION 4**

Each Chair of an active committee shall present a report to the Board of Directors at their meeting.

## **ARTICLE IX     DUTIES OF COMMITTEES**

### **SECTION 1**

The committee on building and grounds shall be responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the Clubhouse and grounds and equipment and apparatus relating thereto. They shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors of needs to achieve this goal. The building committee shall be empowered to use their discretion in repairing emergency situations which would involve public safety or building security.

### **SECTION 2**

The shooting committees (archery, pistol and rifle) shall maintain their respective shooting ranges in a safe and proper manner. Each committee shall arrange for all competition and related activities and shall make such rules and regulations as are necessary to govern same, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

### **SECTION 3**

The committee on fish and game shall have full charge of all matters pertaining to fish, fishing, game birds, mammals, and hunting on Club property subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. The committee shall have charge of the Club's pond and shall make necessary rules and regulations governing the stocking, maintenance, and use of the fish therein. They shall complement the duties of the buildings and grounds committee to the extent of being responsible for the proper maintenance of the immediate shoreline around the Club's pond in the interest of good conservation and fishing. This committee shall also maintain an active interest in all matters pertaining to the conservation of all wild birds and mammals within our community and maintain a constant effort to preserve the greatest possible amount of open hunting with the Commonwealth. The committee on fish and game shall have full charge of all matters pertaining to the procurement and liberation of game birds and mammals by the Club, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE X      MEETINGS**

### **SECTION 1**

Regular meetings of this organization shall be held on the second Tuesday of each month. Meetings will be held monthly from September to June, except when convenience requires change as voted in Section 3 of this Article.

### **SECTION 2**

The annual meeting and election of officers shall be held at the December meeting unless otherwise designated by the Board of Directors. Election of Directorships up for election shall be held at that same meeting.

### **SECTION 3**

When convenience requires, the regular meeting may be held on a date, and at a place and hour, other than as above. This is to be determined by a vote of the Board of Directors and provided that written notice of such a change of meeting, date, place and time be given to all members.

### **SECTION 4**

Special meetings of the organization may be called by the President or by a majority of the Board of Directors.

### **SECTION 5**

The Board of Directors shall meet two weeks prior to the regular monthly meeting of the Club, or at any other time as convenience requires.

### **SECTION 6**

A written notice of all meetings, stating place, day, and hour thereof shall be sent by the membership Secretary before each meeting to each member of the organization. Listing the meeting date and time. The newsletter qualifies as adequate notice.

### **SECTION 7**

- A. A quorum at any regular meeting or annual meeting shall consist of 20 members in good standing.
- B. A quorum at any Board of Directors meeting shall be six (6) members of the Board of Directors.

## **SECTION 8**

All meetings of the Club shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order except when these by-laws take precedence.

## **ARTICLE XI    AMENDMENTS**

### **SECTION 1**

Proposed amendments to these by-laws may be introduced by any member of the Club at any regular meeting and shall be submitted in writing. The proposed amendment will automatically be laid on the table for the disposition at the next monthly meeting. A copy of the proposed amendment shall be sent to each Club member at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting. A two-thirds vote of the members present and entitled to vote will be necessary to pass or reject it. These by-laws may be temporarily suspended at any regular or special meeting by unanimous consent of the members entitled to vote who are in attendance.

## **ARTICLE XII    DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS UPON DISSOLUTION**

### **SECTION 1**

In the event of the dissolution of the organization, its assets in excess of its liabilities shall be transferred to either:

- A. A successor organizing with purpose substantially identical to the purpose of the Lunenburg Sportsmen's Club, Inc. and operated exclusively as a Massachusetts not for profit corporation; or
- B. To one or more charitable, educational, religious, or scientific organizations with purposes similar to the purpose of the Lunenburg Sportsmen's Club, Inc.

## **ARTICLE XIII    INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

### **SECTION 1**

The Club shall, to the extent permitted by law, indemnify each person who may serve or who has served at any time as a director or officer of the Club or any of its subsidiaries against all expenses and liabilities including attorney's fees (reasonably incurred by or imposed upon such person) in connection with any

proceeding in which he (she) may become involved by reason of his (her) service. An exceptions is a proceeding seeking a declaratory judgment regarding his (her) own conduct. No indemnification shall be provided for any such person with respect to any matter as to which he (she) shall have been finally adjudicated in any proceeding not to have acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that his (her) action was in the best interest of the Club.

Such indemnification may, to the extent authorized by the Club, include payment by the Club of expenses incurred in defending a civil or criminal action or proceeding, upon receipt of an undertaking by the person indemnified to repay such payment if he (she) shall be adjudicated to be not entitled to indemnification under this article. Which undertaking may be accepted without regard to the financial ability of such person to make repayment. The payment of such indemnification shall be conclusively deemed authorized by the Club under this article and each director of the Club under approving such payment shall be wholly protected (1) if the payment has been approved or ratified by majority vote of a quorum of the directors consisting of persons who are not at that time parties to the proceeding, (2) by a majority vote of a committee of three or more directors who are not at that time parties to the proceeding and are selected for this purpose by the full board (in which selection directors who are parties may participate), or (3) the action is taken in reliance upon the opinion of independent legal counsel (who may be counsel to the Club) appointed for the purpose by vote of the directors or in the manner specified in clauses (1) or (2) of this paragraph.

The indemnification provided hereunder shall extend to the heirs, executors and administrators of a director, officer, or other person entitled to indemnification hereunder.

The foregoing right of indemnification shall be in addition to and not exclusive of any other rights to which such director or officer or other person may be entitled under any agreement or pursuant to any action taken by the directors or members of the Club or otherwise.

## ***ARTICLE XIV    SPEED LIMITS ON CLUB GROUND***

### **SECTION 1**

The speed limit on the access road from Reservoir Road, shall not be greater than 15 mph.

## **SECTION 2**

The speed limit in the Club parking lot and all other roads around the Club and rifle range shall not exceed 10 mph.

## **SECTION 3**

Anyone found to be in violation of section 1 or 2 of article XIII, shall be subject to the provisions of article III, section 7.

## ***ARTICLE XV    DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY***

### ***SECTION 1***

No real property belonging to the Club shall be sold or otherwise disposed of, or an easement on the property be granted, until published in the regular newsletter and voted at a regular meeting by a 2/3<sup>rds</sup> vote of the members present.

**RANGE RULES FOR LUNENBURG SPORTSMEN’S CLUB**

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**\* PREAMBLE \***  
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These rules and regulations are established to ensure the health and safety of range supervisors, range users, spectators, and the community at large.

**PISTOL AND RIFLE RANGE RULES**

**WHEN HANDLING A GUN**

- 1. Always point the muzzle in a safe direction.
- 2. Keep your finger off the trigger.
- 3. Keep the action open and gun unloaded.

**WHEN SHOOTING A GUN**

- 4. Know how the gun operates.
- 5. Be sure your gun and ammunition are compatible.
- 6. Be sure of your target - and what’s beyond.
- 8. Wear eye and ear protection as appropriate.
- 9. Don’t mix alcohol or drugs with shooting. The odor of alcohol emanating from the exhaled breath of an individual while on any Club range will constitute evidence of consumption of alcohol and that individual will be held accountable for violations of this rule. Possession and or transportation of alcoholic beverages or any controlled substances on any of our ranges is expressly forbidden.

**LSC GENERAL RANGE RULES**

- 10. Be aware that circumstances (such as the use of Club property for events) may require additional rules unique to a particular situation including closure of the ranges.
- 11. When outside ranges are in use, a red flag must be flown.
- 12. All shooting is to be against backstops. Shooting must be done in a manner which assures that bullets will hit the backstops and not ricochet.
- 13. No shooting is allowed that may damage Club property, including but not limited to trees, posts, signs, buildings, and target holders.
- 14. All automatic firearms will be fired with short burst if at all possible and all hand-held automatic firearms are not to be fired more than 25 yards from the backstop.

15. Shotgun shooting is not allowed on the Club property with the exception of sighting in shotguns prior to deer season. Slugs for sighting in shotguns are not to be fired more than 50 yards from the backstop on the rifle range. The shooting of shotshells is not allowed at any location on Club property.
16. No outdoor shooting is allowed before 8:00 am (except on Sundays when outdoor shooting is not allowed before 9am).
17. All shooting shall cease on all outside ranges when the water department light comes on, lightning is present in the area, and/or one-half hour prior to sunset.
18. A membership card must be shown upon request by a range supervisor, Director, or Officer of the Club.
19. Membership cards must be up to date. If over 90 days have elapsed no use of the Club ranges is allowed.
20. Minors and non-members must be accompanied and supervised by an adult member with a paid-up membership card.
21. Only one guest on the line at one time. A guest may use the range twice during a calendar year, and then should make application for membership. No more than two guests per membership card at any one time.
22. Members take precedence for the use of all ranges. Members may require guests to wait if the shooting line is full.

## **OUTDOOR RANGES**

23. Paper targets, manufactured AR steel angled downward to avoid ricochets, and bowling pins are the only form of targets that shall be used on the outdoor rifle and pistol ranges.
24. Shooters may use plastic jugs, cans, etc. They must be picked up and placed in the trash barrels when done.
25. Absolutely no glass, ceramics, or other trash targets are to be used on the outdoor rifle and pistol ranges.
26. Shooters are responsible for cleaning up their own spent brass and trash.
27. Miss fires and dud rounds must be placed in the provided sand filled buckets.
28. No exploding targets are allowed on any of the Club ranges.
29. Shooters must sign in and out in the log book located at each range. Failure to sign in and out, or failure to fly the range flag for pistol and rifle, may be cause for a disciplinary hearing under Article II Section 7.

## **INDOOR RANGE**

30. Indoor range will not be opened without a range supervisor present.
31. Only paper targets may be use on the indoor range.
32. Only rimfire (.17 HMR, 22 short, or 22 long rifle [standard or high velocity])

ammunition may be used on the indoor range. No magnum rimfire ammunition, center fire ammunition, or jacketed bullets are allowed. All other types of ammunition are expressly forbidden.

33. A fee will be collected for use of indoor range to offset heat, lights, and targets.

## **ARCHERY RANGE RULES**

### **OUTDOOR RANGE**

1. The practice range is open for all daylight hours. Exceptions include when a Club function is in progress, work parties are present, or outside groups are using the facility with the permission of the Board of Directors (police, Boy Scouts, etc.).
2. No broad heads allowed on any of the ranges.
3. Be sure of your target - and what is beyond.
4. Archery range is a full 14 target course. The first target is on the right side of the exit road (near the pistol range) and the course ends behind the Club house. Targets 2 through 14 start on the left side of the road. Because of the proximity of the pistol range Targets 1 and 2 can only be used when the pistol range is inactive. The pistol range is closed during archery tournaments.
5. Up to date membership cards should be carried with you as they must be shown upon request by a range supervisor, Club Officer, or Board member.
6. Membership dues must be up to date, if over 90 days have elapsed no use of the Club ranges is allowed.
7. Minors and non-members must be accompanied and supervised by an adult member with an up to date membership card.
8. Only one guest on the line at one time. A guest may use the range twice during a calendar year, and then should make application for membership. No more than two guests per membership card at any one time
9. Members take precedence for the use of all ranges. Members may require guests to wait if the shooting line is full.

### **INDOOR ARCHERY RANGE**

10. Indoor range will not be opened without a range supervisor present.
11. The indoor range will be opened at the discretion of the range officer. Range hours will be listed in the newsletter.
12. Fees will be collected by the range supervisor (members \$3.00 non-members or guest \$5.00) these fees will be adjusted as expenses rise. Range fees can



- be adjusted by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
13. Range doors will be closed immediately following the closure of the indoor range. The doors assist in helping the span on the roof during heavy winter snow.
  14. Back hall propane heater to be turned off and front hall to be turned down to 55 during winter when closed.
  15. The range lights and all Club house lights will be shut off and locked up.
  16. Range distance shall be set at the discretion of the range officer. Everyone present must shoot at the same distance.
  17. No targets should be placed against the walls.
  18. No shooting is allowed that may damage Club property.