



SPRAGUE ROD AND GUN CLUB

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE SPRAGUE ROD AND GUN CLUB, INC

Revision 6	Date Issued 12/3/17	
<p><u>ARTICLE 1</u></p> <p>This organization shall be known as the Sprague Rod and Gun Club, Incorporated and its business address shall be: 90 Bushnell Hollow Road, Baltic, Connecticut 06330.</p> <p><u>ARTICLE 2 PURPOSE</u></p> <p><u>SECTION 1</u> The purpose of this Club shall be to develop an interest in the conservation and propagation of fish, game, and other forms of wildlife.</p> <p><u>SECTION 2</u> To assist in every feasible manner the restocking of the land, streams, and ponds of this vicinity with game, animals, and fish in an effort to secure better legislation for their protection and through education to promote better compliance with the laws.</p> <p><u>SECTION 3</u> To cooperate with like-minded organizations throughout the State in an effort to secure better legislation for their protection and through education to promote better compliance with the laws.</p> <p><u>SECTION 4</u> To establish and maintain a cordial relationship between the club members and the land owners in the interest of the conservation and protection of wildlife.</p> <p><u>SECTION 5</u> To inculcate a spirit of ethical sporting conduct among its members.</p> <p><u>SECTION 6</u> The Sprague Rod and Gun Club, Incorporated shall not be connected or affiliated with any other club, society, or organization except national, state, or county organizations that are beneficial to the purpose for which the Club was organized.</p>		



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<u>ARTICLE 3 MEMBERSHIP</u>		
<p><u>SECTION 1</u> Any person sixteen (16) years of age or over desiring to become a member must be sponsored by a member in good standing for at least two (2) years and have their signed application presented at a regular meeting. They shall be placed into a thirty (30) day probation period, but will be allowed full use of Club facilities.**</p> <p>**Prior to full membership privileges, the orientation program must be completed. (By-law addition December 1, 2013)</p>		
<p><u>SECTION 1-A</u> Initiation fee, first year's dues, and the required land assessment fee must accompany the application. The initiation fee shall be fifty (50) dollars. The land assessment fee shall be one-hundred-twenty-five (125) dollars to be paid in five (5) installments of twenty-five (25) dollars for the first five (5) years of membership. (Contingent on compliance with Section 1-A-1, if they do not comply all money shall be refunded.)</p>		
<p><u>SECTION 1-A-1</u> New members are to be placed on a thirty (30) day probation during which time their willingness to participate will be determined and evaluated. Subsequent to the thirty (30) day probation period they are to be judged before their peers at a regular meeting and so voted on.</p>		
<p><u>SECTION 1-B</u> Voting shall be by ball voting method. Any member voting so as to reject a new applicant must acknowledge the vote and state their reasons. No acknowledgment of the rejection vote will void that cast ballot.</p>		
<p><u>SECTION 1-C</u> Any applicant rejected may reapply at the end of a twelve (12) month waiting period.</p>		
<p><u>SECTION 1-D</u> Guests who use the ranges or have signed in at the bar 3 times per calendar year are to join the club or not be allowed into the ranges and bar area until they do so. This excludes family members up to the age of 21 and persons who attend competition matches, meetings, or club functions at this club.</p>		
<p><u>SECTION 2</u> Dues shall be eighty-five (85) dollars per annum and any due land assessment installments, payable November first of each year.(Dues change approved at a special meeting conducted for that purpose October 18, 2001)</p>		



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<p><u>SECTION 2-A</u> Any member age sixty-five (65) and older with ten (10) years minimum membership in the Club will be charged fifty (50) percent of the dues rate.</p> <p><u>SECTION 2-B</u> Members whose dues have not been paid by March 1 next, shall be dropped from the membership and upon re-application for membership will be obligated to pay all fees in accordance with Article 3, Section 1-A. Members who claim hardship may be approved by the BOD to postpone payment for up to one year past due without loss of time.</p> <p><u>SECTION 2-B-1</u> A member in good standing is defined as a member who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Pays their dues on time.➤ Willingly works Club functions.➤ Abides by Code of Conduct (Article 8, Section 5).➤ Has not received any reprimands from the B.O.D., verbal or written within the prior 12 months. <p><u>SECTION 3</u> Any member joining the Armed Forces shall be carried as a member until the beginning of the fiscal year following their discharge. Re-enlisted members are to be assessed regular dues.</p> <p><u>SECTION 4</u> No changes in dues or assessments may be levied against the members unless by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members voting on the question at a Special meeting warned for that purpose as provided in Article 5, Section 2 or at the Annual meeting warned for that purpose as provided in Article 5, Section 3.</p> <p><u>SECTION 5</u> This being a not for profit* organization, no charge shall be made to members for the use of Club property, concessions, or equipment, except such charges as may be fixed by the Directors, to reimburse the Club for the cost of maintenance and supplies incidental to such use. Permission to use such Club property, equipment, and concessions, can only be granted by the President or Vice-president. *(By-law change December 5, 2010)</p> <p><u>SECTION 6</u> Any member in good standing for thirty (30) consecutive years shall be granted a life membership.</p>		

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<p><u>SECTION 6-A</u> Life membership shall be granted to Past Presidents who have served at least two (2) years as President and have at least ten (10) years membership in good standing. (Affective November 1, 1997. Prior to this date revision 4 of the by-laws take affect.)</p> <p><u>SECTION 7</u> All members are expected to participate in the work activities required to keep this Club functioning.</p> <p><u>ARTICLE 4 OFFICERS</u></p> <p><u>SECTION 1</u> The officers of the Club shall consist of a President, Vice-president, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, and six Directors, all of whom acting together shall constitute a Board of Directors. No person shall hold office unless they shall have been a member for at least two years immediately preceding their election. The President, Vice-president, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, and Recording Secretary terms shall be for one (1) year. Directors' terms shall be for two (2) years. This Governing Board of Directors shall function as prescribed under Article 6 Section 6-A through Section 10. The Treasurer, Financial Secretary, and Recording Secretary shall receive a salary as set by the Board of Directors.</p> <p><u>SECTION 2</u> All officers and directors shall be elected at the November meeting. *Voting shall commence at 2:00pm on the 3rd Thursday of November and terminate at 6:00 pm. Voting will resume at the general membership meeting that evening. Voting will be overseen by two (2) club members not running for office.*(By-law addition December 5, 2010)</p> <p><u>SECTION 3</u> The election of officers shall be by acclamation unless a ballot is requested by any member present. A majority vote of the membership voting on the question shall elect.</p> <p><u>ARTICLE 5 MEETINGS</u></p> <p><u>SECTION 1</u> The regular meeting of the Club shall be held on the third Thursday of each month except by a two thirds vote of those voting on the question, at any monthly meeting. The meeting following that at which the vote is taken may be changed to a different date.</p>		



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<p><u>SECTION 2</u> A Special meeting may be called by the President, or in the President's inability to act, by the Vice president whenever it may appear necessary. A Special meeting must be called upon the written request of fifteen members. The Recording Secretary shall notify each member at last known address by First Class Mail of the time, place, and the business to be transacted at all Special meetings, and in all cases above, not less than ten (10) days notice.</p> <p><u>SECTION 3</u> The Annual Meeting of this Club shall be held during the month of December. All elected officers shall assume office at this meeting. At this meeting, the Treasurer shall read the Club's annual financial report.</p> <p><u>SECTION 4</u> The Board of Directors shall meet monthly at a date selected by them, and at such other times as the President may deem necessary. Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum.</p> <p><u>SECTION 5</u> At all meetings of the membership, twelve (12) members shall constitute a quorum. In the event that no quorum is present, the Board of Directors shall carry on the business of the Club.</p> <p><u>SECTION 6</u> The meetings must be run in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order to the best of the ability of the presiding officer.</p> <p><u>ARTICLE 6 DUTIES AND RIGHTS OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS</u></p> <p><u>SECTION 1</u> The President shall be chair and preside at all Club and Board of Directors meetings. The President shall sign all documents in the Club's name requiring such signature, the execution of which has been duly authorized by a vote of the Club or as provided for in the Constitution and by-laws.</p> <p><u>SECTION 2</u> The Vice president shall assume all duties, responsibilities, and functions of the President during any absence of the President.</p> <p><u>SECTION 3</u> The Recording Secretary shall keep, in a book provided for that purpose, a true record of all the proceedings of every meeting of the Club and Board of Directors. The Recording Secretary shall retain custody, a record of all documents and papers belonging to the Club. The Recording Secretary shall conduct its correspondence and maintain a suitable file for such correspondence. The Recording Secretary shall notify all members of meetings, as stated in Article 5, Section 2, and fulfill such other duties as may, from time to time, become necessary.</p>		



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<p><u>SECTION 4</u> The Treasurer shall receive all moneys paid to the Club, and deposit same in the Club's name in such bank or banks as the Board of Directors may direct. The Treasurer shall keep and maintain an accurate record of the financial condition of the Club. The Treasurer shall pay all bills by check, with the approval of the Board of Directors and the signed order of the President.</p> <p><u>SECTION 4-A</u> Two signatures are required for withdrawals of an amount over \$250.00 on the checking and savings accounts. (By-law amendment approved December 5, 2004 Annual Meeting)</p> <p><u>SECTION 5</u> The Financial Secretary shall collect all dues, land assessments, and initiation fees due the Club, remitting same to the Treasurer, who shall issue a receipt to the Financial Secretary.</p> <p><u>SECTION 6</u> The Permittee's duties are described in a separate document maintained by the Recording Secretary. The Permittee is to be hired, in the best interest of the Club, and may or may not be a member. The Permittee shall be hired from within the Club when possible, but not required, and is hired by the Board of Directors. When applicants from within the Club and outside the Club are considered equal, Club members shall have preference.</p> <p><u>SECTION 6-A</u> The Board of Directors shall have custody of the property of the Club. They shall have the power to mortgage in the name of the Club. Such power having been authorized, by a meeting for that purpose, with a two-thirds vote of the members present. Such meeting having been called by a First Class Mail notice to the last known address of every member in good standing. Such notice being sent ten (10) days prior to this meeting.</p> <p><u>SECTION 6-B</u> The Board of Directors shall be ex-officio's of all committees and shall appoint chairs of any or all committees. Appointed chairs shall choose their own committees, subject to approval of the Board of Directors. These chairs shall not make any expenditure relative to their activities, without the consent of the majority of their committees. The names of all committee chairs, officers, and directors shall be posted on the bulletin board of the Club.</p> <p><u>SECTION 6-C</u> Power to buy or sell Real Estate of the Club. Such a decision must be made by a two-thirds majority vote of members present with at least five (5) years consecutive membership in good standing, prior to the meeting held for such purpose. Members shall be notified of this meeting by First Class Mail at least ten (10) days previously.</p>		



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<p><u>SECTION 7</u> Any provision of these by-laws may be modified, amended, or repealed and new by-laws be adopted by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members voting on the question, at a special meeting warned for that purpose as provided in Article 5, Section 2, or at the Annual Meeting warned for that purpose as provided for in Article 5, Section 3.</p> <p><u>SECTION 8</u> Any officer, committee chair, or paid employee, upon leaving office, shall turn over to their successor all records, legal documents, and books in their possession belonging to the Club.</p> <p><u>SECTION 9</u> Any officer may resign from their position at any time. The resigned officer shall be compensated for their tenure of office. This resignation shall be in written form to the Board of Directors.</p> <p><u>SECTION 10</u> The Board of Directors shall have the authority to recommend dismissal of any officer or director who, in their judgment, is negligent in the performance of their duties. A two-thirds vote of the voting members present is required for dismissal. The Board shall appoint a replacement officer subject to the approval of the body.</p> <p><u>ARTICLE 7 NOMINATING COMMITTEE</u></p> <p><u>SECTION 1</u> A committee chair shall be appointed by the presiding officer at the regular May meeting and an additional six (6) committee members to be appointed at the September meeting, to nominate a slate of officers for the coming year.</p> <p><u>SECTION 2</u> The slate of officers, consisting of one candidate per office shall be presented at the regular October meeting. Any other nominations may be made at this meeting. Names of all nominees shall be posted on the bulletin board until the November meeting. Nominations shall close at the October meeting.</p> <p><u>ARTICLE 8 RESTRICTIONS</u></p> <p><u>SECTION 1</u> The Board of Directors of the Club shall expel from the property, any person or member, who conducts themselves so as to endanger the safety of those present, or cause possible injury to Club property.</p>		

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<p><u>SECTION 2</u> Any members, who after a hearing before the Board of Directors, deemed by them to have conducted themselves in a manner detrimental to the welfare of this Club, or the safety of its members, upon a two-thirds vote of that Board of Directors, may receive a written warning up to forfeit of their membership and the right to enter Club property.</p> <p><u>SECTION 3</u> No appropriation shall be made to any committee chair or others, unless notice has been given at the previous meeting stating how much money will be needed and for what it will be used. This will not apply to standing committees who have the power to spend One hundred (100) dollars between meetings in case of emergency or to standing committee chairs who have to purchase needed supplies to maintain the Club's operation.</p> <p><u>SECTION 3-A</u> The BOD shall request appropriations at the general membership meeting or a special meeting called for that purpose to be voted on by the membership for any amount exceeding \$1,000 except for emergent maintenance issues that are necessary for immediate club function. However the membership shall be notified at the next normal membership meeting of those emergent expenses.</p> <p><u>SECTION 4</u> The Board of Directors, at the end of each fiscal year, beginning in 1992, shall ensure that a percentage of the years' profits, determined by the members at the Annual meeting, are deposited in a separate account to be used for land purchases.</p> <p><u>SECTION 5</u> Members and guests will be treated with dignity and respect. The use of threatening, abusive, profane, or obscene language or acts is prohibited. A sign so designating shall be posted in a conspicuous location for all to see. Bartenders shall enforce this on a daily basis in accordance with the State of Connecticut Liquor Laws. Failure to comply with this rule or the Bartender in the enforcement of this rule may result in disciplinary action.</p> <p><u>SECTION 6</u> To avoid a conflict of interest, any officer or director on the BOD is prohibited from discussion or vote on issues that involve an employee related by marriage, blood, or cohabitation. The Permittee will not be allowed to be in office or on the BOD.</p>		

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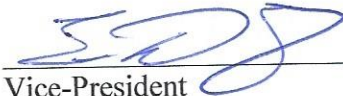
ARTICLE 9 BONDING OF OFFICERS AND AUDITING

SECTION 1 The Financial Secretary, Treasurer, and Permittee shall be bonded in an amount to be determined by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2 An Audit Committee shall consist of three members who shall audit the accounts of the Club at least once a year, or by request of the Board of Directors. They shall be elected at the Annual meeting, submitting their report to the Board of Directors and membership at the next Annual meeting or at such other times as requested.

This revision of the constitution and by-laws of the Sprague Rod and Gun Club, Incorporated cancels and supersedes all previously issued revisions, except revision 4 where: Past Presidents with ten (10) years membership prior to November 1, 1997 will receive life membership for only one (1) year served as President. This revision incorporates all changes that were approved at a Special meeting conducted for that purpose on May 15, 2016, Per Board of Directors.

 12/27/17
Chair, By-Law Committee Date

 12/27/17
Vice-President Date

 12/27/17
President Date