

# **GOLDEN TRIANGLE GUN CLUB, INC.**

## **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

Revised and Adopted by the membership on 4 August 2016

### **ARTICLE I --- NAME**

The name of this Club shall be the Golden Triangle Gun Club, Inc.; a private Club incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas, and affiliated with the National Rifle Association of America and the Civilian Marksmanship Program. In the remainder of this document, the Golden Triangle Gun Club, Inc., may be referred to as “Club” or “GTGC.”

### **ARTICLE II --- OBJECT**

The object of this Club shall be to promote the art of shooting, and to give instructions in the use of firearms among citizens of the United States and residents of our community, with a view toward a better knowledge on the part of such citizens of the safe handling and proper care of firearms, as well as improved marksmanship. It shall be our further object and purpose to cultivate the development of those characteristics of honesty, good fellowship, self-discipline, team play, and self-reliance, which are essentials of good sportsmanship and the foundation of true patriotism.

### **ARTICLE III --- MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Section A:**

Any citizen of the United States who is over 18 years of age may become a member of the Club on the approval of the Membership Committee and/or Board of Directors.

#### **Section B:**

All applicants for membership shall be sponsored by a member in good standing, or hold a valid Texas License to Carry, or be an active peace officer, law enforcement agent, or judge residing in the State of Texas (such as sheriff, policeman, constable, bailiff, judge, justice of the peace, FBI agent, Homeland Security agent, etc.)

#### **Section C:**

All applicants for membership must fill out an application and submit this application to the Club Secretary-Treasurer. The Club Secretary-Treasurer and the Club President will comprise the Membership Committee. The Membership Committee will make a thorough investigation of the applicant, and approve or reject the application within 30 days. If a prospective member is rejected by the Membership Committee, the Committee will notify the Board of Directors of the reason why at the next BOD meeting.

**Section D:**

All members are required to maintain a current membership in the National Rifle Association of America as a condition of membership in the Golden Triangle Gun Club, Inc.

**Section E:**

Personnel from our local U.S. Coast Guard MSU, located in Port Arthur, Texas, are given use of the Club facilities for GTGC-approved training under the guidance of a USCG safety officer, and for personal use. They are members of the Golden Triangle Gun Club, Inc., and are expected to follow all Club rules and regulations. Sometimes, for a particular type of training, certain rules may be suspended temporarily, as described in the GTGC Operating Procedures, under the supervision of a GTGC Chief Range Safety Officer. During this type of training, the particular range they are using will be temporarily closed to the membership.

**ARTICLE IV --- DUES**

**Section A:**

The initiation fee and the annual membership fee schedule shall be as proposed by the Board of Directors and approved by the Club membership. Approval shall be as set forth in **ARTICLE XI**.

**Section B:**

The annual dues, payable in advance, on or before September 1st of each year, shall be:

**STANDARD MEMBERSHIP: \$100.00 Annually (Initiation Fee for New Membership \$100.00)**

**SENIOR (65 and older): \$75.00 Annually (Initiation Fee for New Senior Membership \$75.00)**

**JUNIOR (18 – 25): \$75.00 Annually (NO Initiation Fee charged for New Junior Membership)**

**SPOUSE MEMBERSHIP: \$50.00 Annually, no Initiation Fee**

**DISABLED VETERAN – SERVICE CONNECTED: \$75.00 Annually (Initiation Fee for New Disabled Veteran Membership \$75.00)**

A member, being in arrears on November 1, shall be denied the use of the Club facilities, and having been duly notified by the Dues Invoice, shall be delinquent and not in good standing and shall be dropped from the roster. To come back into the Club said member must apply as a new member, paying the initiation fee (if required). Reinstatement of a delinquent member without the required initiation fee may be approved by the Membership Committee.

Dues for New Memberships shall be prorated as follows:

- All new applications will pay the full Initiation Fee, as listed for their type of membership.
- Applications postmarked between September 1 and November 30 shall pay the full yearly dues.
- Applications postmarked between December 1 and February 28 shall pay 75% of the full yearly dues.
- Applications postmarked between March 1 and May 31 shall pay 50% of the full yearly dues.
- Applications postmarked between June 1 and August 31 shall pay 25% of the full yearly dues.

### **Section C:**

The annual dues of any member called to active federal military service shall be suspended for the duration of his tour of duty, and any unused portion of his current dues shall be refunded based on the prorated scale, provided he has notified the Secretary-Treasurer of such military duty. Upon return to the Golden Triangle Gun Club, Inc., he shall be reinstated to active membership by paying the current membership dues, but no Initiation Fee.

### **Section D:**

Any member in good standing whose health or employment causes him to change his permanent residence to another city shall, upon giving notice to the Secretary-Treasurer, be refunded his annual dues based on the prorated scale. Upon return to the Golden Triangle Gun Club, Inc., he shall be reinstated to active membership by paying the current membership dues, but no Initiation Fee.

## **ARTICLE V --- MEETINGS**

### **Section A:**

#### ***Annual Meetings***

The Annual Meeting of the Club shall be held during the month of August each year. The President and the Board of Directors shall set the date of such Annual Meeting. If the Annual Meeting does not take place at the time set, it shall be held within a reasonable time thereafter, and the officers shall be held over until their successors have been elected.

### **Section B:**

#### ***Special Meetings***

Special Meetings of the Club may be held at any time upon the call of the President, or upon the call of the Board of Directors, or upon demand in writing by the membership, stating the object of the proposed meetings and signed by not less than 20% of the members entitled to vote. Notice of the time, place, and object of any Special Meetings shall be given to all officers and members in good standing, in writing by United States registered mail, not less than seven (7) days prior to the date set for the holding of such meetings. The place of such Special Meetings shall be set by the Board of Directors.

**Section C:**

***Quorum***

5% of the members of the Club entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum at any Annual or Special Meeting.

**ARTICLE VI --- BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE  
AT BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETINGS**

The voting members of the Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, three (3) Directors-at-Large, the Director of Safety and Training, the Director of Security, the Director of Women's Programs, the Director of Media Relations, and the Board-of-Directors-approved Match Directors as detailed in ARTICLE VIII.

**ARTICLE VII --- ELECTIONS**

**Section A:**

Club-elected members of the Board of Directors shall be the President, Vice-president, three Directors-at-Large, Director of Safety and Training, Director of Security, Director of Women's Programs, and Director of Media Relations, who shall all be elected for two-year terms at the Annual Meeting, in even numbered years. The term for newly-elected officers will begin 30 days after the Annual Meeting to allow for a transition period.

The Vice-president is Chairman of the Nominating Committee and shall appoint at least 2 other members at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting, to serve with him as the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall attempt to nominate at least one (1) qualified member willing to serve in each position to be elected at the Annual Meeting. In addition to the nominees selected by the Nominating Committee, nominations for any office may be made from the floor.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall be appointed and/or terminated by the Board of Directors. His/her duties shall be compensated by a fee set by the Board of Directors of not less than \$25.00 per month. Compensation shall be based on the total number of Club members on 31 August and shall be paid by 7 September of each year.

All members of the Board of Directors will have a free membership to the Club during their terms of office.

**Section B:**

No Club member less than 21 years of age shall be eligible to hold office.

**Section C:**

(1) Club-elected officers may also hold office as a Board-of-Directors-approved Match Director or Assistant Match Director. A person who is a Club-elected officer and a Board-of-Directors-approved Match Director or Assistant Match Director shall have only one (1) vote.

(2) A Board-of-Directors-approved Match Director or Assistant Match Director may hold the office of Board-of-Directors-approved Match Director or Assistant Match Director for more than one Match, concurrently. This person shall have only one (1) vote.

**Section D:**

A person, before being nominated for the position of President or Vice-President, will have had to have previously served as a member of the Board of Directors for a period of not less than two (2) years.

**Section E:**

In the event of any vacancy in any office, the Board of Directors shall elect a member to fill the unexpired term, except in the case of the President in which case the Vice-president shall become President and the BOD will elect a new Vice-president – when this happens, the offices of President and Vice-president shall be elected at the next Annual Meeting of the Club, no matter if it is an even or odd numbered year.

**ARTICLE VIII --- MATCH DIRECTOR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Section A:**

In order to better serve the membership, the Club shall have Board of Directors representation from Match Directors of the Board-of-Directors-approved matches.

**Section B:**

Any Club member who wishes to be a Match Director shall petition the Board of Directors for approval. The member will describe the match and provide a written copy of the rules, procedures, fees, and the course of fire. The member will also provide a schedule of when matches will be held. If the Match is approved, the Match Director will send an annual schedule of matches for the next year to the Club email address by no later than October 1 of each year.

**Section C:**

Each Match will have one (1) Match Director, and may have one (1) Assistant Match Director, nominated by the Match Director and approved by the Board of Directors. Both the Match Director and the Assistant Match Director, upon approval by the Board of Directors, shall be voting

members of the Board of Directors and shall serve on the Board of Directors continuously until a successor is approved by the Board of Directors, for as long as the Match is approved.

**Section D:**

It shall be the duty of the Match Director and the Assistant Match Director to look after the property and ranges of that Match. The Match Director shall report any theft, damage to property by accident or vandalism, and any repairs needed to the range, to the Club President immediately.

**Section E:**

Each Match Director of a Board-of-Directors-approved Match will provide an Annual Accounting Report detailing the Beginning Cash Balance, Income (Match fees, etc.), Expenses, and a Year End Account Balance to the Club Secretary-Treasurer, between January 1 and January 31 of each year. The Match Director will maintain records that will support the Annual Accounting Report in the event of an audit. Match income serves to support the Match expenses. The Club is a 501(c)(7) non-profit corporation and Match income must conform to the non-profit format. The Annual Accounting Reports will be included in the Club's year-end report to the Club's accounting firm.

**Section F:**

The Board of Directors of the Golden Triangle Gun Club, Inc. may add and subtract matches as required.

**ARTICLE IX --- DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

**Section A:**

The affairs of the Club shall be managed by the Board of Directors, who shall have general supervision over the activities of the Club. Board meetings shall be held every other month and at any time by call of the President. Five (5) Directors shall constitute a quorum. Any Club member may attend Board of Director meetings and may speak at the meetings if they wish.

**Section B:**

**President** -The President shall be a member of the Board of Directors. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board of Directors. He/she shall be a member ex-officio of all regular and special committees and shall perform all such other duties as usually pertain to his/her office. The President is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Club, as directed by the Board of Directors, and has the authority to spend Club money at his/her discretion as required, within a limit set by the Board of Directors.

(a) The following standing committees may be appointed by the Club President: Publicity Committee, Program Committee, Range Safety and Rules Committee, Newsletter Committee, etc.

(b) In addition to the above committees, the Club President shall have the power to appoint such officers and committees as he deems necessary to carry out the purpose and functions of the Club. These personnel shall not be voting members of the Board of Directors.

(c) The President may, at his discretion, award a free 1-year membership to individuals who provide a service to the Club.

### **Section C:**

**Vice-President** - The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in his/her absence or at his/her request. He/she shall be a member of the Board of Directors. He/she shall be a member ex-officio of all regular and special committees. He/she shall also be Chairman of the Nominating Committee with duties as described in ARTICLE VII, Section A.

### **Section D:**

**Secretary-Treasurer** - The Secretary-Treasurer shall be a member of the Board of Directors. He/she shall be a member ex-officio of all regular and special committees. The Secretary-Treasurer shall conduct all official correspondence pertaining to the proper preparation and forwarding of all reports required of the Club by the National Rifle Association and by the Civilian Marksmanship Program. He/she shall notify the members of the Board of Directors of all meetings, as required in Article V. He/she shall keep a true record of all meetings of the Board of Directors and of the Club and have custody of the books and papers of the Club. All applications for membership in the Club shall be made to the Secretary-Treasurer. He/she shall be responsible for the collection of all fees and dues. Such money shall only be withdrawn with a check signed by either the President or Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep an actual and accurate account of all transactions and render a detailed report with vouchers at the meetings when requested and shall be responsible for an annual report to be presented at the Annual Meeting. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be responsible for the preparation and submission of all tax reports.

### **Section E:**

**Director at Large** – Each Director at Large is responsible for assisting the Club by coordinating and managing work and projects as determined by the President and the Board of Directors. They also represent the general membership in Board of Directors’ meetings.

### **Section F:**

**Director of Safety and Training** – This person should be certified by either the State and/or the NRA to teach some form of firearms classes. He/she is responsible for recommending to the Board of Directors any actions needed for maintaining Club safety, such as berm improvements, changes to the Standard Operating Procedures, medical and first aid equipment and supplies to be maintained on Club property, first aid training for RSOs and other Club members, etc. This person is responsible for maintaining the SOPs and for the training of RSOs, and for scheduling the team of Club RSOs’ time at the Club supervising range activities.

**Section G:**

**Director of Media Relations** – This person, in addition to the Club President, is the contact that the media has with the Club and may give their personal views on political or other events. No one may represent the opinion of the Club, since the Club has no opinions.

**Section H:**

**Director of Security** – This person is responsible for the security of the Club and for recommending to the Board of Directors any changes that may be needed to enhance security. This includes the security camera system, lighting, fencing, gates, etc.

**Section I:**

**Director of Women’s Programs** – This person shall work to develop and provide shooting events for women, both Club members and non-Club members, including such activities as “A Girl and a Gun” and “Women on Target.”

**ARTICLE X --- SUSPENSION OR REMOVAL**

**Section A:**

Any officer may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the members in good standing present at any Special Meeting called for this purpose. No vote on suspension or removal may be taken unless a minimum fifteen (15) days written notice has been given to the officer stating the reasons for his removal and the time and place of the Special Meeting at which such ballot for his removal is to be taken. At such Special Meeting the officer shall be given a full hearing.

**Section B:**

Any member may be suspended or removed from the Club for any cause deemed sufficient by the Board of Directors by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members of the Board of Directors present at any regular or Special Meeting. No vote on suspension or removal may be taken unless a minimum fifteen (15) days written notice has been given to the member stating the charges preferred and the time and place of the meeting of the Board of Directors at which time such charges will be considered. At such meeting the member under charge will be accorded a full hearing.

**Section C:**

Charges against any officer or member may be preferred by any other member in good standing. Charges shall be in writing, clearly stating the facts, relied upon and accompanied by all affidavits or exhibits that are to be used in their support. Such charges shall be filed with the Secretary-Treasurer who will immediately notify the President. The President will call a meeting of the Board



of Directors to hear the charges. The Secretary-Treasurer will give at least fifteen (15) days written notice of the meeting to each member of the Board of Directors and to the accuser and to the accused. Such notice shall be in writing and will include a true copy of the charges and of the supporting affidavits and exhibits.

**Section D:**

Any member suspended or removed by the Board of Directors may appeal to the full membership of the Club. Such appeal shall be made in writing to the Secretary-Treasurer who will notify the President. The President will call a Special Meeting of the Club for the purpose of acting on the appeal. The Secretary-Treasurer shall give at least fifteen (15) days written notice to all members of the Club in good standing stating the date, time, place and reason for such Special Meeting. At the meeting of the full Club, the Secretary-Treasurer will read the original charges and the supporting affidavits, will read or display the accompanying exhibits, and will read the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors at which the charges were heard and action taken. A full hearing will be given the accuser and the accused. A vote will be taken by secret ballot of the members in good standing present, and a two-thirds vote shall be required to reverse the action of the Board of Directors.

**Section E:**

Any official or member of the Club who has been suspended or removed by the National Rifle Association of America shall automatically stand suspended or removed from this Club immediately upon receipt of official notice from the Secretary of the National Rifle Association to the Club Secretary-Treasurer.

**Section F:**

The National Rifle Association shall be given a complete report whenever a member of the Club is suspended or removed, showing charges and action taken.

**ARTICLE XI --- REVISIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE  
GOLDEN TRIANGLE GUN CLUB, INC.**

*The Constitution and By-laws of the Golden Triangle Gun Club, Inc., may be amended in either of the following ways:*

(1) By a majority vote of the eligible voting members of the Golden Triangle Gun Club, Inc. at the Annual Meeting, provided that at least 5% of the membership is present.

(2) By a super-majority vote (2/3) of the Board of Directors of the Golden Triangle Gun Club, Inc., 75% minimum of all Board members being present, under the following limitations:

(a) All members of the Golden Triangle Gun Club, Inc. shall be provided with a written copy of any proposed amendment at least thirty (30) days in advance of the time at which the vote on such an amendment is to be taken by the Board of Directors.

(b) All members of the Golden Triangle Gun Club, Inc. shall be provided with written notice at least thirty (30) days in advance of the time and place of any meeting of the Board of Directors of the Golden Triangle Gun Club, Inc., at which time a vote is to be taken on any proposed change in the Constitution and By-laws.

(c) If any member in good standing of the Golden Triangle Gun Club, Inc. shall present to the Board of Directors a petition bearing the signature of at least 10% of the membership in opposition to any proposed amendment to the Constitution and By-laws of the Golden Triangle Gun Club, Inc., the Board of Directors shall not have the power to adopt such amendment.

**Revised and Adopted by the membership on 04 August 2016**