

OXFORDSHIRE RIFLE ASSOCIATION

(Incorporating the Oxfordshire Miniature Rifle Association)

Registered Charity N° 287133

PRESIDENT : THE LORD LIEUTENANT OF OXFORDSHIRE

RULES

AND

SHOOTING REGULATIONS

Rules amended : 16 April 1985

Shooting Regulations made 8 May 1985

PREFACE TO RULES AND SHOOTING REGULATIONS

It is almost 20 years since these Rules were last printed and circulated.

During this time, there has been no change to the Rules or Shooting Regulations but, with the 1985 print run almost exhausted, the time has come for a new edition – and to take advantage of improvements in information technology, to make this document available on-line, as well as a paper copy.

A copy of these Rules and Shooting Regulations should be kept where they are available for easy reference by the shooters in your Club.

The Executive Committee has ordered that the Shooting Regulations shall be displayed prominently at all County Meetings. It is suggested that Clubs should also display them in Clubrooms.

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1. NAME OF ASSOCIATION

The Association shall be called the OXFORDSHIRE RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

2. THE OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The objects of the Association shall be the promotion and encouragement of skill in rifle and pistol shooting amongst Her Majesty's subjects so that they will be better fitted to serve their country in the Armed Forces, the Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserves or any other organisation in which their services may be required in the defence of the Realm in times of peril.

The Association shall organise teams to represent the County of Oxfordshire in National and other competitions.

3. COMPOSITION OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Association shall consist of:-

- a) Annual Individual Subscribers of minimum amount as determined by the Executive Committee provided they are *bona fide* members of a properly constituted Club or Individual Members of the N R A / N S R A;
- b) Clubs and units affiliated to the Association under Rule 4; and
- c) Cadet Units of the three Services under such conditions as may be fixed by the Executive Committee from time to time,

4. AFFILIATION

The following Clubs and Units are eligible for affiliation:-

- a) Any Rifle and/or Pistol Club with Headquarters in Oxfordshire;
- b) Units of the Armed Forces and Reserves stationed in the County;
- c) Cadet Units of the three Services in Oxfordshire;
- d) Clubs with Headquarters outside Oxfordshire, but subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

5. AFFILIATION FEES

Each Club and Unit mentioned in Rule 4 (a), (b), (c) and (d) shall pay annual affiliation fees as determined by the Executive Committee.

All affiliation fees are due on 1st January in each year and **MUST BE PAID BEFORE** Clubs and their Members can take part in any County Competition.

6. SUBSCRIPTIONS

All subscriptions shall be due on 1st January in each year.

7. BANKERS

The Association's Bankers shall be Barclays Bank Ltd.

8. OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

a) The Officers of the Association shall be:-

The President (The Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire)
The Chairman
The Vice Chairman
The Honorary Treasurer
The Honorary Secretary

b) The Officers shall be elected annually and shall be eligible for re-election

c) The Officers shall be *ex officio* members of all Committees

d) The Association may on the recommendation of the Executive Committee elect as Vice Presidents any persons who have given or are giving valuable services to the Association.

9. CASUAL VACANCIES

a) In the event of a resignation of an Officer between one Annual General Meeting and another the Executive Committee shall fill the vacancy

b) The Full-Bore, Smallbore and Pistol committees shall have the power to fill vacancies amongst their Officers

10. GENERAL MEETINGS

- a) The Annual General meeting of the Association shall be held not later than the month of April each year
- b) A Special General Meeting may be called by the Chairman or on requisition by not less than ten members of the Executive Committee made in writing to the Honorary Secretary
- c) The following shall be entitled to attend and vote at General Meetings:-
 - i. The Officers
 - ii. The Vice Presidents
 - iii. The Subscribers under Rule 3 (a)
 - iv. ONE representative nominated by each affiliated Club
 - v. The Chairmen and Secretaries of Committees appointed under Rule 13 (b)

11. BUSINESS FOR GENERAL MEETINGS

- a) At Annual General Meetings the following shall be the business:-
 - i. To receive from the Full Bore, Small Bore and Pistol Committees, reports on the activities of the Association during the previous year
 - ii. To receive an audited or reviewed statement of accounts for the year ending 31st December
 - iii. To elect Officers in accordance with Rule 8 (a)
 - iv. To elect Vice Presidents in accordance with Rule 8 (d)
 - v. To elect SIX members of the Executive Committee
 - vi. To elect n Honorary Auditor or Reviewer
 - vii. Such other business as may be appropriate to an Annual General Meeting, provided that notice of it has appeared on an Agenda circulated with the Notice of the Meeting
- b) At special General Meetings only such business as shown on the Notice of the Meeting will be dealt with

12. COMMITTEES

The following Committees shall be appointed:-

- a) An Executive Committee
- b) A Full Bore Committee
- c) A Small Bore Committee
- d) A Pistol Committee

13. COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES

- a) The Executive Committee shall consist of:-

The Officers of the Association;
The Chairmen and Secretaries of the Full Bore, Small Bore and
Pistol Committees; and
SIX members elected under Rule 11 (a) (v)

- b) The Full Bore, Small Bore and Pistol Committees shall each consist of ONE nominated Representative from each affiliated Club participating in that particular branch .

Each Committee shall elect its own Chairman and Honorary Secretary in addition to the nominated Club Representatives

Each Committee may appoint from amongst its members such other Officers as they may deem necessary

(nb See also Rule 14 (c))

14. POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

a) The Executive Committee:

- i. shall meet as often as may be necessary and on at least SIX occasions during the year
- ii. shall be responsible for the general management of the Association and for all expenditure of the Association
- iii. shall appoint such Sub-Committees as it shall consider necessary
- iv. shall appoint the Captains of County Teams on nomination by the appropriate Committee
- v. shall fix from time to time the amount that each Committee shall provide for the General Funds of the Association and shall notify the Committees of items that will be met from General Funds

b) The Full Bore, Small Bore and Pistol Committees:

- i. shall meet as often as may be necessary and on at least FOUR occasions during the year
- ii. shall be responsible for organising their own branch of the Association and shall report on their activities to the Executive Committee from time to time and to the Annual General Meeting in each year
- iii. shall be responsible for the financial arrangements for all meetings and competitions organised subject to any instructions given by the Executive Committee under Rule 14 (a)
- iv. shall be responsible for the selection of Teams to represent the County in National and other Competitions
- v. shall nominate the Captains of County teams for election by the Executive Committee
- vi. may appoint such Sub-Committees as may be necessary

c) Range Committees:

The Range Committee of any meeting may, at its discretion, admit non-members of the Association for the Meeting only.

d) Generally:

The Committees may co-opt not more than FIVE members additional to those provided under Rule 13.

15. FINANCE

- a) The Honorary Treasurer shall be responsible for the receipt of all monies due to the Association and for making all payments of authorised expenditure. The Appropriate Committee shall submit to the Honorary Treasurer a full Statement of Accounts for each Meeting or Competition organised.
- b) The Honorary Treasurer shall be responsible for the submission of the Audited or Reviewed Accounts at the Annual General Meeting.
- c) All payments made on behalf of the Association to be by cheque on the Association's Bankers and all monies received on behalf of the Association shall be paid into the Association's Account.
- d) Cheques shall be signed by TWO of the THREE officers designated by the Executive Committee, one of whom shall be the Honorary Treasurer.
- e) The Honorary Treasurer shall provide such amounts as may be required by the Honorary Officers by way of petty cash and postage.

16. COMPETITIONS, TROPHIES AND CONDUCT OF SHOOTING

a) The Association:

- i. (through its Committees, as provided by Rule 14 (b) hereof) shall organise such Championships, Confined or Open Meetings, Leagues and other shooting competitions as may be considered appropriate.
- ii. Shall enter County Teams in such Championships, Leagues and other Competitions as may be considered appropriate
- iii. Shall arrange opportunities for shooting practice as may be considered appropriate

b) Clubs and Units affiliated to the Association:

shall provide their members with opportunities for competitive shooting by organising Club or Unit competitions, entering members and organising teams in County Leagues and Competitions, and in National and other events, as may be considered appropriate

c) Trophies:

- i. The Challenge Trophies of the Association may only be awarded to Members and Clubs qualified under Rule 3 hereof
- ii. The Individual County Championship Trophies may only be awarded to Members qualified to shoot for the County

16. COMPETITIONS, TROPHIES AND CONDUCT OF SHOOTING (Cont'd)

d) Shooting Regulations:

- i. The Executive Committee (and Committees, with the approval of the Executive Committee) shall have the power to make SHOOTING REGULATIONS governing the conduct of shooting and discipline within the Association
- ii. The SHOOTING REGULATIONS of the Association shall have the same force and effect as if they formed a part of these Rules and shall be binding upon all affiliated Clubs and Units; the shooting members of those Clubs and Units; and Individual Annual Subscribers.
- iii. The SHOOTING REGULATIONS made under Rule 16 (a) (i), above, shall come into effect immediately upon publication by the Honorary Secretary and shall remain in force until rescinded by the Executive Committee
- iv. The Executive Committee shall deal with all infringements of the SHOOTING REGULATIONS and shall have the power to suspend from shooting any person found Guilty of infringing the SHOOTING REGULATIONS.

17. ALTERATION OF RULES OR REMOVAL OF AN OFFICER

Alteration of and amendments to these Rules can only be made at a General Meeting of the Association, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee.

Any Resolution proposing an alteration to the Rules, or the removal from office of any *ex officio* or elected member of the Executive Committee subject to Rule 9 shall not be deemed to be duly passed unless, upon a show of hands, in the case of the Rules, or a secret ballot, in the case of a Committee member, at a duly convened General Meeting, the votes of not less than TWO THIRDS of those present and qualified are found to be in favour.

Save as aforesaid resolutions shall be passed at General Meetings, and decisions taken in committee upon a simple majority of the votes cast.

18. WINDING UP

In the event of the affairs of the Association being wound up the assets and liabilities shall be dealt with as decided by the association in General Meeting, having regard to its status as a Charity and, in so far as the assets and liabilities are not so dealt with, then as directed by the National Associations to which the Association was affiliated.

19. CHARITY STATUS

The Association shall operate as a Charity under the Charities Act 1960 and, in particular, no amendment to any of Clauses 2, 9, 17, 18 or 19 hereof shall be made without the consent of the Charity Commissioners.

THE SHOOTING REGULATIONS

OF

THE OXFORDSHIRE RIFLE ASSOCIATION

GENERAL

1. These SHOOTING REGULATIONS are made by the Executive Committee under Rule 16 (d)

APPLICATION

2. These SHOOTING REGULATIONS shall apply to all member Clubs and Units of the Association; to all members of those Clubs and Units shooting in team or individual competitions; to all Individual annual subscribers; and to temporary members admitted under Rule 14 (b) (vii)

CONDUCT OF SHOOTING

3. It shall be the responsibility of all Officers of the Association; of the Officers and members of the Association's member Clubs and Units; and of all Individual Subscribers and temporary members to ensure that all competition and practice shooting is conducted in a safe and sportsmanlike manner, in accordance with the Rules of the association, these SHOOTING REGULATIONS and any other rules which may apply.
4. All shooting competitions organised by the Association, or by any of its member Clubs or Units, shall be conducted in accordance with the Rules of the NRA, NSRA, ISSF or other body as may be appropriate.
5. Competition organisers shall be empowered to vary the Rules for shooting any competition, or to make additional rules, as may be considered appropriate, PROVIDED ALWAYS that no variation of rules shall prejudice safety.
6. All shooting at any meeting or practice session organised by the Association shall be under the control of a suitably qualified Range Officer.

FAILURE TO OBSERVE RULES AND DISCREDITABLE OR DANGEROUS CONDUCT

7. Any shooter, or any team of shooters, failing to comply with the rules of any competition, or failing to comply with the instructions of a Range Officer, shall be liable to disqualification and/or suspension from shooting under the control of the Association.
8. Any person who is proved guilty of any dishonest, discreditable or dangerous conduct in shooting SHALL be suspended from all shooting under the control of the Association for such period as the Executive Committee shall determine.

Any person conniving at such conduct shall be liable to similar penalties.

9. Any shooter observing, or who knows of, or who suspects any breach of rules or any dishonest, discreditable or dangerous conduct by any shooter SHALL IMMEDIATELY report the matter to a range Officer and/or a Club Official.

Any range Officer or Club Official observing, or being made aware of, such conduct SHALL IMMEDIATELY take such action as may be necessary and AS SOON AS POSSIBLE thereafter, and in any event within THREE DAYS, report the matter and the action taken IN WRITING to the Honorary Secretary of the Association.

Any person failing to comply with the above requirements shall be liable to suspension from shooting.

Nothing herein contained shall exempt any shooter or Official from any requirement to report any matter to the NRA, NSRA or to any other body, as may be required by their Rules.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

10. At any Meeting or practice session organised by the association the Range Officer shall be empowered to order any shooter from the range for failure to observe Rules or orders or for dangerous conduct. Any shooter so ordered from the range shall be considered disqualified from the competition.

Any person disqualified from a competition by the Range Officer shall have a right of appeal to the Range Committee, whose decision shall be final.

Any person dismissed from the range for dangerous conduct, and whose appeal is not upheld by the range Committee, shall be automatically suspended, from all shooting under the Association's Rules, for a period of FOURTEEN DAYS from the date of the offence.

(nb this does not preclude the Executive Committee from imposing further penalties on the offender.)

11. All other disciplinary matters shall be dealt with by the Executive Committee.
12. All disciplinary matters notified to the Honorary Secretary shall be placed before the Executive Committee as soon as possible. The Executive Committee shall then consider the matters reported, in the light of action already taken and in the light of action being taken by the National Bodies, and shall determine whether further action by the Executive Committee may be necessary.
13. Where the Executive Committee resolve to further consider any disciplinary matter then the accused person(s) shall be invited to answer the allegations made against them, either in person or in writing. The Executive Committee shall also consider any other relevant evidence.

The Executive Committee (not less than FIVE Members being present) shall decide by vote whether or not the allegations made have been proved.

No allegation shall be considered proved unless TWO THIRDS of the Members of the Executive Committee PRESENT AND VOTING so resolve.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION (Cont'd)

14. Where allegations against a shooter or shooters are proved, as above, then the Executive Committee shall impose penalties of censure, warning as to future conduct, disqualification and/or suspension from shooting as may be appropriate.

Any difference as to penalties to be imposed shall be decided by a simple majority of the Executive Committee.

15. The decision of the Executive Committee shall be final.

16. Any person who is suspended from shooting by the NRA or NSRA shall also be suspended from all shooting under the control of the Association.

These SHOOTING REGULATIONS were made by the Executive Committee on 8 May 1985.

The Executive Committee has ordered that a copy of these SHOOTING REGULATIONS shall be prominently displayed at all Meetings and practice sessions organised by the Association.

The Executive Committee Recommends that copies of these SHOOTING REGULATIONS are also prominently displayed on shooting ranges of member Clubs and Units.

ORA SPECIAL AWARDS

1. The Association makes Special Awards to persons who have given long and/or meritorious service to the Association and/or to one or more of its member Clubs or Units.
2. Awards may be made both to persons whose period of service is ending and to those who are continuing to serve the Association and/or their Club(s).
3. There are 3 Classes of Award: GOLD, SILVER and BRONZE, the class of award being determined by the Executive Committee.
4. A person may be awarded each class of Award once but the holder of a Bronze or Silver Award may subsequently be given an Award of a higher class.
5. Nominations for Special Awards may be made by Member Clubs or Units or by any of the Association's Committees.
6. Nominations, except those which may be made in the Executive Committee, should be made in writing to the Honorary Secretary.

Nominations should clearly identify the nominee and should set out in detail the service to be considered for the making of the Award.

7. Nominations will usually be considered by the Executive Committee at their next ordinary meeting.

The Executive will consider whether an Award should be made and, if so, the Class of Award

8. Special Awards will normally be presented at the annual General Meeting or Presentation Dinner next following the approval of the Award.

At the request of the nominating Club or Unit, the Executive Committee may agree to an Award for services to a Club or Unit to be presented at a suitable Club or Unit function instead.

In the case of serious illness, imminent emigration, etc, special arrangements can be made for presentation, as may be appropriate in the circumstances. If there are such special circumstances, the nomination letter should make these clear.