

**NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION  
CHARTER  
SECOND SCHEDULE**

**RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION**

**(Adopted on 29th March 2003)  
(Amended on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2005)  
(Further amended on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2006)  
(Further amended on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2019)**

**1) OBJECTS**

The objectives of the National Rifle Association (in these rules referred to as “the Association”) are the promotion and encouragement of Marksmanship throughout the Queen’s Dominions, in the interests of Defence and the Permanence of the Volunteer and Auxiliary Forces, Naval, Military and Air.<sup>1</sup>

**2) MEMBERS**

A. Registered Members

The Members of the Association shall consist of Life Members, Honorary Life Members, Annual Members and Junior Life Members and shall hereinafter be referred to as Registered Members.

a) Applications for Membership

Applications for Membership by any individual must be made in writing in such form as is prescribed by the Council from time to time to the Secretary General.

The admission of any individual as a Member of the Association shall be subject to the approval of the Council in its absolute discretion and without assigning any reason therefor. The Council may make conditions from time to time as to the required membership and other qualifications of proposers and seconders.

b) Annual Members

Any individual qualified pursuant to Rule 1 (a) above upon payment of the prescribed subscription shall, upon his or her name being entered in the Register of Members, become an Annual Member.

c) Life Members

Any Annual Member or individual entitled to be registered as a member pursuant to Rule 1 (a) above upon payment of the prescribed subscription to the Association for the general purposes thereof shall thereupon have his or her name entered in the Register of Members as a Life Member.

d) Honorary Life Members

The Council may from time to time elect any number of individuals to be Honorary Life Members of the Association and, upon their names being entered in the Register of Members, they shall become Honorary Life Members and shall thereupon have the rights and privileges of a Life Member.

e) Junior Life Members

A young individual under the age of 25 qualified to be a member pursuant to Rule 1 (a) above and upon payment of the prescribed subscription at any time shall, upon his or her name being entered in the Register of Members, have the rights and privileges of a Life Member until the end of the calendar year in which he or she becomes 25 years of age.

f) General Membership Provisions

- i) There shall be a Register of Registered Members in which shall be inserted the name and address of each Registered Member the date of his or her registration and any other particulars as the Council may from time to time direct. The Register of Members shall be kept under the superintendence of the Secretary General.
- ii) The Council shall be entitled to review annually and if considered necessary to revise or amend the rates of subscriptions, additional payments and donations payable by all classes of Members for the next following year. Notice of any such revisions or amendments which may be decided upon by the Council shall be published as provided in Rule 14 not later than the end of the year preceding the year in which such revisions or amendments are to take effect and such revised or amended rates shall thereupon become the prescribed subscriptions taking effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> January next following.
- iii) Annual Membership shall expire on 31<sup>st</sup> December next following the payment and acceptance by the Council of the Member's subscription. The Council may at any time in its absolute discretion and without giving prior notice or assigning any reason therefor refuse to accept the payment or renewal of a subscription from an Annual Member.
- iv) All annual subscriptions as determined by the Council in accordance with Rule 1 f (ii) above shall be due on the 1<sup>st</sup> January in each year. Any individual becoming an Annual Member shall continue to be a Member and be liable for his or her subscription until the 1<sup>st</sup> January next succeeding the time when he or she shall give notice in writing to the Secretary General of his or her intention to withdraw from Membership, or in the event of no such notice being given until payment of his or her subscription shall be in arrears for three months or shall have been refused by the Council pursuant to Rule 1 f (iii) above in which case his or her Membership shall forthwith cease and his or her name shall be struck off the Register of Members. The Council has power to suspend the rights of Membership at any time whilst a subscription remains unpaid.
- v) The Council may at any time expel from Membership or suspend temporarily or permanently from all or any of the benefits of Membership any Annual, Life, Honorary Life, or Junior Member of the Association whose conduct is in the opinion of the Council prejudicial or detrimental to the interests of the Association and an individual so expelled or suspended shall have no claim upon the Association.

B. Affiliated Bodies

- a) Any Rifle or Pistol Association, Rifle or Pistol Club or Contingent of Cadets, which shall comply with such conditions as may be from time to time determined by the Council, may be affiliated to the Association on subscribing such affiliation fee as shall from time to time be decided by the Council. All affiliation fees shall be due on the 1<sup>st</sup> January each year.
- b) The Council may at any time determine suspend or refuse to renew the affiliation of any affiliated body which shall not comply with the conditions for the time being in force with regard thereto, or the continued affiliation of which, whether by reason of the policy or conduct of such body or the conduct of some or any of the members thereof or otherwise, is in the opinion of the Council prejudicial or detrimental to the interests of the Association. The determination or suspension of affiliation of an affiliated body shall be without prejudice to the rights of any Member of the Association previously nominated thereby, but save as aforesaid no body or member of a body whose affiliation shall be determined or suspended shall have any claim upon the Association.

C. Associated Members

- a) The Council shall have power to offer to individuals, corporations, unincorporated bodies, firms and bodies associate or temporary Associate Membership of the Association on such terms and with such privileges as it shall prescribe from time to time. Such Associated Members shall not be entered into the Register of Members.
- b) Upon adoption of any Associated Membership scheme by the Council such scheme shall be notified in accordance with Rule 13 and shall be published similarly annually thereafter.
- c) The Council may at any time expel from Membership or suspend temporarily or permanently from all or any of the benefits of Membership any such Associated Member whose conduct (or where the conduct of some or any of its members) is in the opinion of the Council prejudicial or detrimental to the interests of the Association and an individual (or corporation, firm or body associate) so expelled or suspended shall have no claim upon the Association.

### **3) THE PATRON**

There shall be a Patron named by the Council.

### **4) THE OFFICERS**

- a) The Officers of the Association shall be the President, the Deputy President, Vice- Presidents, the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the General Council, the Treasurer and the Secretary General.
- b) Such Ministers of the Crown, Lords Lieutenant, senior commanders of the armed services of the United Kingdom, High Commissioners of the Commonwealth and Foreign Ambassadors and such other individuals as the Council may, from time to time, see fit to invite to serve as ex-officio Vice-Presidents during their respective periods in office shall upon acceptance become ex officio Vice-Presidents.
- c) The President, the Deputy President and Vice-Presidents (other than Ex-Officio Vice-Presidents), shall be elected at each Annual General Meeting and shall hold office until the Annual General Meeting of the following year, when they shall be eligible for re-election. Should

vacancies in any of these offices occur by death, resignation or otherwise, between such Annual General Meetings, the Council shall have power to fill up such vacancies.

Candidates for President, Deputy President and Vice-Presidents shall be proposed by the Council to whom representations may be made by any Registered Member in writing to the Secretary General.

- d) The Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and the Treasurer shall be appointed by the General Council.
- f) The Secretary General shall be appointed by the Council upon terms laid down by the Council. The Secretary General shall act as Secretary of the Council and of the General Council and shall attend all meetings unless the Council or the General Council (as the case may be) shall decide otherwise.

## 5) THE COUNCIL

- a) The Council shall be made up of not less than 9 and not more than 12 Members who have accepted office by completion of a Statement of Commitment in a form acceptable under the Charities Acts and as laid down by the Council and shall, accordingly, be the Trustees of the Association sometimes hereinafter called the Trustees and shall comprise:

The following Officers of the Association:

- The Chairman of the General Council,
- The Treasurer,

Other Trustees:

- The Chairman of the Shooting Committee, ex officio
  - The Chairman of the Membership Committee, ex officio
  - The Chairman of the Disciplinary Body, ex officio
  - 3 Members each elected by the General Council from among its Members each to hold office for a term of three years.
  - Not less than 1 and not more than 4 Co-opted Members approved by the General Council to hold office for terms of up to 3 years who shall be eligible for re-co-option. Proposals for co-option, including the initial term of each co-option, must be approved by a resolution of the General Council before taking effect.
- b) The 3 Members elected by the General Council shall hold office until the conclusion of the meeting of the General Council next following 31<sup>st</sup> July in the year of the end of their term of office even if they have previously ceased to be Members of the General Council.
  - c) The co-opted Members of the Council shall hold office until the conclusion of the meeting of the General Council next following 31<sup>st</sup> July in the year of the end of their term of office.
  - d) The Chairman of the General Council shall be the Chairman of the Council and shall be known as Chairman of the Association.
  - e) The Council shall appoint one of its Members as Vice-Chairman and in such role he or she will be primarily responsible for operational functions of the Council.
  - f) With the exception of the Treasurer and the Chairman of the Disciplinary Body, no Trustee shall hold office as a Trustee for more than two terms or six years, whichever is the greater,

unless in the case of the Chairman of the Council only he shall have held office as a Trustee immediately prior to his appointment. A former Trustee shall be eligible for re-appointment, re-election or re-co-option (as the case may be) to the Council after not less than one year following the end of his period of office.

## **6) POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL**

### a) Quorum

The quorum of the Council shall be 5 Members of the Council.

### b) Power to Act

The Council may act notwithstanding any vacancies in the Membership of the Council provided at all times that there are at least 7 Trustees.

### c) General Powers granted by the Royal Charter

The Council shall have the entire management of the property and funds of the Association, and the direction of all the affairs and concerns of the Association, and shall have power to purchase or otherwise acquire on behalf of the Association lands and tenements and other property, to erect and maintain buildings required for the purposes of the Association, and to dispose by sale, exchange or otherwise of the property of which the Association may become possessed. The Council shall also have power to borrow money for the purposes of the Association on the security of the property of the Association or any part thereof, or otherwise, and generally the Council may do all such acts and deeds as shall appear to them necessary or expedient to be done for the purpose of carrying into effect the Objects of the Association. Without prejudice to the generality of the powers conferred by the Rule and for the removal of doubt it is hereby declared that the Council may at their discretion invest any moneys of the Association in the purchase of or at interest upon the security of such stocks, funds, shares or securities or other investments or property movable or immovable of whatsoever nature and wheresoever situated as the Council in their discretion shall think fit with power at the like discretion to vary investments.

### d) By-Laws

The Council shall have power to make such By-Laws with respect to the summoning, notice, place, management and adjournment of their Meetings and generally with respect to the transaction and management of business by the Council or by any Committee of the Council, as they may think fit, no By-Law being in any case altered or new one proposed without at least one month's notice of such intention being given to each Member of the Council. The Secretary General shall cause such notice to be given to each Member of the General Council.

### e) Appointment of Committees

The Council shall have the power from time to time to appoint Committees of its Members to fulfil tasks specified but subject always to the approval of their decisions by the Council.

### f) Appointment of Directors of Subsidiaries and Associated Companies

The Council shall have power from time to time to appoint or approve the appointment of directors of subsidiary or associated companies and to do all that is considered necessary on behalf of the Association as shareholder of such companies.

g) Disciplinary Matters

The Council shall have responsibility for disciplinary matters.

h) Insurance

The Council shall have power on behalf of the Association to provide indemnity insurance to cover the liability of Officers and of the Members of the Council which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default, breach of trust or duty or which they may be guilty in relation to the Association. Provided that such insurance shall not extend to any claim from any act or omission which the Officers or the Council knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty or which was committed by the Officers and the Council in reckless disregard of whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not and provided also that any such insurance shall not extend to the costs of an unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the Officers and the Council in their capacity as Officers and/or Trustees of the Association.

## 7) THE GENERAL COUNCIL

a) The General Council shall comprise such of the following who have accepted office by signing an Acknowledgement of Confidentiality, Duties and Responsibilities in such form as approved by the Council from time to time and shall consist of:

- The Chairman
- The Treasurer
- 15 elected Ordinary Members
- Up to 15 elected Regional Members
- Up to 12 elected Shooting Discipline Members
- Up to 19 Ex Officio Members
- Up to 9 Co-opted Members

b) Members of the General Council

The Ordinary, Regional and Shooting Discipline Members, hereinafter called the Elected Members of the General Council, must be Registered Members of the Association and whose terms of office shall be for three years from the 1<sup>st</sup> August next following election.

c) Regional Members

A Regional Member shall be elected by Registered Members of the Association qualified to vote residing at the 30<sup>th</sup> April in the relevant Sports Council region as specified by the Council. The specified Regions shall be published in accordance with Rule 13 no less than annually.

d) Shooting Discipline Members

i) A Shooting Discipline Member shall be elected by Registered Members of the Association qualified to vote who have by the Closing Time on the 30<sup>th</sup> April declared to the Association as their primary shooting discipline the discipline that the Shooting Discipline Member shall be elected to represent.

- ii) The Council, advised by the General Council, shall from time to time determine the shooting disciplines which Shooting Discipline Members may be elected to represent. The specified Shooting Disciplines shall be published in accordance with Rule 13 no less than annually.
- e) Ex Officio Members
  - i) The Council, advised by the General Council, shall from time to time determine the Units of the Armed Services and Cadets and the National Shooting Bodies which will be entitled to appoint their chairman or other senior individual as determined by the Council as an ex officio representative of that Unit or Body.
  - ii) The specified Units and Bodies shall be published in accordance with Rule 13 no less than annually.
- f) Co-opted Members
  - i) The General Council may co-opt individuals as follows:
  - ii) Co-options may be made for periods of up to 3 years and Co-opted Members shall retire from office at the conclusion of the meeting of the General Council held next after the 31<sup>st</sup> July in the year of the end of their term in office. The Co-opted Members of the General Council shall be eligible for re-election at the end of their term of office.
  - iii) Vacancies in Co-opted Membership for whatever reason may be filled by the General Council at any time.
  - iv) Retiring Elected Members of the General Council and other candidates who are not elected to the General Council shall not be eligible for election as Co- opted Members within two years but shall not be debarred from co-option to Committees.
  - v) Individuals for Co-option who are not disqualified by Rule 6 f (iv) above to serve may be nominated by any two Members of the General Council or by the Council by giving notice in writing to the Secretary General not less than 14 clear days before the date of the meeting of the General Council at which a resolution for their Co-option will take place.
- g) Election of Elected Members
  - i) On the 31<sup>st</sup> July of each year, the Elected Members of the General Council who shall have been in office for three years since election or last re-election shall retire from office.
  - ii) Elected Members who are due to retire shall be eligible for re-election.
  - iii) The Secretary General shall ascertain and include on the Agenda paper for the first meeting of the General Council in each calendar year the names of those Elected General Council Members who will be due for retirement in that year and ascertain whether they are willing to be re-elected.
  - iv) The Secretary General shall publish in accordance with Rule 13 a list of vacancies occurring for Elected Members and invite Registered Members qualified to vote to make nominations by the Closing Time on the 30<sup>th</sup> April.

- v) The vacancies amongst the Elected Members of the General Council arising by retirement in any year shall be filled by the 31<sup>st</sup> July of the same year. The following procedures and timetable shall apply for nomination and election of Elected Members of the General Council, and where for the purposes of this Rule 7 any reference to the “Closing Time” means 5pm on the date in question.
- vi) No later than the 31<sup>st</sup> March, any individual desiring to be elected or re-elected as an Elected Member and any individual desiring to nominate any such individual must be a Registered and paid up Member of the Association.
- vii) By the Closing Time on the 30<sup>th</sup> April, applications from any individual (duly qualified as per Rule 6 g (vi) above desiring to be elected or re-elected as an Elected Member together with nominations from 3 Registered Members of the Association (also duly qualified as per Rule 7 g (vi) above) must be received by the Secretary General. Such applications and nominations shall be in writing and in such forms as the Council shall prescribe from time to time.
- viii) No later than the 30<sup>th</sup> April, all individuals desiring to vote must be Registered and paid up Members of the Association and, as the case may be, also qualified to vote for the persons so nominated.
- ix) If the number of valid nominations, received in accordance with Rule 6 g (vii) above, shall exceed the number of vacancies the Secretary General shall give notice in accordance with Rule 14 of a contested election and shall at the same time arrange for a vote to be taken. Subject to Rule 6 g (x) below, such notice shall be in such form and shall contain such instructions to Registered Members intending to vote as the Council shall determine.
- x) No later than the 31<sup>st</sup> May, voting papers shall be posted to each Registered Member of the Association who shall be qualified to vote for the individuals nominated. Members who are not so registered shall not be qualified to vote. Voting documents shall contain the names of all the candidates arranged in alphabetical order and votes shall be recorded by placing a cross in the space opposite the name of the candidate for whom the vote is cast. Each Member shall have a number of votes equal to the number of vacancies but not more than one vote may be cast for any one candidate. Voting papers may be returned to the Secretary General by post or by placing them in the ballot box provided at Bisley, but they must be received by not later than 6 p.m. on the second Monday of the Annual Prize Meeting (or by the 31<sup>st</sup> July if such Meeting shall not be held). Voting papers received by the Secretary General shall be deposited by him in the ballot box. Two scrutineers shall be appointed by the Council who shall open the ballot box on the appropriate date and declare the number of votes given to each candidate and nothing else. In the event of a tie for any place the Chairman shall give a second or casting vote.
- xi) Should a vacancy amongst the Elected Members of the General Council occur (hereinafter called a “casual vacancy”), the General Council shall have power to fill such casual vacancy. Any individual chosen by the General Council to fill such casual vacancy shall hold office and shall retain that office so long only as the vacating Elected Member would have retained the same had he not vacated his office.

## 8) POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL

### a) Role

The Role of the General Council and its Committees is to advise and make recommendations to the Council and to provide representation of the Membership of the Association.

### b) The Chairman and Vice-Chairman

- i) The General Council shall elect any Registered Member or Associate Member of the Association to be the Chairman for a term of up to 3 years. The Chairman shall hold office until the conclusion of the meeting of the General Council at the end of the term of office unless a new appointment has been made before such meeting of the General Council.
- ii) The Chairman in office may stand for re-election, but only so far as his total period in office will not exceed six years.
- iii) At the end of his term of office or upon a vacancy occurring the Council or any 2 Members of the General Council may nominate any other Registered Member or Associate Member of the Association for Chairman by giving notice in writing to the Secretary General at least 14 clear days prior to the meeting of the General Council at which the election will take place.
- iv) The General Council shall elect a Vice-Chairman from among its Members and whose term of office shall be for up to the end of that Member's current term of office on the General Council.
- v) Upon a vacancy as Vice-Chairman occurring the Chairman or any 2 Members of the General Council may nominate any other Member of the General Council for Vice-Chairman by giving notice in writing to the Secretary General at least 14 clear days prior to the meeting of the General Council at which the election will take place.
- vi) In the absence of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman at a meeting of the General Council the chair shall be taken by a Member of the General Council chosen by a majority of Members of the General Council who are present.

### c) Committees

- i) The General Council shall form and appoint the following Committees from among Members of the General Council:
  - The Shooting Committee shall include all Shooting Discipline Members plus at least 6 other Members of the General Council and shall advise the Council on all matters relating to shooting activities and events for the Association including the development of shooting in the regions, coaching and training programmes and encouragement of sponsorship.
  - The Membership Committee of at least 5 Members of the General Council which shall advise the Council on all matters relating to membership including the promotion and servicing of the membership of the Association throughout the United Kingdom and Overseas.

These two Committees shall sometimes be referred to as the Principal Committees.

- Such other committees or working parties as the Council or the General Council shall require and upon terms as laid down by the Council or the General Council (as the case may be).
  - ii) Each Committee shall appoint and keep in office a chairman and may appoint a vice-chairman and shall meet when directed by the chairman for the time being or at the request in writing of any 3 of its Members, or as directed by the Council.
  - iii) The chairmen of the Principal Committees shall be ex officio Members of the Council and shall hold office for a term or terms not exceeding 6 consecutive years. A former chairman of a Principal Committee shall be eligible for re-election as chairman of that Principal Committee after not less than one year following the end of his period of 6 consecutive years as chairman.
  - iv) A quorum for each of the Principal Committees shall be formed by not less than one half the number of its members appointed or elected under Rule 7 (c) (i) above.
  - v) The Committees shall have power to co-opt any individual, but so that the number of co-opted individuals shall not exceed the number of members appointed or elected under Rule 7 (c) (i) above.
  - vi) The Committees shall have powers to form sub-committees of their members. Any such sub-committee shall include members of the Committee of which it is a sub-committee to the extent of a minimum of the lesser of one half of its membership or three Committee members.
  - vii) Members of Committees shall be appointed for up to and normally 3 years. If members of Committees cease to be Members of the General Council during their period of office they shall be eligible for co-option.
  - viii) Members of Committees shall be eligible for re-election.
  - ix) Each Committee may invite individuals to attend their meetings whose specialised knowledge or skill will benefit the determination of a particular matter on its agenda. Such invited individuals shall not have a vote.
  - x) A Member of the Council or of the General Council may attend by invitation a meeting of a Committee of which he or she is not a member but may not speak unless invited to do so and may not vote.
  - xi) The General Council may form such other committees or working parties as it shall require and upon such terms as it may lay down.
  - xii) The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the General Council and the Treasurer shall be ex officio members of all Committees.
- d) Disciplinary Body
- i) The General Council appoint a Disciplinary Body in accordance with the direction of the Council.
  - ii) The Disciplinary Body shall appoint and keep in office a chairman and may appoint a vice-chairman.

iii) The chairman of the Disciplinary Body shall be ex officio a Member of the Council, but he shall not be subject to any limitation in the period of his office.

e) Election to Committees and the Disciplinary Body

Vacancies on Committees and the Disciplinary Body may be filled at any time by the General Council and, subject to prior notification of such vacancy, nominations may be made by any Member of the General Council by at least 14 clear days notice in writing to the Secretary General prior to a meeting at which an election is to take place.

f) Appointment of Treasurer

i) Any individual having appropriate financial expertise may be appointed as Treasurer.

ii) The appointment will be made for up to 3 years until the conclusion of the meeting of the General Council next following 31<sup>st</sup> July in the year of the end of the term unless a new appointment has been made before such meeting of the General Council.

iii) At the end of the term of appointment the Treasurer may stand for re-election. At the end of the term of appointment of the current Treasurer or upon a vacancy occurring any 2 Members of the General Council or the Council may nominate another individual or individuals by giving notice in writing to the Secretary General at least 14 clear days prior to the meeting of the General Council at which the election will take place.

g) Election of Elected Members of the Council

Upon a vacancy occurring on the Council from among the 3 Members of the Council elected by the General Council the Secretary General shall give prior notice of such vacancy and any Member of the General Council may nominate another individual or individuals by giving notice in writing to the Secretary General at least 14 clear days prior to the meeting of the General Council at which the election will take place.

h) Approval of Co-opted Members of the Council

By a resolution of the General Council, the appointment of any proposed Co-opted Member of the Council may be confirmed or rejected.

i) Casting Votes

In the case of an equality of votes upon any question the chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

j) Dates of Meetings

i) The General Council shall meet at least three times in each calendar year during the months of January or February, May or June and September or October.

ii) Special Meetings of the General Council may be summoned by the Chairman on his own authority, or by the Secretary General or by a request in writing of not less than 6 Members of the General Council.

iii) At least 28 clear days' notice must be given of meetings of the General Council.

- k) Agendas and Minutes
  - i) Members of the General Council shall receive and review copies of the minutes of the Principal Committees and of any other of its Committees and working parties, of the boards of any wholly owned subsidiary companies of the Association and of the Council.
  - ii) The General Council may review any matter referred to it by the Council, the Secretary General or at the request of any Member of the General Council by giving notice in writing to the Secretary General at least 14 clear days prior to the meeting of the General Council.
  - iii) The Agenda paper for each meeting of the General Council shall be sent to Members not less than 5 clear days before each meeting and the business of the General Council shall be confined to the subjects therein mentioned and to such other business as may be accepted by the chairman of the meeting.

## 9) MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

- a) Ordinary General Meetings
  - i) There shall be two Ordinary General Meetings of the Association in each year, one on a day not later than 30<sup>th</sup> June to be fixed by the Council, of which not less than 5 weeks notice shall be given, and to be called the Annual General Meeting, and the other to be held at Bisley during the Annual Prize Meeting, and to be called the Bisley General Meeting. Should, for any reason, the Annual Prize Meeting not be held, the Bisley General Meeting will not be held, and the business which should have been transacted at that Meeting will be done at the Annual General Meeting in the following year.
  - ii) An Ordinary General Meeting may transact any such business, although not in these rules specially mentioned, as shall be laid before it by the Council.
  - iii) The Agenda for the Annual General Meeting, including the names of the Officers proposed, shall be notified in accordance with Rule 13 to Registered Members of the Association at least 14 days before the date of the Meeting.
  - iv) The Agenda for the Bisley General Meeting shall be posted on the Secretary General's notice board by the first Saturday of the Annual Prize Meeting. Should, for any reason, the Annual Prize Meeting not be held, notice of the Agenda shall be sent to Registered Members not less than 14 clear days before the Annual General Meeting in the following year.
- b) Special General Meetings
  - i) Special General Meetings shall be held whenever summoned by the President or by the Chairman of the General Council or by the Council or on requisition as hereinafter provided, upon not less than 14 clear days' notice thereof being given.
  - ii) The Council shall on the written requisition of any 50 Registered Members of the Association qualified to vote convene a Special General Meeting within 28 days from the date of the receipt of such requisition. Such requisition shall state the particular object of and business to be transacted at such Meeting, notice of which shall be given not less than 14 clear days prior to the date on which such Meeting is to be held. The proceedings at

a Special General Meeting shall be regulated according to those hereinafter provided for an Ordinary General Meeting except that no business shall be transacted at a Special General Meeting other than that for which it shall have been convened.

c) Chairmanship of Meetings

If at any Meeting of the Association the President be not present at the time appointed for holding the same, the Deputy President or, failing him, the Chairman of the General Council shall preside, or failing him the Vice-Chairman, or failing both, the Registered Members present shall choose a Vice-President or a Member of the Council present to preside at such Meeting.

d) Quorum

10 Registered Members shall be a quorum at any General Meeting providing that the quorum necessary for a Special General Meeting or for the passing of a Special Resolution (as defined in Rule 14) shall be 35 Registered Members. If at any General Meeting of the Association the required number of Registered Members are not present within an hour after the time appointed for holding the same, the Meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week, and if at such adjourned Meeting the required number of Registered Members is not present within an hour after the time appointed for holding the Meeting, the Registered Members present shall be a quorum.

e) Votes

i) Voting Qualification

Every Registered Member of the Association present at any General Meeting and who shall have been for a period of at least 14 days immediately preceding registered as a Registered Member of the Association, shall be entitled to one vote, with this exception, that if at any Meeting, or upon the taking of a Poll, the number of votes given against and in favour of any matter are equal, the individual presiding, in Rule 8 c referred to as “the Chairman” may give a second or casting vote.

ii) Vote by Show of Hands

All questions for the decision of a General Meeting, having been put by the Chairman in the form of a motion proposed by the Council or as duly proposed and seconded by two Registered Members entitled to vote (as appropriate), shall be determined by a show of hands, the result to be declared by the Chairman unless, either before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands, a Poll be demanded as hereinafter provided.

iii) Poll

A Poll may be demanded in the circumstances set out in Rule 8 (e) (ii) above by the greater of 12 or one third of the Registered Members present at such Meeting and competent to vote. If the question be the election of a Chairman or adjournment of the Meeting, the Poll shall be taken forthwith amongst the Registered Members present and competent to vote. In any other case the same question shall be submitted to all Registered Members of the Association competent to vote, whether present at such Meeting or not, and shall be determined by the result of their votes given in writing. The Chairman shall sign the form of the question upon which the poll is demanded, and such question shall be

printed and forwarded by post by the Secretary General to each Registered Member, accompanied by a voting paper to be returned to the Secretary General within 21 days after the date of the same being posted from the office of the Association. Any vote not received at the office within that time shall not be counted. The result of the Poll shall be ascertained by two scrutineers to be named at the General Meeting, one by the Registered Member moving the question on which the Poll is demanded, the other by the Chairman on behalf of the Council. The result of the Poll shall be published in such manner as the General Meeting (or in default of such decision) as the Council shall decide. The result of the Poll shall be deemed to be the decision of the Meeting at which the Poll was demanded.

iv) Notices

For the purpose of a Poll and of any notices to be given to the Registered Members it shall be sufficient if the voting paper or notice be sent by post to the address of such Registered Member as registered at the office of the Association.

v) Time and Place of General Meetings

Subject to the provisions of Rule 8 (a) above the Council shall fix the time and place of all General Meetings, whether Ordinary or Special.

## 10) SHOOTING COMPETITIONS

a) Promotion of Shooting Competitions

There shall be Meetings for shooting at such times and in such places as shall be deemed by the Council most advantageous to the advancement of the objects of the Association. Announcement shall be made by the Council from time to time of the date and place of any Meeting for shooting competition proposed to be held in the ensuing year. There shall be such prizes open to such individuals or classes of individuals as competitors, and on such terms and on payment of such entrance fees as may be fixed by the Council from time to time; and all matters connected with the competition for such prizes shall be in the direction of the Council. The Council shall have power to make and enforce regulations for the conduct of Meetings for shooting competition, or to be observed by individuals attending at the time.

b) Awarding of Medals and Prizes

The Council shall be entitled to give to each affiliated Rifle or Pistol Association both in the United Kingdom and Commonwealth and Armed Service Units and Cadets both serving in the United Kingdom and abroad a medal or medals to be competed for with service or target rifles or with service or centre fire pistols as determined by the Council from time to time.

## 11) FORMING OF ASSOCIATIONS

Counties and Overseas Territories may, with the approval in writing of the Council combine to form an Association.

## **12) ANNUAL REPORT**

An Annual Report embracing the audited financial statements of the Association shall be drawn up under the direction of the Council and notified in accordance with Rule 13 to Registered Members of the Association at least 14 clear days before the Annual General Meeting for review.

## **13) AUDITORS**

The Annual Financial Statements of the Association shall be audited. The Auditors shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office until the Annual General Meeting the following year, when they shall be eligible for re-election. The Council shall have the power to fill any vacancy in the office of Auditor between such General Meetings. Any 5 Registered Members qualified to vote may propose an alternative Auditor by giving not less than 28 clear days' notice in writing to the Secretary General prior to the Annual General Meeting.

## **14) ADVERTISEMENT**

All notices of Meetings and other notices required to be given to Members generally shall at the Council's discretion be published in the Journal of the Association or circulated to Members, or advertised in such periodicals or newspapers as the Council may determine.

## **15) ALTERATION OF RULES/SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS**

The above Rules shall not be altered or added to except by a Special Resolution passed at a General Meeting. A resolution of the Association shall be deemed to be Special which has been duly passed at the Annual General Meeting of the Association, or some adjournment thereof or at a Special General Meeting, and no such resolution shall be proposed unless a notice in writing of the terms of such resolution proposed by the Council or signed by two Registered Members qualified to vote as proposer and seconder thereof shall have been given to the Secretary General or sent to him by registered post, so as to reach the office of the Association not less than twenty-eight days previous to the Annual General Meeting or the Special General Meeting as the case may be. The Council shall cause notice to be given as provided in Rule 13 of all such proposed resolutions at least 14 clear days previous to such General Meeting. No substantial amendment to such resolution shall be adopted unless a notice in writing of the terms of such amendment proposed by the Council or signed by two Registered Members qualified to vote as proposer and seconder thereof, shall have been given to the Secretary General or sent to him by registered post so as to reach the office of the Association not less than ten days previous to such General Meeting. The Council shall cause all such proposed amendments to be notified as provided in Rule

13 previous to such General Meeting, provided that any amendment to such resolution if carried unanimously may be adopted, although no previous notice thereof shall have been given.

## 16) ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

- a) Email – Any communication that the Association is required to make with any Member under these Rules may be sent by electronic means to the electronic address of that Member shown in the Register. Any electronic communication to the Association shall be effective only when actually received in readable form to the electronic address specified by the Secretary General for that purpose.
- b) Websites – The Association may establish and maintain websites.
- c) Communication - The Secretary General may satisfy any obligation to send information to Members generally by taking all of the following steps:
  - i) displaying the information on the Website;
  - ii) sending an email to each Member who has provided an address for electronic communication to the Association stating that the information is available for viewing on the Website;
  - iii) sending the information by pre-paid bulk post to any other Member at his postal address shown in the Register; and
  - iv) making a copy of the information available for inspection at the offices of the Association by any Member.
- d) Journal – The Association may publish a Journal in printed or electronic form. Notices published in an issue of the Journal shall be deemed received by each Member 14 days after the date of publication of that issue. If the Journal is published in electronic form only, the Secretary General shall notify Members promptly when each issue becomes available on the website.
- e) Polls – Any vote to be taken by a poll may be taken by using a website or other electronic means provided by an external service provider (the "Provider") selected by Council and who fulfils the requirements of this Rule. The Provider must collate and count all votes and report the result to Council. The Provider must not report how each Member voted. The Provider must send at least one email to each Member who has provided an address for electronic communication to the Association and a notice by pre-paid bulk post to each other Member, in each case with the information necessary to enable that Member to cast a vote. The Association must send to each Member who has not provided an address for electronic communication upon request by that Member a voting paper in accordance with Rule 9(e)(iii).
- f) Post – Any communication to be given to any Member may be sent by pre-paid post to the postal address of the Member shown in the Register.
- g) Updating – Each Member is responsible for notifying the Association of any changes to the postal address or electronic address of that Member.