

**OKLAHOMA RIFLE ASSOCIATION**  
**BYLAWS**  
*As Amended August 21, 2023*

The name of this organization is the Oklahoma Rifle Association, Inc. It may be referred to as the "ORA" or the "Association" in these bylaws. The ORA is organized as a private nonprofit Oklahoma corporation in accordance with Oklahoma law.

The principal office of the ORA shall be determined by the Board of Directors. Additional offices may also be located throughout Oklahoma as determined by the Board of Directors.

**Article I**  
**Purposes and Objectives**

**Section 1. Purposes:**

The purposes of this Association shall be to create a public sentiment for the encouragement of rifle, shotgun and handgun practice both as a sport and as a necessary knowledge in time of civil emergency or armed aggression against our state and nation. The Association will coordinate policies between the National Rifle Association, its member clubs and the membership of the Oklahoma Rifle Association and other organizations having similar goals/policies and to represent individuals who are not affiliated with clubs before all governmental entities, local, state and federal.

**Section 2. Objectives:**

The detailed objectives of this Association shall be as follows:

- A. Promote safety in the use of firearms and the dissemination of information conducive to the safe use of firearms by both adults and minors; and,
- B. When called upon, to help the citizenry of this state in the training of firearms instructors.
- C. To sponsor and promote:
  - (1) Educational and historical information to the public relating to state and national firearms laws and act expeditiously in opposing unsound and unnecessary firearms legislation in both state and federal legislative bodies.
  - (2) To promote and vigorously defend the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.
- D. To promote and encourage firearms marksmanship as both a sport and as a vital facet of national defense.
- E. To encourage and assist, as requested, in the organization and administration of affiliated shooting clubs.
- F. To encourage the clubs affiliated with this Association in discouraging the occurrence or tolerance of unsportsmanlike or unsafe behavior within the entire jurisdiction of this Association.
- G. To promote, sponsor and encourage the sponsorship of state championship marksmanship competitions. To encourage proper training of tournament officials, and to determine the method of selection of state teams to represent this state in regional and national marksmanship competitions.

- H. To assist:
  - (1) Within the ability of the Association, in the planning and acquisition of civilian owned shooting ranges of all types to benefit and enhance the civilian marksmanship program of this state, and
  - (2) To coordinate and encourage the efforts of members clubs and individuals in obtaining the cooperation and assistance of the commanders of defense department installations within the state to obtain use of target range facilities for the common benefit of civilian and military marksmanship enthusiasts.
- I. To encourage support of the Corporation for the Promotion of Marksmanship (formerly the Director for Civilian Marksmanship program) by clubs and individuals throughout the state, and to encourage the enrollment of all qualified clubs in the program.
- J. To encourage and promote the acceptance of shooting sports in the colleges and high schools within the state.
- K. To encourage and assist in the formation of chapters throughout the state, such chapters comprised of ORA members in good standing in order to foster grassroots support for the Association and its legislative agenda.
- L. To stress and assist in gun safety programs throughout the state.

*[end of Article I]*

## **Article II Membership**

### **Section 1.**

#### **ORA PLEDGE**

*I solemnly swear and affirm that I am a citizen of the United States of America and that I am not a member of any organization or group which has as any part of its program the attempt to overthrow the government of the United States or any of its political subdivisions by force or violence and that I have never been convicted of a crime of violence, and if admitted to membership, I will fulfill the obligations of good sportsmanship and good citizenship.*

### **Section 2. Types of Membership:**

- A. Any individual having not been convicted of a felony may be affiliated with this Association by adherence to the ORA Pledge and payment of annual or life dues.
- B. A spouse of an individual member may be affiliated as an Associate Member of the Association by adherence to the ORA Pledge and payment of dues.
- C. Any person 18 years-of-age or younger may be affiliated as a Junior Member of this Association by adherence to the ORA Pledge and payment of annual dues. Junior members may request a subscription to the newsletter for an additional fee.
- D. Any gun club or sportsman's club in the State of Oklahoma may be affiliated with this Association upon payment of an annual affiliation fee, completion of an affiliation application, and upon receiving a two-thirds vote into the Association by the ORA Board of Directors present at any regular or special meeting.
- E. Club dues shall be payable on an annual basis, club affiliation expiring twelve (12) months after the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the month of affiliation. Clubs delinquent more than thirty (30) days will incur payment of a late fee as set by the ORA Board of Directors.
- F. Individual memberships shall be payable upon expiration of the membership status they have selected. No reinstatement fee shall be incurred.
- G. The Board of Directors shall review the annual fee schedule recommendation for the upcoming year prepared by the Executive Committee, and, by a two-thirds majority of the Board of Directors, will present the fee schedule to the general membership for final approval.
- H. Individual membership in the Oklahoma Rifle Association may be for periods of one (1) year, three (3) years, five (5) years or life.

### **Section 3. Life Membership fees:**

Any individual may be affiliated.

- A. As a Life Member of this Association by adhering to the ORA Pledge and payment of a life membership fee.
- B. Any spouse of a Life Member of this Association may be affiliated for Life by adherence to the ORA pledge and payment of a fee.
- C. Any individual may be affiliated as a Conditional Life Member by adhering to the ORA Pledge and payment of an initial fee and scheduled payments. Any individual who fails to pay the full amount in a two (2) year period shall revert back to an Annual Member status for the number of years equal to the amount paid less one (1) year for administrative costs.
- D. Dues for all categories of membership are set by the ORA Board of Directors and approved by the general membership.

- E. Any affiliated club or individual member who shall be delinquent in payment of dues shall not be entitled to the privileges of membership in the Association.

**Section 4. Privileges of Membership:**

- A. Only individual members and members of state associations, with whom the Association has reciprocal agreements, may compete in state championship tournaments. At the discretion of the ORA Board of Directors, non-Oklahoma residents may pay a registration fee in lieu of the ORA membership requirements (payable to ORA within ten (10) days of the match). This requirement may be waived for State Association Junior Matches at the discretion of the sponsor. For matches of general public interest, the ORA membership requirement may be waived at the discretion of the Association Board of Directors, whereupon a special fee may then be assessed on each competitor.
- B. All members in good standing shall have the privilege of participating in the State Convention, including voting for the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- C. Only members who are competitors in a particular division shall have the privilege of voting for that particular division director. A competitor shall be defined as an individual who has officiated, coached or fired in any other nationally recognized organization's approved or registered tournament. Any individual member present may require proof of such competition.
- D. Proxy votes will be prohibited.
- E. Mail ballots will be prohibited.

**Section 5. Discipline of Membership:**

- A. The Board of Directors, by a majority vote at any regular or special meeting, may bring charges against any member or affiliated club whose conduct is not in keeping with the rules or policies of the NRA or the by-laws, policies and rules of the ORA. No vote on the bringing of charges may be taken unless at least thirty (30) days notice in writing by U.S. Mail, return receipt requested, shall have been delivered to the accused stating the conduct alleged and of the time and place of the meeting at which such vote will be taken. The charged member or affiliated club is to be allowed a full hearing and the right to bring witnesses in his, her or its defense. The majority of the voting members of the ORA Board of Directors present may suspend, expel, or exonerate the charged party or affiliated club. Any member or affiliated club charged and disciplined by the ORA Board of Directors may request and be granted a special hearing before the general membership at the next State Convention. The general membership by majority vote may set aside the suspension or expulsion or sustain the judgment of the ORA Board of Directors.
- B. When charges are made against a member or affiliated club, the ORA President will receive prompt notification. Should he or she determine that such charges are of such nature as to be detrimental to the objectives and purposes of the Association the President may order a temporary suspension of privileges until such time as the formal hearing of the charges by the Association Board of Directors.

*[end of Article II]*

**Article III**  
**Officers & Directors**

**Section 1. Officers:**

- A. The officers of this Association shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The officers shall be elected by the voting members as specified in Article II. Officers will be elected for two year terms. The President and Secretary to be elected in even numbered years and serve consecutive terms. The Vice President and Treasurer to be elected in odd numbered years and serve consecutive terms. Officers shall take office upon adjournment of the State Convention and shall hold such office until his or her successor is properly elected, or appointed and qualified.
- B. No more than two officers shall be elected from the same affiliated club to serve during the same year. At least two of the officers must be members of affiliated clubs.
- C. The nominations for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be furnished to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the State Convention. These officers shall be elected at the State Convention.

**Section 2. Board of Directors**

- A. The Board of Directors shall consist of:
  - 1. The elected officers of the Association and
  - 2. Directors for Juniors, Sportsmen, Education, Publicity, Law Enforcement, Women's Issues, Shooting Activities and Legislation. These directors shall be appointed by the President, such appointment being subject to approval of the Board of Directors.
- B. The President may at his or her discretion nominate an Executive Director. The nomination shall be confirmed by a majority of the ORA Board of Directors present at a regular or special meeting. The Executive Director performs duties as specified by the Board of Directors. The position of Executive Director is an "at will" position. The Executive Director serves as a non-voting member of both the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors.
- C. Directors appointed by affiliated clubs. Affiliated clubs in good standing will annually appoint a director to the ORA Board of Directors. Such appointment to be reported to the ORA on the club affiliation report form. If an appointed director fails to be in attendance at ORA Board of Directors' meetings two times during the fiscal year the President has the right to ask the club to appoint a new director.
- D. Four directors-at-large shall be appointed by the president to one (1) year terms on the ORA Board of Directors. One director from each of the four quadrants of the state divided east and west by Interstate 35 and north and south by Interstate 40. These directors-at-large shall reside in the region they represent. If a director has two unexcused absences, such regional director may be relieved by the ORA President who shall appoint a successor to complete the term of office.
- E. The immediate past Association President shall be a member of the Board of Directors with voice and vote.

- F. The elected director of High Power Rifle, Pistol, Small Bore Rifle, Silhouette, Skeet Trap, Muzzle Loading, Bench Rest, Air Gun, and such other shooting disciplines as approved by the Board of Directors. Nominations for these directors may be made at the state association championship tournament for the division involved. Additional nominations and the election of these directors shall be held at the state convention.
- G. Officers or directors must maintain membership in good standing in the Association or they will not be permitted to serve on the Board of Directors or as officers of the Association. It is strongly recommended that all officers and directors be members of the NRA.

**Section 3. Duties and designations of Officers:**

- A. President.  
The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors. He/she shall be a member, ex-officio, of all regular and special committees and shall perform such other duties as usually pertain to this office.
- B. Vice President  
The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President, or upon his/her request, over all meetings of the Association. He/she shall perform such other duties as directed by the President. Upon the death, removal or resignation of the President he/she will assume the office of President.
- C. Secretary  
The Secretary shall conduct all official correspondence for the Association. He/she shall furnish to affiliated clubs, and upon request all individual members, copy of the by-laws of the Association, as well as any amendments, within thirty days after their adoption. He/she shall notify the members of the Board of Directors of all meetings and shall notify all members of special and annual meetings as required in Article IV. He/she shall keep a true record of the Board of Directors and of the Association and have custody of the books and papers of the Association.
- D. Treasurer  
The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection of all dues and fees. He/she shall also have charge of all funds of the Association and place the same in a bank or banks as may be approved by the Board of Directors. He/she shall keep an accurate account of all transactions and render a detailed report, with vouchers, at each State Convention of the Association and at all meetings of the Board of Directors. He/she shall make provision for such officers as designated by the Board of Directors whereby they may have access to financial records, funds and assets of the Association should the performance of his/her duties and responsibilities be impaired by physical impairment or death.

**Section 4. Vacancies and Delegation of Duties:**

- A. In the event of the death, resignation, suspension, removal, or permanent disability of any officer, the President, with approval of the Board of Directors, will appoint a member in good standing to fill such vacancy, such appointee will hold the office until the next annual election of the membership at the State Convention.
- B. The club so affected will fill vacancies in the appointed directors.

**Section 5. Compensation of Officers:**

Any contract for services shall be submitted by the Executive Committee to the Board of Directors for approval before the contract is executed.

**Section 6. Duties of the Board of Directors:**

- A. The Board of Directors shall have charge and control of the management of the Association and exercise of all the power of the Association except that reserved to the members.
- B. The Board of Directors shall have power to adopt such rules as shall be necessary and suitable to carry out the objectives and purposes of the Association.
- C. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of February and May and the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of November. In addition there will be a meeting of the Board of Directors held immediately prior to and at the place of each State Convention. Special meetings shall be held at the request of the President, reasonable notice being given.
- D. The members of the Board of Directors present shall constitute a quorum.
- E. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for long range planning in order to enhance and develop the ORA and its goals. If the Board feels it needs to stand up a committee to assist with that task, it may do so.

*[end of Article III]*

**Article IV**  
**Standing Committees**

- A. The Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall be comprised of the Officers and the Executive Director, if there is one per III.2.B. The voting members of the Executive Committee shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Executive Director is a non-voting member of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall conduct day-to-day operations of the Association. The Executive Committee shall have the power to meet and conduct Association and Board of Directors' business in cases of special problems, emergencies, or when timeliness does not permit the full Board of Directors to meet. The Executive Committee shall annually review and propose all fee schedules and make recommendations to the Board of Directors.
- B. Financial Review Committee. The purpose of the committee is to conduct a review of the annual financial statement. This committee is to be composed of three ORA Members appointed by the President and approved by the Board. Neither the current Treasurer nor the Treasurer of the fiscal year being reviewed is allowed to be a member of this committee. This committee shall prepare and maintain a list of review topics to be used during the annual review. This list of review topics, and any changes thereto, shall be presented to and approved by the Board before the review is conducted. Annually, this committee shall conduct and complete a financial review by the end of the first quarter of the following year. The results of the review shall be presented to the Board for review and approval.
- C. The President is empowered to create such other committees as he/she believes necessary for the betterment of the Association.

*[end of Article IV]*



**Article V**  
**Meetings of the Association**

**Section 1. State Convention:**

The Association shall hold its State Convention on a date fixed by the Board of Directors for the transaction of all business as may properly come before the convention. Notice of time and place shall be published to individual members, at least thirty (30) days prior to the holding of the meeting.

**Section 2. Special Meetings:**

A special meeting of the Association may be held at any time upon the call of the President or upon written demand, stating the objective of the proposed meeting and signed by at least 5 members of the board of directors. Notice of the time and place and object of the meeting must be given no less than fifteen (15) days prior to the holding of the meeting. The Board of Directors shall fix the place of such meeting.

**Section 3. Quorum:**

The ORA members in good standing, present at any annual or special meeting shall constitute a quorum.

**Section 4. Rules of Order:**

The latest revised edition of "*Robert's Rules of Order*" shall govern the deliberations of all meetings of the Association and its Board of Directors, unless exceptions are made herein.

*[end of Article V]*

**Article VI**  
**Miscellaneous**

**Section 1. Amendments:**

Bylaws may be amended at the State Convention meeting. Bylaws amendments require approval by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. A copy of the proposed amendment shall be published to the general membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the state convention. Each amendment will be sent to the National Rifle Association.

**Section 2. Fiscal Year:**

The fiscal year of the ORA shall be the calendar year. January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>.

*[end of Article VI]*

**Article VII**  
**Dissolution**

Upon dissolution of the Association, all of its assets remaining after payment of all costs and expenses of such dissolution shall be distributed to organizations which have qualified for exemption under Section 501C(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. None of the assets will be distributed to any Officer or Director of this organization. Final distribution requires a majority vote of the membership.

*[end of Article VII]*