

Middle of Nowhere Gun & Archery Club Bylaws

Table of Contents

Article I - Name.....	2		
Article II - Objectives.....	2	Section 1. Standing Committees.....	10
		Section 2. Special Committees.....	10
		Section 3. Reporting Committees.....	10
Article III - Membership.....	2	Article IX - Finance.....	11
Section 1. Definitions.....	2	Section 1. Fiscal Year.....	11
Section 2. Eligibility.....	3	Section 2. Budget.....	11
Section 3. Types of Membership.....	3	Section 3. Bonding.....	11
Section 4. Rights, Privileges & Responsibilities.....	3	Article X - Voting.....	11
Section 5. Voting Membership.....	4	Article XI - Parliamentary Authority.....	11
Section 6. Expiration, Suspension and Expulsion....	4	Article XII - Stamp.....	11
Article IV - Dues and Fees.....	5	Article XIII - Dissolution.....	12
Article V - Meetings.....	5	Article XIV - Amendments to By-Laws.....	12
Section 1. Annual Meeting.....	5		
Section 2. General Membership Meetings.....	5		
Section 3. Special Meetings.....	5		
Section 4. Quorum.....	5		
Article VI - Board of Directors.....	6		
Section 1. Composition.....	6		
Section 2. Term of Office.....	6		
Section 3. Powers and Duties.....	6		
Section 4. Regular Meetings.....	6		
Section 5. Special Meetings.....	6		
Section 6. Quorum.....	6		
Section 7. Proxy Voting.....	7		
Section 8. Nomination and Election Procedures	7		
Section 9. Suspension or Removal of Directors.....	7		
Section 10. Vacancies.....	7		
Section 11. Compensation of Directors.....	7		
Article VII - Officers.....	8		
Section 1. Number and Election.....	8		
Section 2. Powers and Duties.....	8		
Section 3. Duties of Appointed Officers.....	9		
Section 4. Vacancies.....	10		
Section 5. Suspension and Removal.....	10		
Article VIII - Committees.....	10		

BY-LAWS
of the
MIDDLE OF NOWHERE GUN & ARCHERY CLUB
Effective August, 2006

Article I - Name

The official name of this organization will be the “**Middle of Nowhere Gun & Archery Club**”, hereafter referred to as the “**Club**”. The Club will be a National Rifle Association of America affiliated Club.

Article II – Objectives

- A. The objectives of the Club include, but are not limited to:
- 1) The encouragement of organized rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery shooting, among residents of the County of Sullivan and nearby locations, with a view towards a better knowledge on the part of such persons of the safe handling and proper care of firearm and archery equipment, as well as improved marksmanship.
 - 2) The encouragement of hunting and fishing and related activities and to further the development of those characteristics of honesty, fellowship, self-discipline, team play, self-reliance, and good sportsmanship among its members and the public in general.
 - 3) The promotion, maintenance, development, restoration and support of conservation programs and wise management of all wildlife and other natural resources, through education of its members and the public in general.
 - 4) To foster understanding by the general public, and especially its non-hunting members, of the need for game management through regulated hunting, and to build a greater rapport between sportsmen and landowners on whose lands we would like to hunt and fish.
 - 5) The promotion of the highest degree of good sportsmanship and fellowship among the membership of the Club, and the prevention of unsportsmanlike conduct.

Article III – Membership

Section 1. Definitions

- A. The maximum number of Club memberships available shall be determined by the Board of Directors.
- B. A membership waiting list will be maintained by the Secretary of all persons requesting membership in the Club. Membership vacancies will be filled from this list with preference given the application longest on file.
- C. The membership year of the Club shall run from the first day of January of each year through the thirty-first day of December of the same year.

- D. Member in Good Standing – shall be defined as any member having paid the required dues to the end of the current membership year and meets other requirements for membership as specified in these Bylaws.

Section 2. Eligibility –

- A. All members of the Club shall be required to maintain membership in the National Rifle Association.
- B. Any person, 18 years of age or older, may become a member of the Club upon making application for the appropriate type of membership and receiving a sponsoring signature from any member of the Club, and after paying all appropriate dues and fees, if any, as currently in effect at the time such application for membership is made.
- C. Any member in good standing with the Club is entitled to renew his or her membership upon payment of all dues and fees as prescribed by the Board of Directors for each membership year.

Section 3. Types of Membership

- A. **Individual** - offered to a person 18 years of age or older who makes application on the prescribed form, pays the required dues, and otherwise meets all criteria for such membership.
- B. **Family** - includes both parents and any unmarried children under the age of 18 years and residing in the parents home, who make application on the prescribed form, pay the required dues, and otherwise meets all criteria for such membership. The Head of Household will be designated the “**Member**” and all others of the household meeting the criteria set above will be listed as **Associate Members**. Associate members shall be entitled to all the rights, privileges and responsibilities of membership with the exception of the right to vote on matters concerning the Club. Youth under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian at all times while on Range property.

Section 4. Rights, Privileges and Responsibilities

- A. Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, a **Member** will have the right to attend and be heard at all meetings of the Club, compete in any matches or competitions sponsored by the Club for which they otherwise meet eligibility standards, and exercise such other rights and privileges as may accrue to members of this Club.
- B. A **Member** will have the right to make an official recommendation to the Board of Directors on matters concerning the Club, and will have the right to vote in all matters that are put to a vote of the membership by the Board of Directors.
- C. An **Associate Member** shall be entitled to all the rights, privileges and responsibilities of membership, with the exception of the right to make an official recommendation to the Board of Directors on matters concerning the Club, or to vote in any matters that are put to a vote of the membership by the Board of Directors.
- D. Members shall fulfill in good faith the obligations assumed by them in accordance with the current Bylaws, Charter and Mission Statement of the Club to ensure to all members the rights and benefits of membership.
- E. Members shall settle their differences by peaceful means such that peace, security and safety are not jeopardized.

- F. Members shall abide by the rules of the Club as set forth in the By-Laws, Range Rules and Procedures, Membership Requirements and actions taken by the Board of Directors on behalf of the Club.
- G. All members of the Club are equally responsible for the continued care and maintenance of the Ranges and surrounding land and facilities.

Section 5. Voting Membership –

- A. Each Individual or Family Membership will be entitled to cast one vote on any matters that are put to a vote of the membership by the Board of Directors. All voting will be done in person, and not by proxy. No member of any type who is in arrears on any payments to the Club will be eligible to vote. Proxy voting is prohibited.

Section 6. Expiration, Suspension and Expulsion.

- A. Membership in the Club will automatically terminate on the thirtieth day following the date on which renewal payments were due, if any unpaid dues remain.
- B. A member may be suspended or expelled from membership in the Club by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, for cause.
- C. No vote on suspension or expulsion of a member may be taken unless the Secretary will have caused notice of the proposed suspension or expulsion together with the charges which are thought to merit such action, and notification of the member's right to request a hearing on the charges, to be forwarded to the accused member not less than 15 days prior to the date of the meeting of the Board of Directors at which the vote on suspension or expulsion will be taken. If the member does not request a hearing on the charges, the member will be deemed to have waived his/her right to a hearing on the matter, and indicated his/her willingness to abide by the decision of the Board. If the member requests a hearing, the Board of Directors must convene a hearing within 30 days, at which time the accused member will have the right to confront his/her accusers, examine witnesses, and present evidence bearing on the charges. At the completion of the hearing, the Board of Directors, by majority vote, may: affirm the charges, impose some lesser penalty, or reject the charges.
- D. Charges against a member may be brought by any member of the Club in good standing and must be made in writing, with supporting documents, if any, attached. Charges should be submitted to the attention of the Secretary or President of the Club.
- E. A member who resigns, forfeits his membership, or is expelled from the Club in any of the ways herein provided shall also forfeit any and all fees, dues, or other moneys he/she may have paid to the Club.
- F. The following constitute grounds for investigation and/or expulsion of a member of the Club:
 - 1) Violation of the Bylaws of the Club.
 - 2) Violation of Range Rules and Procedures of the Club.
 - 3) Suspension or expulsion from the National Rifle Association.
- G. Provided that both the Club and the expelled member are affiliated with the National Rifle Association, the NRA will be given a complete report defining the charges and the action taken.

Article IV - Dues and Fees

- A. Annual dues shall be established by the Board of Directors no later than the Board of Directors meeting immediately preceding the Annual Meeting. The dues for the following membership year are to be announced at the Annual Meeting and by mail at the time the membership renewal applications are issued.
- B. Annual dues and fees shall be due on January 1st each year and must be postmarked by January 31 of the current year. Persons making initial application for membership shall pay dues proportionate to the amount of the membership year remaining at the time application is made (accepted), in such amounts as established by the Board of Directors at the Board meeting provided for in Article IV-A.
- C. A member failing to remit the required dues and signed application, postmarked no later than January 31st, for the upcoming membership year may be dropped from the membership roles. If dropped he/she must apply for reinstatement in accordance with guidelines for new applications.
- D. No member of the Club in arrears shall be eligible to vote or to enjoy any other privileges or benefits offered by the Club until the entire annual dues are paid for the membership year in which he or she attempts to reestablish good standing with the Club.

Article V - Meetings

Section 1. Annual Meeting –

- A. The annual meeting of the Club shall be conducted at the regularly scheduled general membership meeting for the month of August. Notice of nominations for elected positions shall be given during the Annual Meeting. Nominations from the floor will be accepted. Dues for the following membership year shall be announced at the Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting shall be open to all members of the Club.

Section 2. General Membership Meetings –

- A. General membership meetings of the Club shall be held quarterly. Programs of entertainment/education may be held during the conduct of each general membership meeting.

Section 3. Special Meetings –

- A. Special meetings of the membership of the Club may be held at any time upon the call of the Board of Directors. Notice of the time, place and object of the special meeting shall be given to all officers and members in good standing in writing not less than 15 days prior to the date fixed for the holding of the meeting. The time and place of the meeting shall be fixed by the Board of Directors. The president of the Club shall preside over the opening and closing of the special meeting.

Section 4. Quorum

- A. Any and all voting members present at any Annual, Special or General Membership meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Article VI - Board of Directors

Section 1. Composition

- A. The elected members of the Board of Directors will be members in good standing, elected as provided in this Article from among the members entitled to vote.
 - 1) The Board of Directors shall consist of:
 - (i) The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer are permanent, life positions and will have the final say in all matters relating to the Club.
 - (ii) The Chairperson of each Shooting Discipline (Rifle, Pistol, Shotgun, Muzzleloading, and Archery).

Section 2. Term of Office

- A. The term of office of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer are permanent, life terms.
- B. The term of office of an elected Director will be three years, or until his/her successor is elected and qualified.

Section 3. Powers and Duties

- A. The governing body of this Club will be the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will have supervision, control, and direction of the affairs of the Club, its committees and publication; will determine its policies or changes therein; will actively prosecute its objectives; and supervise disbursement of its funds.
- B. The Board may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its business as will be deemed advisable, and may, in the execution of the powers granted, delegate certain of its authority to the Executive Committee.
- C. The Board will authorize one other person besides the Treasurer to withdraw funds by check and/or electronic draft for the payment of such bills as shall be approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Regular Meetings.

- A. The Board of Directors will meet to transact the business of the Club not less than monthly, proper notice being given.

Section 5. Special Meetings.

- A. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President, or by signed petition of not less than one-third of the Directors, which petition will state the matters to be considered at said meeting. The President will determine the time and place of such special meetings.

Section 6. Quorum

- A. At all meetings of the Board of Directors, any three members will constitute a quorum, for the conducting of business

Section 7. Proxy Voting

- A. All votes at meetings of the Board of Directors will be cast in person and not in proxy. This does not prohibit the taking of mail/ telephone/ email ballots as hereinafter described.

Section 8. Nomination and Election Procedures

- A. Nominations from the floor of the Annual Meeting may be made, provided that the specific vacancy(s) for which the nomination is made are included in the nomination. In the event of nominations from the floor, balloting will take place between nominees for each contested vacancy. Nominees for uncontested vacancies will be declared elected by unanimous ballot.
- B. Elected Directors of each Shooting Discipline will be elected by a majority vote of those members entitled to vote who are present and voting at the Annual Meeting. All voting will be done by secret ballot.
- C. Outcome of the election will be either:
 - 1) announced to the membership immediately at the conclusion of the counting of the ballots if the elections takes place at a Club meeting;
 - 2) printed in the next issue of the Club's publication;
 - 3) announced at the next meeting of the Club;
 - 4) e-mailed to all members of the association; or
 - 5) Posted on the Club internet web page.

Section 9. Suspension or Removal of Directors

- A. The Board of Directors may, at its discretion and by affirmative vote of two-thirds of its members, suspend or remove any elected Director for cause, except for the positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 10. Vacancies

- A. Vacancies which occur among the permanent Board of Directors will be filled by appointment of the President, with the concurrence of the Board.
- B. Vacancies which occur among the elected Board of Directors will be filled by appointment of the President, with the concurrence of the Board, until the next regular election of elected Directors, at which time an individual will be elected to complete the unexpired term of office.

Section 11. Compensation of Directors

- A. No Director will receive any salary or emolument unless specifically authorized by resolution of the Board of Directors, but all such persons will be entitled to reimbursement for expenses incurred on behalf of the Club, to such extents as may be authorized or approved by the Board of Directors.

Article VII - Officers

Section 1. Number and Election

- A. The Officers of the Club will consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, which are permanent , life positions.
- B. The Appointed Officers of the Club may include, but not be limited to:
 - 1) Sergeant-At-Arms, Range Master, Chief Instructor, Chief Range Safety Officer, Program Chairman
- C. The Board of Directors may establish other appointive offices, as it deems necessary to expedite the conduct of the affairs of the Club. The Board of Directors, by majority vote at any regular or special meeting of the Board, shall have the power to appoint a member of the Club, in good standing, to fill any of the appointive positions created by them.

Section 2. Powers and Duties

- A. The President shall:
 - 1) Serve as Chairperson of the Board of Directors and will preside at all meetings thereof and at all meetings of the members.
 - 2) Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.
 - 3) Make all appointments of standing and special committees and the chairpersons thereof, except for Shooting Discipline Committees, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors.
 - 4) At the Annual Meeting of the Club and at such other times as is deemed proper, the President will communicate to the members such matters and make such recommendations as may in his/her opinion tend to promote the welfare and increase the usefulness of the Club.
 - 5) Shall perform all such other duties as usually pertain to his office, or which will be assigned to him/her by the Board of Directors.
- B. The Vice-President shall:
 - 1) Perform the duties of the President in his/her absence, or at his/her request, or in the event of his/her inability or refusal to act.
 - 2) In case a vacancy will occur in the office of the President, the Vice President will become President and will serve as a permanent, life appointment.
 - 3) Shall perform all such other duties as will be assigned to him/her by the President or the Board of Directors.
- C. The Secretary shall:
 - 1) Will attend and keep minutes of all meetings of the Club, the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee;
 - 2) Will see that all notices are given in accordance with the provisions of State law and these Bylaws;
 - 3) Notify all members in good standing of special and annual meetings.
 - 4) Conduct all official correspondence of the Club and preparation and forwarding of all reports required of the Club.
 - 5) Be the custodian of all books, minutes, and records of the Club, except the Treasurer's books of accounts, and the Corporate Stamp, and will attest to all official documents and resolutions of the Club.

- 6) The Secretary or his/her agent will receive all applications for membership in the Club.
 - 7) Will be responsible for the collection of all dues, fees, and assessments and will remit the same promptly to the Treasurer, obtaining a receipt therefore.
 - 8) Will issue all membership credentials as may be required by these Bylaws and as directed by the Board of Directors.
 - 9) Will be responsible for maintaining an accurate roster of all current members in good standing, including their mailing addresses and such other information as may be required by the Board;
 - 10) Will be responsible for renewing Club affiliation annually with National, State and private associations that the Board of Directors vote to maintain.
- D. The Treasurer shall:
- 1) Receive, have in charge, and be responsible for all money, bills, notes, bonds, and like property belonging to the Club;
 - 2) Will establish and maintain proper accounting standards for the handling of the Club's funds, and will be responsible for the keeping of the funds in such banks, other financial institutions, and/or investment media as will be determined by the Board of Directors.
 - 3) Will report on the financial condition of the Club at all meetings of the Board of Directors, at the Annual Meeting, and at such other occasions as called upon to do so by the President.
 - 4) The Treasurer will prepare a statement of financial condition as of the close of each fiscal year, as may be established by the Board of Directors, and will furnish a copy of such statement, together with the certificate of audits, to each member of the Board of Directors.
 - 5) Withdraw funds by check or electronic draft for the payment of such bills as shall have been approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Duties of Appointed Officers

- A. The **Sergeant-at-Arms** shall:
- 1) Maintain good order and proper decorum at all meetings of the General Membership and Board of Directors.
 - 2) Perform other duties as assigned by the President or Board of Directors
- B. The **Range Master** shall:
- 1) Have charge of the ranges of the Club, to include the construction, improvement, maintenance and supervision of their use.
 - 2) Be responsible for the coordination and scheduling of use of the ranges by the Firearm / Shooting Discipline committees, and all other matters pertaining to the conduct of Range Activities.
 - 3) Have authority to appoint assistants, with confirmation by the Board of Directors
- C. The **Chief Range Safety Officer** shall:
- 1) Be responsible for the Range Safety Officer program to include education and certification of Range Safety Officers.

D. The **Chief Instructor** shall:

- 1) Have charge of all firearms / archery education programs with authority to appoint assistants.

E. The **Program Chairman** shall:

- 1) Arrange for programs of entertainment / education involving areas of interest related to the activities of the Club and which are to be presented at the General Membership meetings
- 2) Organize other activities of interest to Club members, such as picnics, etc.

Section 4. Vacancies

A. In the event of a vacancy in any office other than President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, the vacancy will be filled by majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Suspension and Removal

A. An officer may be suspended or removed from office, for cause, by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors; provided, however, that no vote on such suspension or removal will be taken until the Secretary will have caused notice to be served upon the accused officer, stating the nature of the charges thought to merit suspension or removal, and giving the accused an opportunity to request a hearing on the charges before the Board. If such a hearing is requested, it will be conducted in the same manner as specified in Article III Section 6 of these Bylaws. Any such suspension or removal from office will have no effect upon the officer's status as a member of the Club.

Article VIII - Committees

Section 1. Standing Committees

A. Firearm / Archery Shooting Discipline Committees

- 1) Each Firearm / Archery Shooting Discipline shall have its own committee which shall be responsible for the organization and running of its matches or events that have been approved by the Board of Directors. Such committee shall have at least three members to include a Committee Chair, two other Discipline organizers and as many other Club members as wish to participate.
- 2) Each committee will select its own chairperson, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors, who shall serve as a member of the Board of Directors and represent the interests of the Discipline in all matters before the Board.
- 3) The Firearm / Archery Discipline Chairperson, or their designee, shall attend all meetings of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Special Committees

A. The president will establish such special committees, as is deemed necessary for the conduct of the affairs of the Club and will appoint the members thereof, with the confirmation of the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Reporting Committees

- A. At least once each year, every standing committee will submit a written report through the Secretary of the Club to the Board, and will report at such other times as may be requested by the President. Each special committee will report at such time and place as may be specified by the President or the Board of Directors. Committees may also make written reports and recommendations to the Board of Directors of Executive Committee at any regular or special meeting.

Article IX - Finance

Section 1. Fiscal Year

- A. The fiscal year of the Club will be January 1st through December 31st of each year.

Section 2. Budget

- A. With recommendations from the Treasurer, the Board will adopt in advance of the next fiscal period an annual operating budget covering all activities of the Club.

Section 3. Bonding

- A. Trust or surety bonds will be furnished for the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and such other Officers of the Club as may handle funds or assets of the Club, or as the Board of Directors may direct. The amount of bonds are to be determined by the Board, and the expense of obtaining said bonds will be born by the Club

Article X - Voting

- A. Voting on motions or other business before the General Membership not specifically covered elsewhere in these By-Laws will be governed as follows:
 - 1) Decisions of the General Membership shall be decided by a show of hands or other means as required by the President or other officer presiding over the meeting.
 - 2) A simple majority of the votes cast is required to pass on the motion or approve the business presently before the membership.

Article XI - Parliamentary Authority

- A. Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised, or any subsequent revision thereof, will govern the deliberations at all meetings of members, the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee, unless specific exceptions are made herein.

Article XII - Stamp

- A. The Club will have a stamp bearing the words “Middle of Nowhere Gun & Archery Club Corporate Stamp”. The Stamp, which is impressed upon the title page of these Bylaws, is the corporate stamp of this Club.

Article XIII - Dissolution

- A. The Club will use its funds only to accomplish the objectives and purpose specified in these Bylaws and no part of said funds will inure, or be distributed, to the members of the Club.
- B. Upon dissolution of the Club, after the payment of all indebtedness of the Club, including unpaid loan capital however evidenced any funds remaining will be distributed as provided in the Articles of Incorporation of the Middle of Nowhere Gun & Archery Club, as filed with the Secretary of State for Missouri.

Article XIV - Amendments to By-Laws

- A. These Bylaws may be amended or replaced by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
- B. An amendment may be proposed by the Board of Directors on its own initiative, or by petition by any member entitled to vote addressed to the Board and received not less than sixty days prior to any Annual Meeting. The Secretary will send the amended Bylaws to all members of the Club as soon as possible.
- C. A copy of the then in effect Bylaws will be sent to all new members upon their acceptance into the Club.

I hereby certify that these By-Laws were properly ratified and adopted by the Club this _____ day of _____ in the year **2006**.

Secretary

_____, **2006**
Date

President

_____, **2006**
Date