

# Arizona Cowboy Mounted Shooters Association, Inc.

## BYLAWS

Revised and approved: December 2014

### ARTICLE I - STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The object of the association shall be to encourage and participate in the sport of cowboy mounted shooting and to provide an outlet for those persons wishing to compete in said sport. We shall abide by the rules set forth in current edition of the Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association (CMSA) Rulebook. We will encourage organized shooting of single action .45 caliber pistols, rifles and shotguns of the type available prior to 1900 among citizens of the United States. It shall be our further object and purpose to forward the development of those characteristics necessary to promote good sportsmanship and the foundation of true patriotism. We will strive to increase and promote our knowledge of horses in order to increase our horsemanship skills on all levels. We will take a view toward better knowledge of the safe handling and proper care of firearms, as well as improved marksmanship. The further intention of the organization is to provide an atmosphere and social climate conducive to riding, camping and other similar events where the members dress and conduct themselves in a fashion that promotes our western heritage. The Board of Directors will adhere to the guidelines set forth in the following articles shall administer the affairs of the association.

### ARTICLE II- NAME

The name of the organization shall be ARIZONA COWBOY MOUNTED SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION, INC. (ACMSA - herein referred to as "the Club"). The ACMSA is recognized as an official Club by our National Affiliate organization, the Cowboy Mounted Shooters Association (CMSA) and we endorse all CMSA functions as well as abide by all CMSA rules as set forth in the rulebook.

## **ARTICLE III- MEMBERSHIP**

1. **MEMBERSHIP** in ACMSA shall consist of three (3) classes.
  - A. Active - which will be all persons wishing to participate in the ACMSA matches as competitors regardless of age or gender. Any rider under the age of 18 years may compete only with a signed parental consent form.
  - B. Associate - will be all persons wishing to participate in the activities as non-riding participants and/or support staff at the ACMSA matches (does not have a vote on Club issues).
  - C. Family – same as “Active” - which will be immediate family members in the same household. This shall include the spouse and any children under the age of 18 years.
2. **ELIGIBILITY** in ACMSA shall be extended to all persons of good character who would like to become members of an organization and who pledges to promote the preservation of the cowboy lifestyle as defined by the CMSA.
3. All ACMSA Active/Family members must also be members of the CMSA and are encouraged to participate in its functions.
4. **DUES** – ACMSA dues payable prior to the first scheduled shoot for that competitive year (usually in October). The dues for membership shall be determined by the board of directors on an annual basis.
5. **RESIGNATION, SUSPENSION, EXPULSION AND REINSTATEMENT OF MEMBERS:**
  - A. **Resignation** – A member in good standing may resign at any time to any member of the Board of Directors. A members resignation will not be cause for a refund of membership dues.
  - B. **Suspension** – A majority vote of the Board of Directors may immediately put any member on suspension that has:
    - 1) Has caused personal injury or committed an act that may cause injury to themselves, another person, property or livestock
    - 2) Has committed actions that have or are likely to bring discredit to mounted shooting, ACMSA.
    - 3) Has conducted themselves in a manner unbecoming the ACMSA.

- 4) Has been abusive or treated their horse in any otherwise inhumane fashion.
- 5) Has acted in an unsafe manner when dealing with firearms.
- 6) Refuses a directive of an ACMSA board member, official or designated range master acting for the safe and efficient conduct of ACMSA events or is unreasonably disruptive to the efficient operation and enjoyment of ACMSA events by its participants.
6. Expulsion – A member may be expelled from ACMSA with a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors for violation listed in Article III, 5.B.
7. Suspension/Expulsion – Any member placed on suspension or expelled by the board of directors, will not be allowed to participate in any club activities until after their 90 day waiting period and requires reinstatement by the board of directors.
8. Reinstatement – Any member suspended or expelled from the ACMSA may, after a period of ninety (90) days, appear before the Board of Directors to request a reversal of the Board of Directors decision concerning their membership status. The Board of Director's reply to such a request will be in writing by mail only.
9. Complaints – Any member witnessing violations of general safety practices of ACMSA or CMSA rules and/or Bylaws by another member may submit a signed complaint to the Board of Directors.
10. Disciplinary process shall be as follows,
  - A. First Offense: A written warning from the ACMSA, this step may include a probationary period.
  - B. Second Offense: A suspension for between one and three months.
  - C. Third Offense: A suspension for one year.
  - D. Final step: Lifetime banishment from the ACMSA and revocation of all privileges of membership.

11. If the Board of Directors of ACMSA vote to suspend a member from local events or club activities that club shall be required to mail, via US MAIL, a letter notifying the CMSA National Board of their actions, the terms of the suspension and reinstatement procedures. This notification letter shall include the signatures of the club's officers and/ or board of directors.
12. The ACMSA board of directors may, at its sole discretion, elect to take action outside of these guidelines based upon the severity of the infraction.
13. The ACMSA Board of Directors has the final decision on all disciplinary issues and actions.

## **ARTICLE IV- CLOTHING**

1. COSTUME – All members of ACMSA will be required to wear clothing in compliance with current CMSA rules and regulations.
2. NON-COMPLIANCE –Any member not complying with section I of Article IV may prohibited from participating in a match or exhibition at the discretion of the match director or Board of Directors. In keeping with this theme, if any member shows up for an Awards Presentation out of costume, any/all awards may be forfeited.
3. ASSISTANCE – Any member or prospective member so wishing may have a seasoned member assigned by the Board of Directors to help them accumulate the necessary clothing and equipment to comply with Section 1 above.

## **ARTICLE V – ARMS and AMMUNITION**

1. FIREARMS – All firearms shall comply with the current CMSA rules and regulations.
2. AMMUNITION – All ammunition shall be provided by the ACMSA and ONLY that ammunition may be used in competition. Ammunition used in the competition is only allowed in the loading area, staging area and the arena. Live ammunition is prohibited at ACMSA events.

3. DISPLAY AMMUNITION – Contestants are to have no live ammunition on their person or in their cartridge belts or saddlebags. Dummy ammunition with fired primers or without primers may be used in cartridge belts. Failure to follow this rule will result in disqualification from the match/event.

## **ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

1. NUMBER OF DIRECTORS – The ACMSA Board of Directors will consist of no less than six (6) individuals including Officers.
2. SPECIFIED DUTIES OF OFFICERS
  - A. **President** – The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors. They shall prepare the agenda for the meetings of the Board. They may appoint necessary committees to carry out the Board's programs. The President, within the limits of the law, and at the direction of the Board of Directors, shall act from time to time as the representative of the Board and the Club. In addition, he/she shall have the authority to sign all papers required for the ongoing business of the Board and the Club. In the case of the President's inability to act, the Vice President shall be the immediate successor. The President is responsible for maintaining contact with the Arizona Corporation Commission and other regulatory agencies necessary for the Club's activities.
  - B. **Vice President** – The Vice President shall perform such duties as from time to time may be assigned to them. The Vice President, as authorized by the Board, shall have all the powers and perform all the duties of the President in case of temporary absence of the President. In the case of the Vice-Presidents' temporary inability to act, the Board of Directors shall declare the office vacant and said board shall choose a successor.
  - C. **Secretary** – The Secretary shall record the minutes of all Board Meetings. They shall be responsible for supplying information for the chairman of the newsletters and gathering information for and writing of the articles for publication. They shall also keep the local media up to date regarding dates of matches, meetings, practices, as well as supply them with articles about our matches, etc. They shall also be responsible for keeping the webmaster current and up to date.

D. **Treasurer** – The Treasurer shall record all financial transactions of the Board in an accepted bookkeeping method. The Treasurer shall provide current financial reports at each regularly scheduled meeting and a yearly financial statement. All financial records will be available to the Board upon request. The Treasurer shall deposit all funds of the ACMSA in such bank or banks as designated by the Board. They shall also collect fees at ACMSA events. They shall also collect and record all dues received. The Treasurer will prepare or cause to be prepared, all returns and reports required by taxing entities such as Federal income taxes and sales tax.

E. **Directors** – Shall be assigned duties as deemed necessary by the President or the Board of Directors. All directors are required to accept and reliably execute the duties necessary for club activities as assigned.

## **ARTICLE VII - ELECTION and TENURE**

1. **ELECTIONS** - The election of the Board of Directors shall take place during the annual General Membership Meeting. Members will be notified at least 30 days in advance of the meeting date.
2. **VOTING** – Each active member over the age of 18 years who has been a club member in good standing for a minimum of 60 days is entitled to one vote on Club issues.
3. **METHOD OF ELECTIONS** - The President shall appoint a nominating committee who shall submit nominations for the available positions. The slate of nominees will be presented at the General Membership Meeting. Nominations will be taken from the floor and the general membership shall vote on all the nominees at that time. The use of signed absentee ballots and proxy ballots is permissible. The nominees that receive the majority of the vote shall be declared the winners.
4. **TERM OF OFFICE** - The term of office for all Directors/Officers shall be for approximately two (2) years and shall begin on the day after the date of their election. A Director/Officer may be re-elected to the same position or another Board position as often as the membership re-elects them. The positions subject to re-election will be staggered as follows: The elections for President, Treasurer and at least one director will alternate every other year with the Vice President, Secretary and the remaining director positions.

5. VACANCIES - The Nominating Committee shall place before the Board the names of individuals to be considered for any vacant director position. The replacement shall be decided by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. The elected individual shall then serve the remainder of the year of the vacated position.
6. DISMISSAL – Any Officer or Board of Director may be dismissed by a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors on the following grounds:
  - A. Unapproved absence from three board activities in a row (i.e. board meetings, events, etc.)
  - B. Repeated failure to adequately and reliably perform their assigned duties.
  - C. Any action which is subject to suspension under the terms of Article III, 5.B.
  - D. Conduct which is detrimental to the mission of the Club.

## **ARTICLE VIII - QUALIFICATION OF BOARD MEMBERS & OFFICERS**

1. PRESIDENT - Must have been an active, adult member of ACMSA in good standing, for 18 months, and must have served on the Board of Directors for at least 1 year.
2. OFFICERS (President, Vice President, Treasurer & Secretary) – Must have been an active, adult member of ACMSA in good standing for at least one year prior to serving on the Board of Directors.
3. BOARD MEMBER - Must have been an active, adult member of ACMSA in good standing for at least six months prior to serving on the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE IX - EMERGENCY CLAUSE**

1. EMERGENCY CLAUSE - These by-laws may be temporarily altered in full or in part when the Board of Directors decides an emergency exists. A two thirds majority of the board must vote in favor of declaring a emergency. This action must be deemed a temporarily expedient to best serve the interest of all the members of the ACMSA.

2. Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of any business of ACMSA which is not otherwise addressed by these by-laws.

## **ARTICLE X – MEETINGS**

1. The Board of Directors will decide when & where meetings will be held and schedule them as needed. All members in good standing, new or prospective members are welcome to address the Board of Directors. Those who wish to address the Board of Directors should request of the President in writing that they would like to have an item added to the agenda. Requests to add business items to the agenda should be received by the President at least 48 hours in advance of meeting date.
2. The members will be notified via newsletter, e-mail and/or the calling committee of meeting time, date & location. In the event that an emergency or closed meeting is called no notification will be forthcoming.

## **ARTICLE XI – CHANGING BYLAWS**

1. These bylaws may be changed as follows. Any member in good standing may submit a proposed change to these bylaws by submitting the recommended change in writing at a regularly scheduled meeting to the Board of Directors. The Board will consider the change and vote on including said change at the next year-end board meeting.
2. If the recommended change receives at least a 2/3 majority vote of all present or otherwise legally represented voting members, it will be adopted. A by-law committee will be formed as needed by the President and will make recommendations to the board of directors.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
President

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Vice President

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer

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