



# **Guilford Sportsmen's Association**

## **Rules and Regulations**

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## **SEC. 1. CLUB HOUSE RULES:**

- a. The clubhouse must be kept clean and orderly. This is the responsibility of all members.
- b. No cleaning of fish or game in the clubhouse except in preparation for club functions.
- c. Do not leave perishables in the kitchen trash can.
- d. No dogs or pets will be allowed in the clubhouse unless special occasion approved by the Board of Directors.
- e. No firearms will be allowed on the main floor of the clubhouse.
- f. During meetings, no boisterous gatherings in the kitchen area, refreshments committees only during actual preparation of refreshments.
- g. There shall be no smoking in any indoor facility of the G.S.A..

### **THE LAST MEMBER TO LEAVE THE CLUBHOUSE SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

- h. All ashtrays and garbage containers must be emptied into the dumpster.
- i. Coffee pots and oven range must be off.
- j. All lights are to be turned off with the exception of the clock.
- k. In the winter, the thermostat in the kitchen and meeting room must be turned down to 50 degrees.
- l. Check the fireplace if it has been used. Fire must be well burned down or out. Logs must not be in a position that will allow them to roll out. Make sure the fire screen is closed. Never leave a large active fire, wait until it burns down if you must.
- m. All doors and windows must be locked.
- n. Go over check list at the door.
- o. Lock main gate on the way out if you are the last one to leave the club property.
- p. The duplication of keys to any GSA facility, except by authorized personnel is prohibited. Keys lost must be reported to the proper authority and a replacement will be provided. No Unauthorized person shall possess a key to any GSA security area.

## **SEC. 2. GROUNDS:**

- a. No trees are to be cut down unless authorized in writing by the Board of Directors.
- b. Large pond light to be used for special club events only.
- c. Any member running dogs must check for and clean dropping from improper areas.
- d. Motor vehicles, including mini-bikes and motorcycles, are to be used on roads or designated parking areas only.
- e. No snowmobiles allowed on GSA property.
- f. Speed limit on club property will be 15 mph.
- g. Limitations on camping will be one (1) week continuous.
- h. No trailers will be stored.
- i. Garbage will be personnel responsibility of each camper. Camper must take garbage with them when they leave.
- j. Campers will not use clubhouse facilities such as toilets and cooking facilities or as sleeping quarters.
- k. No trailer sanitary facilities to be dumped on club grounds.
- l. No trees will be cut for camp fires. Campers must make their own arrangements for firewood or burn dead wood in the area.
- m. Guest will be allowed to camp with members only.

## **SEC. 3. PICNIC AREA:**

- a. Police your own activities, place trash in the dumpster, if trash barrel is used dump entire contents into the dumpster.
- b. In the event of broken glass, all pieces must be picked up and placed in the dumpster.

## **SEC. 4. HUNTING ON CLUB CONTROLLED LAND:**

- a. Only GSA members are allowed to hunt and there children under the age of 18.
- b. All hunters must have a hunting license and abide by the laws of the State of Connecticut.

- c. No hunting will take place in established safety zones.
- d. Only shotgun, muzzleloader and bow hunting are allowed.
- e. No handguns or rifles are allowed to be in possession of hunters while hunting.
- f. Hours and dates for hunting will be established and posted by the Board of Directors annually.
- g. Pheasant hunters are limited to two (2) birds per day per member.
- h. Deer hunting is by permit only.
- i. All permits quantity of permits and distribution of permits is the responsibility of the Board of Directors. Distribution will be determined by lottery. No member will receive more than one (1) permit until all interested members have been given an opportunity to receive an initial permit.
- j. Vehicles may not be driven on unimproved roadways or logging roads during hunting seasons except for:
  - 1. Stocking purposes
  - 2. Retrieval of harvested game
  - 3. Wood cutting during non-hunting hours with permission of Board of Directors
  - 4. Road maintenance
- k. No permanent tree stands may be constructed on club property for hunting purposes.
- l. Portable tree stands are permitted but are the responsibility of the owner.
  - 1. The use of a safety harness when hunting from a tree stand is mandatory.
  - 2. Each tree stand must have the member's name and a date attached and at a readable height.
  - 3. A member must obtain permission from the owner of another members tree stand before using another member's tree stand.
  - 4. Tree stands must maintain a minimum separation of 50 yards
  - 5. Tree stands must be maintained to ensure safety and will be monitored by the Tree Stand Safety Committee. The responsibility for tree stand safety will come under the Ecology Chairman's duties.
  - 6. The use of a safety harness when hunting from a tree stand is mandatory.
  - 7. Each tree stand must have the member's name and a date attached and at a readable height.
  - 8. A member must obtain permission from the owner of another members tree stand before using another member's tree stand.

9. Tree stands must maintain a minimum separation of 50 yards
  10. Tree stands must be maintained to ensure safety and will be monitored by the Tree Stand Safety Committee. The responsibility for tree stand safety will come under the Ecology Chairman's duties.
- m. There will be 3 separate hunting sessions for pheasant hunting on Saturdays and Thanksgiving. Session one (1) will begin at 8:00am and end at 9:30am session two (2) will begin at 10:00am and end at 11:30am session three (3) will begin at 12:00pm and end at 1:30pm. Hunters will be evenly divided between sessions and they will alternate sessions each Saturday during the season. Birds will be evenly stocked. After 1:30pm all club members will be allowed to bird hunt.
- n. Only one (1) dog per hunting party is allowed on Saturdays and Thanksgiving day.
- o. Hunting parties may not consist of more than five (5) licensed hunters (5 guns). Hunting parties may not contain more than one (1) non-licensed child under the age of 12 years old per licensed adult, and not more than two (2) junior license holders, between the age of 12-15 years old per licensed adult. Hunting parties may not be greater than six (6) people of any age, (5 guns).
- p. ATV Use Policy.

The off-road use of motorized vehicles such as ATVs, snowmobiles, motorbikes and any other motorized conveyance on Club property is prohibited.

Exception:

A member in good standing that has been issued a handicap permit by the State of Connecticut may apply for a special permit from the Executive Board to use an ATV during the deer hunting season only. The permit will be issued at the sole discretion of the Executive Board. This permit will be valid only during the hunting season for which the permit was issued. Violations of any Club rules related to the operation of a motorized conveyance will result in the revocation of said permit.

The following requirements to qualify for this permit must be presented to the Executive Board to their satisfaction:

1. The applicant must be a member in good standing.
2. The applicant must possess a State of Connecticut issued handicap permit.
3. The ATV must have a current State of Connecticut registration.
4. The member must have a valid hunting license and all State of Connecticut permits for the season that he is applying to hunt.
5. The member must have received a permit from the Club for hunting during the specific season that he wishes to hunt.
6. The member must show proof of liability insurance.

Rules related to use of a motorized ATV:

- Speed limit of 5 MPH may not be exceeded.
- ATV must have a suitable muffler to minimize noise output.
- Only one rider per ATV is permitted.
- In the morning: An ATV engine may not be running within one half hour before legal shooting time until one hour after legal shooting time commences.
- In the evening: An ATV engine may not be running during the last hour of legal hunting time.
- No loaded firearms are allowed on the vehicle.
- Lights must be on when the vehicle is running.
- ATV must keep to the established roads and trails. No trailblazing allowed.
- The club owned ATV(s) are not available for use by members for hunting purposes.

**SEC. 5. POND:**

- a. Members, spouses and children only, unmarried members are permitted one (1) guest of the opposite sex to fish the pond.
- b. All anglers must possess a valid Connecticut fishing license.
- c. Parent(s) must supervise their children.
- d. Children must be accompanied by an adult member.
- e. Opening and closing dates are set by the Pond Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.
- f. Fishing from shore and wading only.
- g. Worms and artificial lures only. No live bait or dead bait of any kind other than worms.
- h. No shooting in the pond.
- i. No fish or marine life is to be placed in the pond other than by or under the direct supervision of the Pond Committee with the approval of the Board of Directors.
- j. Limits: two (2) fish per day per angler, as specified above.
- k. Taking of bass is subject to all Connecticut State rules and regulations.
- l. No limit to “catch and release” fishing except as follows:

1. Fish taken on worms may not be released.
  2. Injured fish may not be released.
  3. Upon taking the limit, no further fishing may be done on that day.
  4. Single and barbless hooks are required for all catch and release fishing. (barbs must be squeezed with pliers).
- m. Fish taken must be registered in the “Pond Control Box” before the angler leaves the pond site. Member’s spouses’ or child’s name, date, size and type of fish taken must be recorded for each fish taken.
- n. No fishing on the first stocking for the Children’s Fishing Derby. There after members are allowed to fish on stocking days.
- o. Boating and swimming is prohibited.
- p. There shall be no ice fishing or ice skating on the pond in winter months.

## **SEC. 6. SHOOTING RANGES- GENERAL RULES GOVERNING FIREARMS AND THEIR USE.**

**IN THE INTREST OF PERSONAL SAFETY, IT IS REQUIRED THAT ALL SHOOTERS AND RANGE PERSONNEL WEAR SAFETY GLASSES AND EAR PROTECTION WHILE ON THE SHOOTING RANGES.**

- a. No persons will shoot on club grounds except on designated appropriate ranges (skeet, trap, rifle, pistol, indoor.22, archery). Except for legal hunting.
- b. No shooting in the area south of the range (turkey shoot area) except turkey shoots or quail walks.
- c. No outdoor shooting will be permitted between the hours of 9:00pm and 9:00am. No round of skeet or trap will begin after 8:30pm. No shooting during club regular or special meetings.
- d. No intoxicants or drugs will be consumed immediately prior to or during shooting.
- e. Specific safety and procedural rules of the various ranges (skeet, trap, rifle, pistol, indoor .22 and archery) will be made available to members and guest using the ranges and these rules will be enforced at all times.
- f. No dogs shall be allowed on shooting ranges while shooting is in progress.
- g. No rifles or handguns will be discharged on the skeet or trap fields.

## **SEC. 7. SPECIFIC RULES GOVERNING THE USE OF THE RIFLE RANGE:**

- a. The rifle committee members and others as the rifle chairperson may select, will be appointed Range Officers.
  1. The appointed Range Officer (or acting range officer) is responsible for enforcement of all specific rules governing the use of the rifle range and shall be obeyed without question while performing the duties of Range Officer.
  2. If an appointed Range Officer is not present, at least one regular member must assume responsibility of acting Range Officer.
- b. Cease Fires:
  1. Upon notification of a cease fire by the Range Officer, or any other shooter observing a safety hazard, all firearms shall be opened, emptied of ammunition and placed on the bench or holstered.
  2. No one is allowed ahead of the designated firing line except during a cease fire after firearms have been declared clear.
  3. There will be no handling of firearms during a cease fire after firearms have been declared clear.
- c. Unattended firearms on the firing side of the safety fence must be opened, empty and on a bench or holstered empty at all times. All firearms must be open and unloaded until the shooter is at the firing point and subject to control of the Range Officer.
- d. All firearms must be pointed down range or holstered empty at all times.
- e. The on site Range Officer shall establish the designated firing line to best suit the situation.
- f. Only NRA designated rifle or pistol targets or other suitable paper targets will be allowed on the range (specifically eliminated are tin cans, bottles, clay birds, etc.) All targets other than metallic silhouettes must be mounted on club provided frames. Metallic silhouettes must be placed on the berms provided for metallic targets.
- g. Firing centerfire rifles at targets placed less than fifty (50) yards is prohibited.
- h. Members must be cleared on safety procedures by an appointed Range Officer before using the range.
- i. No spectators will be allowed ahead of the safety fence.
- j. Each shooter is responsible for the removal from club property all live ammo, duds, and all spent brass including .22 caliber brass.
- k. All minors (18 years of age) of guest regardless of age must be directly supervised at all

times by a regular member.

- l. All shooters will shoot targets from established firing lanes to the corresponding target. (i.e. target #1 from station #1). There will be no cross firing.
- m. Only standard rifle and pistols are to be used. No automatic firearms, cannons, mortars, or similar explosive devices may be discharged on GSA grounds.
- n. When all firing points are filled no member will use the range facilities for more than 60 consecutive minutes.
- o. A member and his guest may occupy no more than two (2) firing points if other members are waiting to shoot.
- p. Members must register guest shooters in the Range Log.
- q. The rifle range will be closed during the regular shotgun deer season, except on Sundays or as posted.
- r. Violations of Range Regulations shall be reported to the Rifle Range Chairperson or a member of the Board of Directors. Suspension of club privileges may result from flack of adherence to Range Regulations or the instruction of the Range Officer at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- s. Vehicles will be allowed on the range only for construction purposes or to set or pick up metallic silhouette targets.
- t. Range closed during regular or special meetings.
- u. Guest Fees - \$10 daily rate (Monday thru Friday). \$15 weekend rate (Saturday & Sunday).

## **SEC. 8. SPECIFIC RULES GOVERNING THE USE OF THE SKEET AND TRAP RANGES:**

- a. Guns will not be loaded until shooter is on the shooting station and ready to fire.
- b. Actions must be open at all times except when shooting.
- c. Guns must be pointed in a safe direction at all times except when shooting.
- d. No shells will be used that are in excess of 2-3/4 inches, 3 drams, 7-1/2 shot no magnums.
- e. In the event of a trap or gun malfunction, the shooter must immediately unload his gun.
- f. Empty hulls must be removed from the field until each shooter has had ample opportunity

to recover his own hulls. Every shooter is to pick up his own hulls to assist in maintaining the appearance of the fields.

- g. Maximum of five (5) shooters on the line during any league shooting.
- h. No one is allowed on the fields while shooting is in progress except shooters and authorized personnel (pullers-scorers).
- i. During night shooting, skeet or trap lights will not be turned on for less than three (3) people shooting.
- j. Lights are to be turned on only for the field in use.
- k. All infractions of rules will be reported to the chairperson of the shooting committee or a member of the Board of Directors. The infraction will then be reviewed by the Board of Directors and appropriate action will be taken. It is the duty of every member to abide all rules and to report any violations.
- l. When reloading skeet or trap machines electrical power must be disconnected and the machine's throwing arm must be tripped.

## **SEC. 9. SPECIFIC RULES GOVERNING THE USE OF THE INDOOR RANGE:**

- a. Wearing of eye and ear protection is mandatory for any person entering the indoor range while shooting is in progress.
- b. The maximum caliber allowed is .22 Long Rifle.
- c. Cross firing is not allowed.
- d. Only paper targets shall be used.
- e. No unsupervised guests or minors are allowed. A regular member must be present.
- f. The range shall be closed (no shooting) during regular or special club meetings.
- g. Members and guest must sign the range log book before shooting.

## **SEC. 10. SPECIFIC RULES GOVERNING THE USE OF THE ARCHERY RANGE:**

- a. No broad heads shall be used at club targets.