

CHEROKEE ROD AND GUN CLUB BYLAWS – December 7th, 2023

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this association shall be Cherokee Rod and Gun Club.

ARTICLE II. OBJECTIVES

The purposes for which this Club is organized are to conserve, restore and manage the game, fish, and other wildlife and their habitats in Kingsport and its environs; to seek to procure better fishing and hunting for sportsmen; to promote and maintain friendly relationships with landowners and sportsmen; to cooperate in obtaining proper respect for and observation of, the fish and game laws; to spread knowledge of useful wildlife among the residents of the area; to encourage the youth of the area and its environs to participate in hunting and fishing; and to promote safety in outdoor sports. This association shall operate without profit and shall be non-partisan and non-sectarian.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1.

A person 18 years of age or older may be considered for membership in the Club, subject to the following additional conditions;

1. Permission given in writing by the prospective member for a background check.
2. Not be prohibited by State or Federal law to possess firearms.
3. Must be of suitable character and interest.
4. Must be sponsored by two (2) Current Club members in good standing or be interviewed in person or electronically by the membership screening committee.

Before the prospective member can receive a gate key card, he/she must attend a Club safety training course at which time the Club facilities and safety practices will be reviewed and waivers signed. The Club safety course can be attended at designated times posted on the club's calendar.

SECTION 2.

All Memberships at Cherokee are family memberships. Membership for any person who is head of the family (Primary Member) entitles the spouse and dependent children (as determined by the Board) to participate in certain activities and to use the Club's facilities under such conditions as may be set forth by the Board of Directors. In case of the death of the primary member for the family membership, the membership shall be transferred to their spouse.

The Membership Year is defined as March 1st through the last day of February the following calendar year.

Membership dues shall be payable on or before March 1st. Renewing members shall pay between December 1st and March 1st for the next Membership Year.

Members will be issued a Membership Card that will also serve as a gate access card.

New members enrolled on or after December 1st, but before the last day of February, will not be assessed dues for December, January, and February. Once the dues (for the following Membership Year) are paid, and the new member's safety orientation is attended and documented, they will gain access to the Club for the remainder of the current Membership Year and the following Membership Year from March through February in its entirety. New members joining between March 1st and November 30th will have access for the remainder of the current Membership Year once dues are paid, and the new member's safety orientation is attended and documented.

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Membership dues and maintenance fees will not be prorated.

In the event the Club obtains a system where membership cards are uniquely serialized, or unique membership PINs are possible, and the Board of Directors so chooses, a new member voted into the Club, paying the annual dues and after the new member's safety orientation is attended and documented, will be given access to the Club's facilities for the remainder of the month in which they joined plus the next twelve (12) months. A renewing member may renew at most three (3) months early and for no more than one (1) additional year.

SECTION 3.

By nomination of the Board of Directors and by a majority vote of the active members present at any meeting, any suitable person may be elected to an annual Honorary Membership. No dues or maintenance fees shall be required of Honorary Members.

SECTION 4.

The Club will no longer sell life memberships but will honor life memberships sold in the past. Life membership gives the life member Club membership and new gate key cards as required for the remainder of the member's life. Ownership of the Life Membership will pass to the spouse after the original Life Member has passed. Four hours of club service or the annual maintenance fees are still required from the Life Member.

SECTION 5.

All members or new applicants over the age of 65 will be given a discount set by the Board of Directors on their membership dues, provided they have turned 65 prior to March 1st of the membership year. Proof of age must be submitted to the Membership Committee to qualify for these rates.

SECTION 6.

Members will be required to perform 4 hours of verifiable club service each year prior to February 28th of the Club year or pay the maintenance fee in lieu of performing this service. Any member who performs Club service needs to submit a statement to any officer of the Club stating the date the service was performed, how many hours of service were performed and what the service was. Examples of acceptable service to the Club are: attending committee meetings, helping at Club sanctioned events, mowing grass, cleaning out ditches, planting trees, pruning trees and picking up trash, etc.

SECTION 7.

The Membership Officer (see Article 7, Section 9) shall name a membership screening committee consisting of 4 other members at the January general Club meeting and chair the committee. The screening committee members are approved by the Board of Directors and must also be members in good standing. The purpose of the membership screening committee will be to evaluate prospective new members for membership in the Club. The membership screening committee shall make recommendations for acceptance or rejection of prospective new members to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors by majority vote may accept or refuse membership to any person they so desire. The Board of Directors may hold the vote to accept or reject prospective members via email or other electronic means in order to accept or reject new members monthly instead of at the quarterly or at an in-person Board of Directors meeting.

ARTICLE IV. MEETINGS

SECTION 1.

Regular meetings of the Club shall be held on the first Thursday of March, June, September and December at the Clubhouse, or at such other time and place as the Board of Directors may designate.

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SECTION 2.

Special meetings of the Club may be called by the President or by a majority vote of the Board of Directors to be held at such time and place as the President or Board of Directors may designate. The time and place of the special meeting must be published on the Club's website at least 7 days prior to the meeting.

SECTION 3.

The Board of Directors shall hold meetings at such a time and place as they may designate, and its annual meeting shall be held coincident with the annual meeting of the Club.

SECTION 4.

The annual meeting of the Club shall be held on the first Thursday of December of each year or at such time or place as the Board of Directors may designate. The election of Officers and Directors will take place at this meeting.

ARTICLE V. QUORUM

SECTION 1.

At regular meetings not less than 30 active members displaying membership cards, and the President or Vice President, and the Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the Club shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 2.

At meetings of the Board of Directors, a majority of the total active members of the Directors and Officers shall constitute a quorum and a majority vote of the Board of Directors present at any such meeting shall prevail.

SECTION 3.

At any regularly scheduled monthly meeting at which a quorum of the active Board of Directors is not present, the Club may conduct regular Club business and approve the spending of monies, provided the following conditions are met:

1. There must be at least 30 members displaying membership cards in good standing present.
2. The President or Vice President are present to conduct the meeting.
3. The Secretary or Assistant Secretary must be present to record the minutes and verify those present.

ARTICLE VI. DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS AND HOW ELECTED

SECTION 1.

The Directors of the Club shall consist of 15 elected members in 2022 as elected in June 2021, 13 members in 2023, 11 members in 2024 and 9 members in 2025 and thereafter. Starting in December of 2022, 3 members meeting the qualifications of Director shall be elected as a Director for a 3 year term each year by majority vote of the membership present at the annual meeting. To be considered as a nominee for Director, the candidate must be the primary member or member's spouse and must be a member in good standing for at least two full membership years and if elected must remain a member in good standing for their term.

The President, Vice President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Accounts Receivable (AR) Treasurer, Assistant Accounts Receivable Treasurer, Accounts Payable (AP) Treasurer, Assistant Accounts Payable Treasurer, Director at Large, NRA Officer and Membership Officer are elected by the majority vote of the membership present at the annual meeting for a one year term. These officers may or may not have a vote at a Board of Directors meeting as detailed for each office.

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A candidate for a club Officer must be a primary member or spouse in good standing for at least two complete membership years and if elected must remain a member in good standing during their terms. An Appointee (see Article VI, section 3) must have been a member in good standing for at least one full membership year and remain a member in good standing during their term if approved. A candidate may volunteer themselves to the nominating committee for a Director or Officer or be nominated by the nominating committee. The floor will be opened for further nominations of members in good standing qualified for the position during the annual club meeting prior to the election.

The members shall also elect A Director-at-Large to be held by a person who is knowledgeable in the history and customs of the Club and holds a vital interest in the future of Cherokee Rod and Gun Club. To be eligible for this office, the candidate must have been a member for 10 full membership years and an Officer or Director for 5 full membership years along with satisfying the other qualifications of a Director and Officer. The Director at Large is to be elected at the annual club meeting by the majority vote of the membership present for a one year term. If there is no member willing to fulfill the duties of the Director-at-Large that meet the office's qualification, the position shall become inactive until such a time as qualified member is elected.

The Board of Directors consists of the Directors, voting Officers and Past President. The Board of Directors is hereinafter called the Board.

A newly elected Director, Officer or Appointee's term begins the first regular business day in January.

SECTION 2. PAST PRESIDENT

The Past President is the newly replaced former President. The Past President has a vote on the Board for one year unless they have been elected to another voting position on the Board at which time there is no Past President and the quorum for a meeting and voting majority is adjusted accordingly. The term of the Past President is one year only after stepping down from President.

SECTION 3. APPOINTMENTS

A Chaplain, Assistant Chaplain, Stores Appointee, Facilities Appointee and Sargent at Arms are appointed by the President and approved by the Board for a one year term.

SECTION 4. VACANCIES

In the event of any vacancy in any office for any reason, the membership by majority vote shall elect some member meeting the office's qualifications to fill the unexpired term of the vacating Officer or Director until the next annual meeting.

A Director or Officer must attend 75% of the regular club meetings or obtain a waiver from the President prior to their absence to remain an active Director or Officer. If a Director or Officer is not active, they do not have voting rights in a Board meeting and the quorum required for a regular club or Board meeting and voting majority is adjusted. An inactive Director or Officer may be deemed to have vacated the office by a vote of the Board and be replaced at the next club meeting.

ARTICLE VII. DUTIES OF DIRECTORS, OFFICERS AND APPOINTEES

SECTION 1. Board of Directors

The Board of Directors (Board) shall have the power to manage all the affairs of the Club on any and all questions relating in any manner whatsoever thereto, and to make all contracts necessary for the proper transaction of all

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business. They shall have entire jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to the care, control, supervision and management of the Club and its finances and all appropriations shall be made by them.

SECTION 2. President

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and the Board, and enforce all bylaws and regulations of the Club. The President shall perform such other duties as shall be empowered upon him by the resolutions of the Board. The President shall sign and the Secretary shall attest, all written contracts, deeds and other instruments affecting real property, and all other written obligations of the Club. The President shall have the power to appoint committees for any purpose which the President deems desirable. The President only votes in a regular meeting or Board meeting to break a tie.

SECTION 3. Vice President

In the absence of the President, the President's duties shall be performed by the Vice President. In the event of death or disability of the President, the Vice President shall act as President until the membership fills the office by election. The Vice President will have a vote in a Board meeting unless acting as President where they can cast only a tie breaking vote.

SECTION 4. Secretary and Assistant Secretary

There shall be a Secretary and Assistant Secretary. Their responsibilities are:

1. The Secretary shall keep the minutes and other official reports of the Club.
2. The Secretary shall conduct the official correspondence of the Club.
3. The Secretary shall keep all records, books, documents and papers relating to the Club at such places designated by the Board.
4. The Secretary shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to them by the Board and detailed in the Secretary's Standard Operating Procedure (SOP).

The Assistant Secretary is assigned all of the duties of the Secretary and shall act in such capacity as the Secretary may designate.

Oversight of the Secretaries shall be a responsibility of the President and the Board.

The Secretary has a vote at a Board meeting while the Assistant Secretary does not vote unless acting as the Secretary in the Secretary's absence.

SECTION 5. Accounts Receivable Treasurer and Assistant Accounts Receivable Treasurer

There shall be an Accounts Receivable Treasurer and an Assistant Accounts Receivable Treasurer. The Accounts Receivable Treasurer shall be responsible for the duties listed in the AR Treasurer's SOP as approved by the Board.

Oversight of the Accounts Receivable Treasurer and Assistant Accounts Receivable Treasurer shall be the responsibility of the President and the Board.

All Club activity chairs shall be issued a controlled receipt book to record all financial transactions. Oversight of Club activity records keeping shall be the responsibility of the Accounts Receivable Treasurer.

The Accounts Receivable Treasurer and the Assistant Accounts Receivable Treasurer shall be bonded.

The Accounts Receivable Treasurer has a vote at a Board meeting while the Assistant Accounts Receivable Treasurer does not vote unless acting as the Accounts Receivable Treasurer in the Accounts Receivable Treasurer's absence.

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SECTION 6. Accounts Payable Treasurer and Assistant Accounts Payable Treasurer

There shall be an Accounts Payable Treasurer and an Assistant Accounts Payable Treasurer. The Accounts Payable Treasurer and Assistant Payable Treasurer shall be responsible for the duties listed in the AP Treasurer's SOP as approved by the Board.

Oversight of the Accounts Payable Treasurer and the Assistant Accounts Payable Treasurer shall be the responsibility of the President and the Board.

The Accounts Payable Treasurer and Assistant Accounts Payable Treasurer shall be bonded.

The Accounts Payable Treasurer has a vote at a Board meeting while the Assistant Payable Treasurer does not vote unless acting as the Accounts Payable Treasurer in the Accounts Payable Treasurer's absence.

Section 7. Past President

The Past President is a voting member of the Board for one year only after stepping down as President in good standing and not elected to another voting office in order to provide continuity to the club. If there is no Past President, the quorum and majority vote numbers are adjusted accordingly.

Section 8. NRA Officer

There will be a NRA Officer. The NRA Officer is responsible for the duties listed in the NRA Officer's SOP as approved by the Board.

Oversight of the NRA Officer shall be the responsibility of the President and the Board.

The NRA Officer has a vote during a Board meeting.

Section 9. Membership Officer

There shall be a Membership Officer. The Membership Officer is responsible for the duties listed in the Membership Officer's SOP as approved by the Board.

The Membership Officer has a vote during a Board meeting. Oversight of the Membership Officer shall be the responsibility of the President and the Board.

SECTION 10. Stores Appointee

There shall be a Stores Appointee. The Stores Appointee will be responsible the duties listed in the Stores Appointee's SOP as approved by the Board.

This appointee must be a member in good standing. The appointee may also be an Officer or Director with the exception of Accounts Payable or Receivable Treasurers or Assistant Treasurers. Oversight of the Stores Appointee shall be the responsibility of the President and the Board. The Stores Appointee does not have a vote at a Board meeting.

SECTION 11. Facilities Appointee

There shall be a Facilities Appointee. The Facilities Appointee will be responsible the duties listed in the Facilities Appointee's SOP as approved by the Board.

This appointee must be a member in good standing. The appointee may also be an Officer or Director with the exception of Accounts Payable or Receivable Treasurers or Assistant Treasurers. Oversight of the Facilities Appointee

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shall be the responsibility of the President and the Board. The Facilities Appointee does not have a vote at a Board meeting.

SECTION 12. Chaplain and Assistant Chaplain Appointees

There shall be a Chaplain and Assistant Chaplain Appointees. The Chaplains are responsible for the duties listed in the Chaplain's SOP as approved by the Board.

Oversight of the Chaplain Appointees shall be the responsibility of the President and the Board. The Chaplain Appointees do not have a vote at a Board meeting.

SECTION 13. Sargent at Arms Appointee

There shall be a Sargent at Arms. The Sargent at Arms is responsible for the duties listed in the Sargent at Arms SOP as approved by the Board.

Oversight of the Sargent at Arms shall be the responsibility of the President and the Board. The Sargent at Arms does not have a vote at a Board meeting.

ARTICLE VIII. Amendments

Proposed amendments to the by-laws may be made by a member in good standing at a regular meeting. Advance notice of any revision must be posted on the Club website at least 20 days prior to the meeting at which any proposed amendment is to be voted upon.

ARTICLE IX. Enforcement

SECTION 1.

The Board at its discretion has the complete authority to establish, maintain or delete any such rules & regulations. Furthermore, the Board has the complete authority to establish disciplinary proceedings and penalties for the violation of any such rules & regulations.

SECTION 2.

Any person(s) trespassing, hunting, poaching or vandalizing Club property will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. The Club will pay a reward to anyone providing information leading to the arrest and conviction of trespassers, poachers, or vandals on Club property.

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Amendment History

During the **December 2023** meeting, the following amendments were made to the bylaws:

Original Article IV Meetings, Section 1

Regular meetings of the Club shall be held on the first Thursday of each month at the Clubhouse, or at such other time and place as the Board of Directors may designate.

Change to

Regular meetings of the Club shall be held on the first Thursday of March, June, September and December at the Clubhouse, or at such other time and place as the Board of Directors may designate.

And

A newly elected Director, Officer or Appointee's term begins at the start of the next regular club meeting.

Change to

A newly elected Director, Officer or Appointee's term begins the first regular business day in January.

Article III membership, Section 7 already gives the Board of Directors authority by majority vote to accept or refuse membership to the prospective new members. The last sentence was added to allow the board to vote on new members monthly via electronic means when there is not a quarterly in-person meeting.

SECTION 7. The Membership Officer (see Article 7, Section 9) shall name a membership screening committee consisting of 4 other members at the January general Club meeting and chair the committee. The screening committee members are approved by the Board of Directors and must also be members in good standing. The purpose of the membership screening committee will be to evaluate prospective new members for membership in the Club. The membership screening committee shall make recommendations for acceptance or rejection of prospective new members to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors by majority vote may accept or refuse membership to any person they so desire. The Board of Directors may hold the vote to accept or reject prospective members via email or other electronic means in order to accept or reject new members monthly instead of at the quarterly or at an in-person Board of Directors meeting.

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