

# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

## OF THE

### GEORGIA AMATEUR TRAPSHOOTING ASSOCIATION, INC.

Amended October 1997, May 2004, April 2005

#### ARTICLE I. NAME

This organization shall be known as the Georgia Amateur Trapshooting Association, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as "GATA" or "Association").

#### ARTICLE II. OBJECTS

The objects of this Association are as follows: To promote the sport of clay target shooting in Georgia; to do all things necessary or desirable, incidental to the maintenance and support of gun clubs in Georgia whose purpose is to furnish recreational entertainment for citizens interested in clay target shooting in Georgia.

#### ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

##### SECTION I. - INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

**A. Active Members:** Amateur shooters (as defined by the ATA) who are legal residents of the State of Georgia for a minimum of six months, who compete in one or more registered trap shoots in the State of Georgia each year and are current members in good standing of the ATA, shall become members of the GATA and shall have all rights and privileges of membership.

**B. Inactive Members:** Any person who has been an active member of the Association for five (5) years and due to disability is no longer able to shoot, may have all rights and privileges of membership provided they are current members in good standing of the ATA.

**C. Rights of Members:** The right to vote, eligibility to hold office and all assets and property rights of the Association are vested only in the active and inactive individual members of the Association who are in good standing. **An individual member, a resident of the State of Georgia who is a member of the Georgia Trapshooting Association, Inc., shall have the privilege of discussing or speaking on any subject considered in order at any annual or special meeting of the Association.**

**D. Automatic Forfeiture:** Any person who shall be prohibited by law from possessing a firearm appropriate to clay target sports shall, upon the effective date of said prohibition, forfeit all rights of membership in the GATA. Likewise, any person suspended by the ATA or expelled therefrom shall, from that date until reinstated, forfeit all rights of membership in the GATA. No refund of any dues if applicable, shall be made because of said forfeiture.

##### SECTION II. - GUN CLUBS

Any gun club, **whether** private or public, in the State of Georgia which has at least one legal trap field is eligible to hold registered trap shoots. All shoot dates must be coordinated annually through the Board of Directors. Clubs situated within a 50-mile radius of one another shall not schedule concurrent registered trap shoots. All clubs must hold two (2) registered trap shoots within the fiscal ATA target year to have the right to a voting representative on the GATA Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE IV. - FEES AND DUES

### SECTION I. - ANNUAL DUES FOR INDIVIDUALS AND GUN CLUBS

Annual dues may be assessed to individual members and/or gun clubs in an amount to be set from time to time by the Board of Directors, if deemed necessary and in accordance with the needs of the GATA.

### SECTION II - GATA DAILY TOURNAMENT FEES

An initial **daily** fee per day per shooter shall be charged on all registered trap shoots. The club holding such shoots will be responsible for the collection of said fees. This is in addition to the daily ATA fee charged. The money collected shall be sent to the Treasurer of the GATA within fifteen (15) days after the shoot. The Board of Directors may, at their discretion, raise or lower tournament fees in accordance with the needs of the GATA. All monies collected will be deposited in the GATA accounts, and the use thereof will be left to the discretion of the Board of Directors.

### SECTION III. - FINANCIAL REPORT

The club holding a registered tournament will forward a financial report of daily fees **and any annual dues** collected to the Treasurer of the GATA and the Treasurer of the Amateur Trapshooting Association.

### SECTION IV. - FEE AND DATE RECORD

The Treasurer of the Association shall maintain a complete record of the **daily** fees and **annual dues** delivered by each gun club. The Treasurer of the Association shall maintain a complete record of the registered dates issued to each individual gun club. The Treasurer of the Association shall verify the records of all registered dates issued with all fees **and dues** collected from individual gun clubs. **If a club is delinquent in remitting fees and dues, the Treasurer shall notify said club. If said fees remain unpaid twenty (20) days after said notice, said delinquency shall be reported to the Board of Directors.**

## ARTICLE V. GEORGIA RESIDENT

The following is established by the Georgia Amateur Trapshooting Association to define a Georgia resident.

### SECTION I.

He or she must have met the Amateur Trapshooting Association's eligibility requirements to compete for ATA Trophies or Titles in the annual Georgia State Tournament.

### SECTION II.

A shooter without a current or life Amateur Trapshooting Association card shall be required to establish sufficient evidence of residency within the State of Georgia.

## ARTICLE VI. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### SECTION I. - NUMBER OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

**A.** The officers shall be a President, Vice President, a Delegate to the Amateur Trapshooting Association, Secretary, Treasurer, and two (2) Alternate Delegates to the ATA. **Each officer shall also be a Director.**

**B.** Additional Directors shall be one representative from each gun club. A gun club must hold a minimum of two registered trap shoots within the fiscal ATA target year to have the right to a voting representative on the GATA Board of Directors.

## **SECTION II. - TERMS OF OFFICE**

All officers and Directors, except Delegates and alternate Delegates, will hold their respective office commencing thirty (30) days after election until thirty (30) days following the next election. Delegates and alternate Delegates shall assume office immediately following the election.

Ex Officio: The outgoing President shall serve one calendar year, or until a new President has been elected or appointed by the Board, as an Ex Officio and consultant to the Board. The Ex Officio may not conduct or engage in any business for the corporation without specific authorization of the President. The Ex Officio will not have any voting rights afforded to other elected or appointed Board members. (Amended and ratified April 2005)

## **SECTION III. - ELECTIONS**

**A.** All officers, including Delegates and Alternate Delegates, must be elected at the annual meeting of the Association by the active and inactive members. (Article III, Section I, A and B). Members must be current annual or life ATA members to be eligible to vote. The member's current ATA Average Card will serve as proof of membership.

**B.** All gun club representatives shall be certified to the Board of Directors by the club to be represented.

## **SECTION IV. - COMBINED OFFICE**

No person may hold more than one of the foregoing offices **or directorships** in the Association except that the office of the Secretary and Treasurer may be combined into one office and held by the same person. **If said offices are combined, the holder thereof shall have only one vote.**

## **SECTION V. - VACANCIES**

All vacancies in the elected offices of this Association caused by death, resignation, or removal shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining Directors held at the next regular or special meeting called for that purpose. The Officer chosen to fill said vacancy shall serve until his successor has been elected at the next annual membership meeting and duly qualified. In the case of a vacancy of the office of the President, the Vice-President will assume the Presidency and a new Vice-President will be appointed.

## **SECTION VI. - QUALIFICATION AND ORDER OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**A.** All Officers must be members of the GATA. The Delegate and First and Second Alternates to the Delegate must be life members of the Amateur Trapshooting Association prior to the election.

**B.** Nominations for the offices shall be from the floor and the vote shall be taken by secret ballot if more than one (1) nomination is made for office.

**C.** The Officers shall be elected in the following order: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Delegate, First Alternate to the Delegate, and Second Alternate to the Delegate.

**D.** The **Directors** elected at the annual meeting shall have an organizational meeting with the outgoing Directors within forty-five (45) days of the date of the annual election.

## **SECTION VII. - DIRECTORS**

The **Directors** shall formulate such rules and regulations for the governing of trapshooting for the State of Georgia. **Each** Director shall have the right to vote.

## **ARTICLE VII. DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

### **SECTION I. - PRESIDENT**

The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association, shall preside at all meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors, and shall call such meetings as he deems necessary. He shall appoint all standing and special committees, unless otherwise prescribed herein, and be the ex officio member of all committees. He shall sign all contracts and other legal documents as directed by the Board of Directors and shall have general charge and supervision over all business and activities of the Association. The President shall also perform all other duties as are incidental to his office.

### **SECTION II. - VICE-PRESIDENT**

The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President. He shall also generally assist the President and exercise such powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the President or the Board of Directors from time to time. He shall take custody of the Treasurer's indemnity bond. The Vice-President shall also perform all other duties as are incidental to his office.

### **SECTION III. - SECRETARY**

The Secretary shall conduct the official correspondence of the Association, keep minutes of all meetings of the Association and Board of Directors, and be custodian of all its official records. The Secretary shall approve all registered dates issued to member gun clubs. He shall perform all other duties incidental to the office of Secretary or as may be delegated thereto by the President or Board of Directors from time to time.

The Secretary shall mail all newly elected Officers and Directors a copy of the constitution and by-laws of the Association. The Secretary also performs all other duties as are incidental to his office.

### **SECTION IV. - TREASURER**

The Treasurer shall have custody of all funds, securities, evidences of indebtedness and other personal property of the Association, shall receive and give receipts, and acquittances for all monies paid in on account of this Association, and shall deposit the same in such bank or trust company as shall be designated by proper resolution of the Board of Directors. He shall make disbursements only when authorized by a majority vote of the Board of Directors or by vote of the membership at the annual meeting. On order of the Board of Directors, he shall pay out of the funds on hand all bills, payrolls, and other just debts of the Association of whatever nature upon maturity of the same, and he shall be empowered to sign checks in disbursing the funds of the Association, taking proper vouchers for such disbursements in accordance with Article XII. He shall enter regularly in the books of the corporation, to be kept by him for that purpose, full and accurate account of all monies received and paid out on account of the Association, and may pay miscellaneous and sundry bills not to exceed \$500.00\* upon approval of the President. He shall render from time to time, as may be required of him, to the President or the Board of Directors an account of all transactions as Treasurer, and of the financial condition of the Association. At the completion of each fiscal year, he shall prepare a financial report with each and every disbursement listed, and he shall deliver a copy to every member in good standing of the Association attending the annual meeting. He shall present a statement of the financial condition at

the annual meeting of the membership. He shall file Federal Tax Returns and State Tax Returns.  
(\*Amended and ratified April 2005)

The Treasurer of the Association shall be required to be covered by an indemnity bond in the sum at least as large as the assets of the Association, but not less than \$15,000, the premium therefor to be paid by the Association. The Board of Directors will set the value of the bond yearly, and it will be paid for by the GATA. The Treasurer shall also perform all other duties incidental to his office.

## **ARTICLE VIII. MEETING OF MEMBERS**

### **SECTION I. - ANNUAL MEETING**

The annual meeting of the GATA shall be held in accordance with ATA regulations on the day during the Tournament as may be selected by the Board of Directors. Notice of such meeting shall be printed in the official program of the Tournament designating time and place. No further notice shall be required.

Each member (active and inactive) of the GATA in good standing shall be entitled to one (1) vote on matters brought before the GATA.

### **SECTION II. - SPECIAL MEETINGS**

Special meetings of the membership may be called by the President or five (5) members of the Board of directors. Notice of such meetings and the purpose of such must be mailed to all members fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the meeting, together with an agenda for said meeting, including the text of any proposed resolution, regulation, motion, or by-law amendment.

### **SECTION III. - QUORUM**

Those members of the GATA who are present at the annual or special meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the GATA, regardless of the number which shall be present, unless otherwise provided in the Charter or State Statute. The action of the majority of the members present at any regular or special meeting of the GATA shall constitute the action of the Association.

## **ARTICLE IX. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

### **SECTION I.**

The order of business at all Board of Directors' meetings and special meetings of the membership shall be at the discretion of the President. The order of business at all annual meetings of the membership shall be as follows:

1. Reading of Minutes
2. Report of the President
3. Report of the Treasurer
4. Report of the Secretary
5. Report of the Delegate
6. Report of the Committees
7. GATA Sponsored STATE TEAM Award
8. Unfinished Business
9. New Business
10. Election of Officers
11. Adjournment

## **SECTION II. - PROXIES**

Votes may be exercised only in person. No proxies shall be considered in resolving any issues or in the establishment of a quorum.

## **ARTICLE X - ANNUAL TOURNAMENTS**

### **SECTION I. - STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT**

**A. Date and Duration:** The date and duration of the annual championship tournament shall be decided by the Board of Directors providing it does not conflict with ATA requirements.

**B. Contract:** The Board of Directors shall negotiate a contract with the club they feel best meets the needs of the Association for the annual tournament. This contract may be of a duration (i.e., multi-year) the Board of Directors deems appropriate to gain the most desirable situation for the good of the Association. The Association shall attempt to achieve a fair balance among the eligible clubs taking into account geography, facilities, and equal opportunity to serve as host club.  
(Amended 5/01//04)

**C. Eligible Clubs:** Clubs eligible to host the State Tournament must have a minimum of nine regulation permanent trap fields, of which two must be lighted. Two registered tournaments must have been held on their grounds or on grounds leased from another member club in each of the two years preceding the State Tournament to be hosted. The facility must have at least ten (10) campsites for campers or mobile homes. The facility must be capable of being closed to all other activities unless said facility can conduct such outside activities without interference to the State Tournament. The host club must have access to sufficient traps and spare parts. All traps must conform to the standards set forth by the ATA as outlined within the most current version of the Amateur Trapshooting Association Official Rules Book.

**D. Trophies:** The GATA will provide such trophies for the annual tournament, as the Board of Directors may deem necessary.

### **SECTION II. - NATIONAL TRAPSHOOTING DAY**

The Board of Directors shall designate each year an official National Trapshooting Day Tournament. No other club shall hold a tournament on that date. In designating an official host each year, the Board of Directors shall attempt to achieve a fair balance among the member clubs taking into account geography, proposed program, and equal opportunity to serve as host club.

### **SECTION III. - OTHER TOURNAMENTS**

The Association shall have the power to supplement the trophies or awards in other tournaments during the year upon proper application by a host club and approval of the Board of Directors. This power shall be exercised without favoritism.

## **ARTICLE XI. SHOOTING RULES**

The trapshooting rules adopted by the ATA shall govern all trapshooting held by this Association. All members shall be required to abide by the rules adopted by the ATA. All policies decreed by the Board of Directors of this Association shall be abided by each member.

## **ARTICLE XII. FUNDS DISBURSAL**

### **SECTION I. - CHECKS**

All funds of the Association shall be deposited in one or more federally insured accounts. Each account shall require two (2) signatures of members of the Board of Directors to effect withdrawals.

### **SECTION II. - CASH**

The Treasurer may maintain a petty cash account not to exceed \$50.00, which may be replenished by Board vote upon presentation of proper receipts. Other than said petty cash transactions, no one of which may exceed \$25.00, no obligation of the Association shall be paid in cash.

## **ARTICLE XIII. FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year of the Association shall be the calendar year.

## **ARTICLE XIV. PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

At all meetings all viewpoints offered by members of the Association shall be presented as desired within the rules of decency and propriety. Undue repetition shall not be permitted. Debate may be closed on the motion of a single person with no second and a majority of the members voting "aye." No debate shall be heard on motions to close debate or motions to adjourn.

## **ARTICLE XV. DISSOLUTION**

In the event of the dissolution of the Georgia Amateur Trapshooting Association, Inc., the residual assets of the organization shall be turned over to the Amateur Trapshooting Association, if it is a qualified "Not for Profit" corporation. If the ATA is a "For Profit" corporation, then these assets will be turned over to one or more organizations which themselves are "Not for Profit" corporations which regulate amateur sports, with first preference being given to an association regulating trapshooting, then shotgun sports in general, then other shooting sports, and finally the U.S. Olympic Committee.

## **ARTICLE XVI. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS**

There shall be no change of any nature, nor amendments to this Constitution, unless approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Georgia Amateur Trapshooting Association, Inc. members present at the annual or a properly called special meeting.

Except as provided in Article VIII, Section II, sufficient written copies of the prepared amendment for all members present shall be provided by the person or group of people sponsoring the proposed amendment and shall be delivered to the officer presiding over said meeting prior to the commencement of said meeting. Any motion for adoption of a proposal that does not comply with this Article shall be "out of order" unless three-fourths (3/4) of the number present vote by voice to consider the amendment.

Note: These amended By-laws were ratified October 5, 1997 during a special meeting of the membership at South River Gun Club.

Note: These By-Laws were amended and ratified on May 1, 2004 and April 30, 2005 during the Annual Business Meeting.