

## TENNESSEE RIDGE RUNNERS BYLAWS

Adopted January 2006

### **Article I. NAME**

- A. The name of this organization shall be The Tennessee Ridge Runners (herein referred to as “the Club” or TRR).
- B. TRR 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 yearly updated rule book.

### **Article II. OBJECTIVE – STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

The purpose of this club shall be to promote the cowboy mounted shooting equestrian activity.

### **ARTICLE III. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- A. **Number of Directors** - The TRR Board of Directors should consist of no less than (6) six individuals.
- B. **Qualification of Board of Directors**
  1. All directors and officers must be annual single or annual family members in good standing with dues fully paid and must have been a member for one year prior to being elected.
  2. President—Must be an active, adult member of TRR in good standing for one year.
- C. **Terms**
  1. Board Members shall hold office for two-year terms until their successors are elected.
  2. Terms shall be staggered; three expiring on even years and three expiring on odd years. The manner is as follows: Expiring on even years: President, Treasurer and Director A. Expiring on odd years: Vice-President, Secretary, and Director B.
- D. **Election/Tenure**
  1. Nominations to replace the three expiring officer positions shall be accepted at Annual TNRR Anniversary Potluck dinner/meeting. Once the newly nominated individuals have accepted their “nominations”
  2. Elections should immediately follow at this Annual potluck/meeting electing two new officers and one new director. Majority vote by the members entitled to vote and present at this annual meeting shall determine election results.
  3. Director/Officer may be re-elected to the same position or another position as often as the membership re-elects them.
  4. Newly elected directors/officers shall take office January 1<sup>st</sup>.

### E. Board of Directors Shall:

1. Supervise and initiate all the activities of the club
2. Hold quarterly Board meetings at such a time and place as the President may determine. Board Meetings may be held at anytime at the request of two members of the Board. Proper notification to Board Members of meeting time and date shall include phone calls and/or emails.
3. Hold quarterly general meetings, one of which will be the November annual potluck/meeting. December Christmas party should not counted as a meeting.
4. Have a quorum present when voting at board meetings, which constitutes a majority of the members of the Board of Directors and shall include two officers.
5. Fill a vacancy in the Board of Directors in mid year through a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board. However, if more than one vacancy exists, new members of the board shall be elected at the next general meeting or special club meeting.
6. Dismiss any Officer or Board of Director by a 2/3 vote of the remaining Board of Directors on the following grounds:
  - a. Unapproved absence from three board activities in a row (ie events, board meetings, general meetings, etc.)
  - b. Repeated failure to adequately and reliably perform their assigned duties.
  - c. Conduct which is detrimental to the mission of the Club.

### F. Specified Duties of Officers

1. **President** –The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors. He shall prepare the agenda for the meetings of the Board. He may appoint necessary committees to carry out the Board’s programs. The President, within the limits of the law and 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. The President is responsible for maintaining contact with the Corporation Commission and other regulatory agencies necessary for the Club’s activities.
2. **Vice-President** – The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President or at the request of the President. Committees will be appointed by the President, but coordination and support will be delegated to the Vice-President.  
Practice Committee shall be organized by Vice- President.
3. **Secretary** - The Secretary shall conduct all official correspondence pertaining to the proper preparation and forwarding of all reports required of the Club by affiliated organizations including:
  - a. keeping true and accurate records of all meetings of the Club and Board
  - b. have custody of the books and papers of the Club, except the Treasurer’s books of account.
  - c. being responsible for re-affiliating the club annually with organizations approved by the Board.
  - d. writing articles for publication and keeping the media up to date regarding dates of matches, meetings, and practices.
  - e. keep Web master up to date

4. **Treasurer**- The Treasurer shall record all gifts, donations, and financial transactions of the Board in an accepted bookkeeping method including:
  - a. collects and record all dues received by the Club
  - b. maintaining membership lists in regards to current status and recording paid yearly dues.
  - c. providing financial records upon Board request and at meetings.
  - d. depositing funds of the Association in such Club bank account as designated by the Board; establish checking account that requires two of three officer's signatures for disbursements.
  - e. preparing all returns and reports required by taxing entities such as Federal income taxes and sales tax.
  - f. pay invoices in a timely manner.
  - g. maintain and balance check book; provide an official quarterly financial report.
5. **Two Board Members** – Two additional Directors shall be assigned duties as deemed necessary by the President or the Board including:
  - accepting responsibility for supervising a variety of Club Activities.

#### **ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP**

- A. **Eligibility** for membership in TRR shall be extended to all persons of good character who would like to: become members of an organization that works to promote the preservation of the cowboy lifestyles as defined by the CMSA.
- B. **Yearly Memberships shall** be recorded on a calendar year basis only, running from January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>; not prorated.
- C. **Membership Dues** shall be determined preferably in the month of October by the board of directors on an annual basis.  
No refund of dues.  
Dues should be paid by January 1<sup>st</sup>, but can be paid at the first shoot of the year (usually January) in order to meet the Club requirement that Members must be CMSA card holders.
- D. **Membership in TRR shall consist of two classes:**
  1. **Single memberships** are limited to one person regardless of age or gender, wishing to join and participate in club activities/practices/matches as a non- rider or rider. Any single membership rider under the age of 18 may compete only with a signed parental consent form. Single membership holders in good standing and at least 14 years of age will be allowed to vote on Club issues.
  2. **Family** – family membership shall be limited to immediate family members in the same household. This shall include the spouse and unlimited dependent children under the age of 18.
    - a. Only one family member may run for office.
    - b. Everyone in the family membership is allowed one vote if age 14 or older.
    - c. All family members are eligible for Champion titles.
  3. **Family or Single memberships are required to read the Club Bylaws and the yearly updated CMSA rule book, as they will be expected to abide by them.**
- E. **Absentee Voting** – Members have the option of an absentee vote. Notify President.

**F. CMSA Membership** -ALL TRR members single/family must also be members of the CMSA and are encouraged to participate in its functions.

**G. Membership Resignation, Suspension, Expulsion and reinstatement**

1. **Resignation** – A member in good standing must put their resignation on paper/in writing (email does not count), sign it, and submit it to any member of the Board of Directors. Members' resignation will not be cause for a refund of membership dues.
2. **Suspension-**
  - a. **OF Board Member** – Any member of the Board of Directors may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of members in good standing present at any special/general meeting. A fifteen day written notice shall have been given to such board member before the vote of suspension or removal. Such notice shall inform the said board member of the reasons for the charges and meeting date
  - b. **OF TNRR Member** – A majority vote of the Board of Directors may immediately put any member on suspension that has;
    - b1. Caused personal injury or committed an act that may cause injury to themselves, another person, property or livestock.
    - b2. Committed actions that have or are likely to bring discredit to mounted shooting, TRR, or CMSA.
    - b3. Conducted themselves in a manner unbecoming the TRR.
    - b4. Has been abusive or treated their horse in any otherwise inhumane fashion.
    - b5. Has acted in an unsafe manner when dealing with firearms.
    - b6. Refuses a directive of an TNRR board member, official or designated range master acting for their safe and efficient conduct of TNRR events or exhibiting unreasonably disruptive behavior stopping the efficient operation and enjoyment of TNRR event.
3. **Expulsion** – A member may be expelled from TRR by the Board of Directors by unanimous vote for any violation listed in Article IV, F2, b, b1-b6.
4. **Complaints** - Charges against any Board Member or TRR member may be brought forward by any member in good standing who witnesses recurring violations of general safety or bylaws. Charges shall be in writing, clearly stating the facts, accompanied by all affidavits or exhibits which are to be used. Such charges shall be filed any two Board Members who will immediately notify the rest of the Board members via phone or email. A special meeting will be held within two weeks having all Board members present, the accuser, and the supporting affidavits and exhibits.
5. **Reinstatement** – any member suspended/expelled by the Board of Directors may appeal to the full membership of the Club at the next regular meeting. At this meeting of the Club, the Board will present the evidence and minutes of the special meeting of the Board of Directors at which the charges were heard and action taken. A full hearing will be given for the accuser and 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.

## **ARTICLE V. MATCH RULES**

- A. **Competitions** held by the TRR will normally be governed by the rules and regulations laid down by the Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association.
- B. **Exhibition Riding** – Price and number of stages at practices and/or matches can be decided by the board on an event to event basis.
1. New riders/non-members may exhibition at new member discount price for two events, and then they must decide if they will join the club and/or CMSA.

## **ARTICLE VII. PRACTICE RULES**

- A. **Practices** should be held preferably once a month for the benefit of TRR members when a match is not scheduled.
- B. **Practice changes** or cancellations as decided by the Board of Directors or practice committee shall be posted on the website two weeks prior to scheduled practice date.
- C. **Non TRR** members are encouraged to attend practices/matches to see if they are interested in joining. Non members may only attend up to two TRR practices before they will be asked to join the club.
- D. **Non members** pay the same practice fee as members or as designated on match flier.

## **ARTICLE VIII. CLOTHING**

TRR will follow and enforce the yearly CMSA rules regarding dress code. The board will encourage all members to remain in their dress during awards ceremonies in the event pictures could be taken and to promote the cowboy spirit.

## **ARTICLE IX. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order should govern the club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these by-laws and any special rules of order the Club may adopt.

## **ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS**

Any proposed amendments to these by-laws may be introduced by the Board of Directors. Changes must be acted upon by the club membership at a general Club meeting, provided a copy of the proposed amendment has been mailed to all voting members at least 30 days prior to the meeting. A two-thirds vote of the members present is required to pass the amendment.

## **ARTICLE XI. EMERGENCY CLAUSE**

**These by-laws may be temporarily altered in full or in part when a majority of the Board of Directors decides an emergency exists.** This action must be deemed a temporarily expedient to best serve the interest of all the members of TRR.

## **ARTICLE XII. DISSOLUTION**

In the event TNRR is dissolved, all assets remaining after settlement of all outstanding indebtedness shall be distributed as determined by the remaining club membership to any group such as the following: a newly organized cowboy mounted shooting club, a local charitable organization such as scouts, 4-H, or those who have set balloons at events for TRR.