

Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club

P. O. Box 24, Middleburgh, NY 12122

Bylaws – 10/5/17

Article I. Purpose.

Section 1. This club shall be known as the Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club, Inc.

Section 2. The purpose of the club is:
To promote better sportsmanship in the community; to aid in the proper distribution of fish and game; to promote interest and good sportsmanship among youth; to cooperate with State and Federal Government in preventing a pollution of fishing streams; and to help in the preservation of wildlife.

Article II. Directors and Officers.

Section 1. Requirements for holding office. Any member running for office must meet the following requirements:
1. Membership in good standing for one (1) year;
2. All dues paid;
3. No felony convictions (Extenuating circumstances can be presented to the Board of Directors and will be dealt with in the same manner as Article V, Section 8.)
4. Must be 21 years of age or older.
5. Directors and Officers must live in Schoharie County or a school district that is in Schoharie County.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall consist of not less than six (6) active members. Two (2) Directors shall be elected to regular terms of three (3) years at the annual meeting, their terms to commence upon adjournment of the meeting.

Vacancies on the Board of Directors for un-expired terms shall be filled at any regular meeting. There must be at least one nominee more than the positions to be filled, voting to be by secret ballot only.

Section 3. The Officers of the Club shall be the President, Vice- President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers shall be elected at the annual meeting for terms of one (1) year, their terms to commence upon adjournment of the meeting, providing they are 21 years old and have no felony record. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as provided for Directors. Voting to be by secret ballot only and subject to approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Any Director, Officer, or Club member may, at any regular meeting, or at any special meeting called for that purpose at which a quorum of the members shall be present, be removed from office or membership by a vote of not less than two thirds of the members present.

Notice of the time, place, and object of any such meeting shall be given by the Secretary by mailing at least five (5) days previous to the date of the meeting, postage prepaid, a copy of such notice to each member at his residence or place of business as same shall appear on the books of the Association, and to the Director, or Officer, or Club member against whom charges are to be presented. Such Director, or Officer, or Club member shall, at the same time, be informed in writing of such charges, and at such meeting shall have the opportunity to be heard in person, by counsel, and to produce and examine witnesses.

Section 5. The Executive Committee shall consist of present Officers of the Club, Directors, and immediate past President (having served at least one (1) full term), and chairmen of committees. A quorum of six (6) will be required for legal action.

Section 6. Standing committee chairmen, if deemed necessary, shall be appointed by the Executive Committee each year at the Annual Meeting. These chairmen shall appoint at least two (2) other members to their committee.

Section 7. Whenever an elective office shall become vacant or a member who has been elected dies, resigns, or is otherwise incapable of

serving after his election, the President shall, not later than the second regular meeting thereafter, order an election to fill such office for the unexpired term thereof, or the full term, as the case may be.

Section 8. If an officer is absent for three (3) consecutive meetings without good cause, the President must declare a vacancy for that office on the night of the third missed meeting. Nominations and elections will be held at the next meeting for that office.

Article III. Duties of Officers.

Section 1. The duties of the President: It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings; to appoint all non-standing committees; to announce all business; to state all motions; to put all questions to a vote; and to announce result and maintain order at all times. The President shall appoint committees to cover contingencies arising within the Club. It shall be the obligation of the members of such committee to find a substitute if, for a valid reason, they are unable to fulfill their duties.

Section 2. The duties of the Vice President shall be: In the absence of the President, the same as those of the President. The Vice-President shall assume the office of the President in the event the President vacates his office for any reason. In addition, the Vice President, or his designee, shall initiate an investigation of every application submitted for membership.

Section 3. The duties of the Secretary shall be: To keep a correct record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Club, and conduct the Club's correspondence. He shall deliver at the expiration of his term of office all books, papers, and other property, subject to his keeping to his successor in office.

Section 4. The duties of the Treasurer shall be: To receive all money of the Club, and safely keep and disburse same, and to enter a statement of the same in the minutes. He shall, at the expiration of his term of office, or when legally called upon, deliver all money, books, and paper of his office to his successor. The Treasurer must present the books to the Board of Directors for their audit and review every June and December. The Treasurer is to be bonded for a dollar amount deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee, the fee to be paid by the Club.

Section 5. Duties of the Executive Committee: It shall be the duties of the Executive Committee to act as an advisory board for the President; plan activities of the Club to be presented to the membership for approval; to transact all normal business arising between meetings; to act as a grievance committee upon request of the President; to fix special meeting dates and approve incidental expenditures in an emergency up to five hundred (500) dollars; to approve all other non-emergency expenditures before incurred up to fifty (50) dollars.

Section 6. All committees of any event of the Club shall, at the conclusion of an event, or at the next regular meeting, give a detailed written report to the Executive Committee and report the total amount of money collected, spent, and any profit or loss from that event to the general membership.

Section 7. All motions to spend sums exceeding \$150.00 by any member or committee for any purpose must be made at one of the general membership meetings, and approved by those attending, except where such sums are for building repairs or emergencies, and for normal recurring expenses.

Section 8. When bills against the Club shall result from transactions of a committee, either standing or special, such said bill, before being accepted and ordered paid, shall first be endorsed as approved or disapproved as the case may be, by the committee responsible for creation of the bill.

ARTICLE IV. Meetings and Quorums.

Section 1. The annual meeting shall be the first Thursday of January at the regular meeting place of the Club, unless specially arranged.

Section 2. The regular meeting of the Club shall be the first Thursday of each month at 7:00PM.

Section 3. Ten (10) members will constitute a quorum for the transaction of legal business.

Section 4. Officers will be elected at the annual meeting.

Section 5. The voting for Officers and Directors will be by secret ballot only.

ARTICLE V. Membership and Dues.

Section 1. The Club's membership shall be limited to three hundred (300) members, this number not to include life members.

Section 2. Payment of Dues: Members not paid by the March meeting will be dropped from the Club roster. A member can be reinstated for a fee of \$25.00 plus the cost of yearly dues if applied for by the June meeting of the same year.

Section 3. The amount of dues, initiation and life-time membership fees shall be reviewed and set each year at the regular meeting in December.

Section 4. Eligibility for new membership: A person must be 18 years of age. He or she must be sponsored by a club member in good standing, file an application, and submit an initiation fee plus dues for one year. The application will be read at the meeting submitted. Their application will be voted on by secret ballot at the next regular meeting and subject to three quarter voter approval. The applicant shall not be present during voting. If the applicant is not voted in, his money will be promptly refunded.

Section 4a. Family Membership: Family membership shall consist of a Member, and his/her spouse. Such "family members" shall have all the rights and privileges of membership, including the right to vote at Club meetings. The spouse's membership card shall carry the designation "Family member". The dues for family membership shall be established at the December meeting. Application for family membership will utilize the procedure identified in Section 4. Existing members wishing to take advantage of family membership must file a revised application providing supplemental information about their spouse. Upon approval by the membership, and payment of the required additional dues, a Family Membership card shall be issued to the Spouse.

Section 5. Any member 65 years of age or more having been a member in good standing for ten (10) years or more, including the probationary period, will be given a free lifetime membership.

Section 6. Children of members up the age of eighteen (18) wishing to join, must meet age requirements, must file an application with one year's dues (no initiation fee) and be voted on as any other applicant. If there is a membership waiting list, these applicants will go to the top of the list.

Section 7. Lifetime membership in the Club may be purchased by any member of the Club after ten (10) consecutive years of good standing in the Club, for five (5) years of the current dues payable in five consecutive monthly payments or less. If a member fails to complete these terms of payment, the money already submitted will be applied to yearly dues; no money will be refunded.

Section 8. Any regular member may have his or her membership revoked following the same procedures stated in Article II, Section 4. No membership fees will be refunded.

Section 9. Lifetime membership in the Club will not be given to anyone as part of a raffle or contest.

Section 10. Use of firearms (or bows) will not be allowed by any member or guest when he or she has consumed alcohol.

Section 11. Any new applicant for membership in the Rod and Gun Club, if accepted, shall be put on one (1) year probation. Upon being

accepted as a member, said applicant will be given their membership card. During the probationary period the new member will be expected to give a minimum of eight (8) hours work. If at the end of the probationary period the new member has fulfilled their obligations, they will be accepted as a member in good standing. Failure to do so will result in forfeiting membership fees and initiation fees.

Section 12. The By-Law committee shall consist of not less than three (3) nor more than seven (7) members of the Club, excluding Officers.

Section 13. During any scheduled event, the Range Officer, New York State Certified Training Instructor, or person in charge has full authority over the Club and its grounds. During non-scheduled, individual use of the Club's outdoor parallel ranges, new pistol range behind the Club meeting room and only one (1) other outdoor range can be used at a time. It is the member's responsibility to use the "RANGE IN USE" sign attached to the outside corner of the indoor archery range when they are using a range. They are also responsible for removing the "in use" sign when they are finished.

ARTICLE VI. Rules and Order of Business.

Section 1. The order of business at all meetings shall be as follows:

1. The Pledge of Allegiance
2. Reading of Minutes of Previous meeting
3. Calling roll of Officers
4. Reports of Committees
5. Reports of Secretary
6. Report of Treasurer
7. Unfinished business
8. New Business
9. Adjournment

Section 2. The presiding officer shall vote only in case of a tie.

Section 3. All bills and expenditures of the Club incurred, must be reported at a regular meeting and approved by the membership, except normally recurring expenses.

ARTICLE VII. Amendments.

Section 1. No alteration or amendment to the constitution or by-laws shall be adopted unless it shall be offered in writing at a regular meeting and presented at two consecutive meetings thereafter, and voted on at the last of the two consecutive meetings. Two-thirds of the vote of members present shall be required for adoption.

Section 2. Business to be discussed at meetings on a yearly basis:
January - election of officers and directors
February - Non-standing committee appointments
March - last month for dues - Fishing Derby
May - Fishing Derby
October - Camp Colby nominees, Children's Christmas party
November - appoint nomination committee
December - review amount of dues, fees, and By-Laws

ARTICLE VIII. Range Rules - Safety.

Section 1. No alcohol is permitted on any Club range (archery or firearms), be it indoors or outdoors, at any time, except during work parties. No alcohol at any work party where firearms or archery equipment is present. Non-club members with formal permission to use the ranges who fail to abide by the above rules will have their permission revoked. Signs stating "No Alcohol Allowed" will be posted on all ranges. The Club website and Facebook page will be the source of official notification of club issues. Anyone willfully damaging Club property will be expelled with prejudice after a Board of Directors and Executive Board review.

Section 2. All firearms will be unloaded and the actions open when anyone is down range.

Section 3. There will be no simultaneous use of the outdoor ranges, with the exception of the NYS Hunter Safety Course. Unless simultaneous

use consists of the new pistol range behind the Club meeting room and any one (1) of the other club outdoor ranges. It is the member's responsibility to use the "RANGE IN USE SIGN" attached to the outside corner of the indoor archery range. They are also responsible for removing the "in use" sign when finished.

Section 4. During any scheduled event, the range officer, NYS Certified Instructor, or person in charge has full authority over the Club and its grounds.

Section 5. Anyone that will be handling a handgun on club property must have or be one of the following:

- Have a valid New York State Pistol License
- Be in the age bracket of the NYS law to handle a handgun with a licensed pistol permit holder
- Be a Law Enforcement Officer allowed to handle a handgun in New York State
- Be legally allowed to own and possess a handgun in your home state and legally be allowed to bring it to New York State to participate in an event with a Handgun, i.e. NRA sanctioned shooting event. (NYS Law S265.20 of the penal law exemptions, section 13)

Section 6. No discharge of a firearm on any outdoor range will be permitted after 11:00 PM, nor before 9:00 am on Weekdays, and 11:00 AM on Sundays, except during hunting season.

ARTICLE IX. Use of Club facilities and property.

Section 1. Table and Chair Use: A member deposit fee of \$5.00 per table and \$1.00 per chair will be collected prior to removing tables or chairs from the Club for temporary private use. The deposit will be returned in full upon return of the borrowed items in the same condition as received. Damages, if any, will be collected in amounts sufficient to cover full replacement value of the damaged items. Damages in excess of the deposit will be due and payable at the time of return. The Director (or alternate) in control of the subject loaned items will be present upon the removal and return of said items, and will not permit the removal without obtaining a signed agreement and deposit from the borrower.

Section 2. Use of club property and facilities is a privilege of membership. Members allowing non-members the use of their access card for un-escorted use of club property and facilities, upon the determination of the Board of Directors, will lose their access privileges for 6 months on a first offense, and membership will be revoked upon a second offense. Non-club members may only use club ranges during formally scheduled events open to the public, or when accompanied by a club member. A club member is limited to two (2) guests at a time, exclusive of immediate family members.