

# CONSTITUTION

## 1: The Club:

The Club shall be known as Shebbear Shooters Air Gun Club, hereafter referred to as "SSAGC" or "the Club".

## 2: Aims and Objectives:

The Club's aims and objectives are: -

- To promote and support the sport of airgun target shooting and the safe use of legal air rifles and air and CO<sub>2</sub> pistols.
- To provide a venue where the sport / competition can be safely practised.
- To offer instruction and training to members and educate them in the rules of the sport and the regulations affecting the use, ownership and possession of air weapons.
- To support and affiliate to such regional, national and / or international bodies whose aims and objectives coincide with those of the Club.

## 3: Membership:

- Membership is open to anyone, irrespective of age\*, sex, race or religion.
- The criteria for membership are that the individual:
  - (i) is legally permitted to use an airgun,
  - (ii) is within the age limits specified by the Club's insurers[\*],
  - (iii) agrees to accept and to conform to the Club's rules and safety code,
  - (iv) is of a harmonious nature to the other members of the Club, and
  - (v) agrees to pay such fees as are required.

[\*Insurers normally stipulate a minimum and a maximum age]

Applicants will be required to sign a declaration confirming there is no legal impediment to their being members of the Club. Applications may be referred to the Police for verification.

The Committee shall have the power to decline an application for Membership to the Club, and may unanimously and for good reason rescind the membership of an individual, provided that the individual concerned shall have the right to be heard in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Rules of the Club. In the event of such an expulsion no return of fees need be made.

The Management Committee may create any class of member they deem necessary and may determine what benefits or rights such members may have, and may lay down procedures for the introduction of prospective new members to the Club. The exercise of such powers shall be subject to ratification by the next Annual General Meeting of the Club by means of an amendment to the Rules of the Club

## 4: The Club Committee:

Administration and the business of the Club shall be conducted by a Management Committee, which shall meet no less than 4 times a year, including an Annual General Meeting. It shall consist of a minimum of 3 elected Officers, each of whom shall serve for a period of one year and may offer themselves for re-election to office at the Annual General Meeting. Election will be by show of hands. These shall be: -

1. **A Chairman** ("Chair" or "Chairperson") whose duty shall be to represent the Club when necessary and to ensure that all committee meetings and general meetings are held in good order and that all matters brought before such meetings are decided by voting. The Chairman shall not have a personal vote. However, in the event of a tied vote, the Chairman shall have a casting vote, which, where a precedent exists, must be used to maintain the status quo. The Chairman shall also have the power to call a Special General Meeting of all the paid-up members of the Club, on 14 days written notice to them. This notice must state the reason for the meeting, the venue, time and date.
2. **A Secretary** whose duties shall be to communicate to the committee all communications received on behalf of the Club and to communicate the Committee's decisions and responses. They shall also keep and produce minutes of all Committee meetings and any Special, Extraordinary or Annual General meetings.
3. **A Treasurer** who will keep full and accurate records of all moneys received by, and paid out, on behalf of the Club. Such funds will be kept and disbursed from an account held in the Club's name, in a building society or bank. They shall briefly advise the Committee of the state of the Club's finances at each Committee meeting and shall produce an annual, audited statement of accounts at the Annual General Meeting. All cheques drawn on this account must bear the signature of the Treasurer and one of the other members of the committee.

4. **Co-option:** The elected officers may co-opt onto the committee any paid up member of the Club to serve on the committee for a particular purpose [e.g. as Captain in charge of competitions, Vice-Chairman, Site Manager, etc.]. Any member, so co-opted, shall be able to attend Committee meetings and may speak and vote on any matters brought before the committee.
5. **A quorum:** No business at a Committee meeting shall be enacted unless a quorum is present. This shall be deemed to be one more than half of the total number of Committee members entitled to attend, with a minimum of two elected Officers present.
6. **Nominations:** Nominations for election to the committee shall be made to the Secretary not less than fourteen days before the advertised date of the Annual General Meeting, and shall be supported by a proposer and seconder who shall be paid-up members.
7. **Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM):** Upon receipt of written requests from not less than one third of the paid up members of the Club, the Officers shall call an Extraordinary General Meeting and give 7 days written notice of the meeting stating the date, time and purpose of such a meeting. Only the subject issue may be discussed at an EGM.
8. **Accessibility:** Any Special, Extraordinary or Annual General Meeting must be called within the time(s) specified for notice, at a venue and time to allow the maximum number of Club members to attend.

## **5: The Annual General Meeting [AGM]:**

The Club's year shall run from the first day of February to the last day of January. The Annual General Meeting must be held within 14 days either side of the latter date and all paid up members shall be advised of the date, time and venue of this meeting. Only fully paid up members of the Club may stand for election to the Committee and only paid up members may vote. Proxy votes with authority in writing will be allowed and the chairman for the time being will hold the proxies.

## **6: Safety Code & Rules:**

The Club shall provide every member, upon joining, with a set of these. Any breach of these can result in a member being expelled from the Club. Any member bringing a guest to the Club is responsible for:-

- The payment of any fees involved
- Ensuring that the guest is made aware of, and conforms to, the Club's rules and Safety code.

## **7: Changes to Club Constitution, Rules, Safety Code and Fees:**

These can normally only be made annually at the Annual General Meeting if proposals receive a majority vote. However, if urgent change is needed, they may be dealt with at a specially called Special or Extraordinary General Meeting.

## **8: Closure:**

In the event of the Club closing down, the assets of the Club shall not belong to any member of the Club or committee, but shall be realised. A Special General Meeting will be called where it shall be voted that the proceeds shall be either distributed between the remaining paid-up members, or donated in their entirety, or in part, to another club (or clubs) or to a charity (or charities).