



**GARDEN STATE ARCHERS, INC. BY-LAWS**  
(Effective January 1, 2016)



**ARTICLE I MEMBERSHIP:**

***Section 1. Chartered Paying Membership***

- (a) A chartered paying member is required to attend one (1) regular monthly meeting out of every three (3) regular meetings (excluding special meetings).
- (b) There will be regularly scheduled work parties during the calendar year. Every chartered member will be held responsible for attending or making up all regular scheduled work parties.
- (c) The Board of Directors will address any situation in which a member does not fulfill his work requirement.
- (d) If a chartered paying member resigns in good standing, reacceptance as a chartered member may be permitted, but the initiation fee must be repaid. The initiation fee shall be waived provided the break in membership is less than one (1) year.
- (e) Work party attendance will be tracked on a calendar year basis.
- (f) **OBTAINING POINTS TOWARD YOUR ANNUAL REQUIREMENT** (new in 2016)  
In addition to your dues of \$125, you are required to obtain 25 points annually to fulfil your Charter Membership. This can be accomplished in this manner.
  - 1 point is awarded for every meeting you attend and have signed into.
  - 1 point is awarded per hour of work you perform and write in the Range Captain's Book which will be located in the Club House near the Bulletin Board. Up to 4 hours is the max you can charge per work day.
  - 3 points will be given for working REGISTRATION, either indoor or out.
  - 3 points will be given for working KITCHEN DUTY during an outside shoot.
  - In November of each year the Range Captain will report the status of all members to the TREASURER, so that any PENALTY FEES can be assessed to those who have not completed the mandatory 25 points. \$10 will be assessed for each point the member is shy of the 25.
  - These fees must be paid prior to December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current year.

***Section 2. Chartered Membership***

The SPOUSE of a chartered paying member is considered a chartered member and is entitled to all privileges and rights of a chartered paying member, provided they maintain a current NFAA & SFAA membership card. Chartered members are exempt from the duties and obligations of a chartered paying member.

***Section 3. Probationary Membership***

(a) Persons desiring membership in the Garden State Archers, Inc. shall appear before the Board of Directors with the sponsor to discuss the contents of the Constitution and by-laws. At this time, the applicant shall submit an application and necessary fees. The application will be read at the next monthly meeting and the applicant shall be voted upon for probationary membership by a majority vote of the voting members present.

(b) After a period of six (6) months, the applicant's sponsor or any member of the Board of Directors will nominate the probationary member for chartered paying membership. The probationary member shall be accepted with no less than a ~~two~~ two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the

voting members present at a regular monthly meeting. If the probationary member is denied chartered paying membership, the probationary membership shall be terminated.

(c) A probationary member is required to attend or make-up all work parties during his or her six (6) month probation.

(d) A probationary member shall be encouraged to attend all meetings and to voice opinions, but does not have the privilege of making motions or voting-

#### ***Section 4. Social Membership***

(a) A social member is exempt from work parties. While attendance at regular monthly meetings is not required, a social member may attend and voice opinions, but does not have the privilege of making motions or voting. A social member may attend all social affairs. An applicant for social membership shall be voted upon by a majority of the voting members present at any regular monthly meeting.

(b) A social member who was formerly a chartered paying member may be reaccepted as a chartered paying member without serving another probationary period. An initiation fee is not required.

#### ***Section 5. GOLD CARD MEMBERSHIP (new in 2016)***

This type of membership will be granted to any club member who has performed exemplary duties for the club for an extended period of time ... in excess of 25 years. It can also be granted to any member who has provided significantly to the monetary stability of the club. Those currently holding Life Membership (now deleted) will be grandfathered into the club database, but there will be NO new Life Memberships as of January 1, 2016.

#### ***Section 6. Honorary Membership***

An honorary member shall consist of any non-member of the Club, who promotes interest and growth in the Garden State Archers, Inc. The candidate shall be voted upon as an honorary member by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at any regular monthly meeting. An honorary member has the same rights as a social member. All honorary members shall be voted upon annually.

#### ***Section 7. Junior Membership***

(a) Junior membership shall be granted to anyone (exclusive of family membership) who is under eighteen (18) years of age, and must be accompanied by parent/guardian/GSA Member in good standing. A junior member shall be entitled to a Club Card and Club Patch. A parent or guardian must sign an application form. A junior member does not have to attend meetings or work parties. A junior member shall be subject to suspension or dismissal for infractions of Club rules.

(b) At the age of eighteen (18), a junior member or a family junior member shall submit an application for chartered paying membership and, at the discretion of the Board of Directors may be required to serve the probationary membership required of all new chartered paying members, but be exempt from an initiation fee.

(c) A junior member shall not have the privilege of voting or making motions.

#### ***Section 8. Servicemen and Servicewomen***

- (a) If a member in good standing requests a military leave of absence to enter one of the armed forces of our country, the member will not be obligated for dues or work parties incurred while on active duty status, but not longer than four (4) years. After four (4) years, the payment of dues and fulfillment of work party requirements shall resume. The Secretary shall be notified within thirty (30) days after completion of active duty as to whether or not continued membership is desired. Any time served in the armed forces exceeding four (4) years shall not count except in time of war.
- (b) If a member in good standing, while belonging to a National Guard or Reserve Unit, is called to active duty, the member will not be obligated for dues or work parties incurred while on active duty. The member will be considered on a military leave of absence concurrent with his/her active call up.
- (c) If a person already a member of the armed forces in active duty status requests membership in this club, he/she will be responsible for those membership requirements in effect at the time. No initiation fee is required for all active duty, reserve or guard personnel requesting membership in Garden State Archery Club. If during his/her membership he/she is permanently transferred, making it impossible to fulfill club membership requirements, he/she will have the choice of allowing his/her membership to expire or to continue to fulfill club obligations. If that member is temporarily transferred making it impossible to fulfill club requirements, at the discretion of the Board of Directors that member will be considered on a military leave of absence.

### ***Section 9. Family Membership***

A family membership shall consist of the spouse and dependents less than eighteen (18) years of age of any member.

### ***Section 10. Membership Hunting Privileges***

- a. At no time will Hunting be allowed during a sanctioned shoot or work party.
- b. The use of Bow and arrow or crossbow will be allowed.
- c. Hunting will be allowed from Sep 1st thru end of May of next new year.
- d. A lottery to hunt property will be conducted at our 3rd Monday meeting in July of each year. If unable to attend meeting you must submit a request to hunt written statement by email or mail with your name in July prior to lottery drawing. 5 members in good standing who have obtained the most points via Section 1 Subpart E will be drawn from a hat to have the privilege to hunt. All violations will be reviewed by the Board of Directors.
- e. Hunters will be required to sign a Liability Release Form releasing GSA for all Liabilities. Hunters will assume all Liability.

## **ARTICLE II: DUES**

### ***Section 1. Chartered Paying Membership***

Annual dues shall be one hundred twenty dollars (\$120) payable in January of the new year. Proof of current NFAA and NJSFAA membership, or application and appropriate fees for both organizations is needed to complete membership requirements. The NJSFAA and NFAA memberships must be maintained annually by each member. Currently the fee is \$45 which covers both your NFAA and NJSFAA membership.

**Section 2. Probationary Membership**

NJSFAA and NFAA membership fees and six (6) month dues, shall accompany the application for membership. The NJSFAA and NFAA memberships must be maintained annually by each member.

**Section 3. Social Membership**

Annual dues shall be three hundred dollars (\$300) payable monthly. Six (6) months dues, and NJSFAA and NFAA membership fees are required at time of application. The SFAA and NFAA memberships must be maintained annually by each member.

**Section 4. Life Membership (deleted in 2015)**

**Section 5. Honorary Membership**

An honorary member does not pay dues.

**Section 6. Junior Membership**

Annual membership shall be six dollars (\$50.00) payable annually in January. A one time initiation fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) is due at time of Application.

**Section 7. SFAA & NFAA Membership**

The SFAA and NFAA memberships must be maintained annually by each member. Currently the fee is \$45 which covers both your NFAA and SFAA membership. This can be done very quickly at the NFAA web site of → <https://www.nfaausa.com/> Benefits of your NFAA membership include a subscription to Archery magazine, access to insurance, awards programs, indoor and outdoor leagues, NFAA-hosted tournaments, certified instructor courses, and more.

**Section 8. Initiation Fee**

An initiation fee of thirty-five (\$35) dollars must accompany the probationary and social membership applications. All initiation fees are non-refundable.

**ARTICLE III OFFICERS**

**Section 1.**

Any chartered member shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age and a member in good Standing for at least one (1) year with a membership in the NFAA and SFAA in order to be eligible for office.

**Section 2.**

- (a) All terms of office shall be for one (1) year.
- (b) The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, two (2) elected members and also the Range Captain who shall be appointed by the President.

**ARTICLE IV DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

**Section 1. President**

- (a) The President shall preside at all meetings, appoint all committees and committee chairpersons and in general shall perform the duties incidental to the office, but shall make no decisions without a majority vote at a regular monthly meeting. The President shall not make

nor may not voice an opinion on any motion while in the chair. When the membership is equally divided, the President shall have a casting vote.

(b) The President shall have the power to call a special meeting, cancel a regular monthly meeting, or change the date of a meeting only in the event that circumstances warrant the meeting to be held at another date.

**Section 2. Vice-President**

(a) The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President if the President is unable to act.

(b) The Vice-President shall serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors.

**Section 3. Secretary**

The Secretary shall keep all records of the Club, serve all notices of meetings, conduct all correspondence and in general, perform all duties incidental to the office.

**Section 4. Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall receive all moneys of the Club, shall keep accurate records of the receipts and disbursements and in general, perform all duties incidental to the office. The Treasurer must also submit an accurate itemized report at each regular monthly meeting. At the end of the year, the Treasurer is responsible for submitting a general financial statement for the previous year to each Club member.

**Section 5. Board of Directors**

(a) The Board of Directors must investigate all violations of the Constitution and By-Laws and present their decisions at the following regular monthly meeting.

(b) The Board of Directors shall have the power to make all final decisions regarding dismissals, fines, and related matters where formerly only recommendations were made. However, all Board members present at its meetings must be in agreement on all decisions made. If unanimous agreement is not reached, the matter shall be brought to the general membership.

(c) The Board of Directors shall meet at least once a month at a time and place fixed by the Board members. Their minutes must be read at the following regular monthly meeting.

**Section 6. Club Representatives #1 and #2 (BCR – Board of Club Representatives)**

(a) The BCR #1 shall attend all NJSFAA meetings and shall report all State business and resolutions at regular monthly meetings, or special meetings called for that purpose, for the membership to decide how the BCR will vote on said matters at State meetings.

(b) The BCR #2 shall attend the N.J.S.F.A.A. meetings if the BCR #1 is unable to do so. The duties at said meetings are parallel to those of the BCR #1 when acting as a substitute.

(c) If for any reason the B CR #2 are unable to attend an N.J.S.F.A.A. Meeting, the BCR #1 is empowered to appoint a representative acting in the capacity of the BCR #1. However, there will be no Club representation at an NJSFAA meeting only in the event of an act of GOD, i.e., severe weather conditions.

**Section 7. Meeting Requirements of Officers**

Any officer missing three (3) regular monthly meetings, or three (3) meetings in conjunction with his/her office, shall be relieved of all duties as an officer. In this case, no vote is necessary.

**ARTICLE V: MEETINGS**

The regular monthly meeting will be held on the third Monday of each month beginning at 7:30 p.m. and ending by 11:00 p.m. If the presiding officer deems it necessary, the meeting may be extended.

- (a) All members shall be notified of all regular monthly meetings by e-mail or text. In the event of special meetings, a phone call or verbal notification may be used.
- (b) Notices regarding bids for any major championship shoot shall be sent to Club member's one (1) month prior to voting.
- (c) A quorum of one-third (1/3) of the eligible voting members must be present at a regular monthly meeting to legally transact any official business.
- (d) At any meeting of the Board of Directors, four (4) members must be present to constitute a legal meeting.

#### **ARTICLE VI: DELINQUENTS**

At the discretion of the Board of Directors, any member delinquent, without just cause, in payment of dues or assessments for a period of three (3) calendar months shall be automatically dismissed.

#### **ARTICLE VII: VACANCIES**

All vacancies on the Board of Directors or in any office shall be filled by an election at the next monthly meeting.

#### **ARTICLE VIII: RESIGNATIONS**

All resignations shall be forwarded to the Secretary in writing, at which time a vote will be taken to determine the status of resigning members' standing.

#### **ARTICLE IX LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

##### **Section 1.**

(a) Any chartered paying member requesting a leave of absence must do so in writing to the Secretary. The request for a leave of absence shall be considered and investigated by the Board of Directors who will then decide upon the disposition of the request. A leave of absence shall not become effective until the Board of Directors renders a decision at a regular monthly meeting.

##### **Section 2.**

The time element for a leave of absence shall be for any period of time not exceeding three (3) months. If an extension to the initial leave is requested, the member must follow the procedure as described in ARTICLE IX, Section 1 of the by-laws.

##### **Section 3.**

A member who has been granted a leave of absence shall be released of all duties. However, the payment of dues shall continue which will entitle the member and family to participate in Club activities.

##### **Section 4.**

Any member falsifying a request for a leave of absence shall be subject to immediate dismissal.

##### **Section 5.**

A military leave of absence is a leave that will allow a member in good standing, while serving under certain conditions in the armed forces, to continue membership in this Club with all rights and privileges intact for the member and member s family, but not longer than four (4) years.

#### **ARTICLE X: NON-MEMBERS**

##### **Section 1.**

Any person not a member of the Garden State Archers, Inc. shall not be permitted to enter Club property unless accompanied by a Club member. The members will be held responsible for the conduct of their guests.

**Section 2.**

A member will be permitted two (2) occasions to bring a guest to the Club for the purpose of using the shooting ranges. A member will be charged a guest fee of \$15 for every time the same guest uses the Club ranges exceeding the initial two (2) visits.

**ARTICLE XI: CAUSES FOR DISMISSAL**

**Section 1.**

Any member of the Garden State Archers, Inc. found guilty of the charge of cheating on scoring at any time shall be brought to the attention to the Board of Directors, who shall investigate the complaint.

**Section 2.**

Any member fighting or provoking an argument at any Club activity shall be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors, who shall investigate the complaint.

**Section 3.**

Any member using obscene language or vulgar actions in the presence of a minor, which would encourage or justify in the minds of a minor to make use of the same, shall be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors, who shall investigate the complaint.

**Section 4.**

If the Board of Directors, after having investigated any violation of the above, finds that a violation does exist, they shall report their findings to the membership at the following regular monthly meeting with a recommendation for immediate dismissal by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.

**ARTICLE XII METHOD OF AMENDING BY-LAWS**

Any chartered paying or chartered member may make a motion to amend the by-laws by submitting the proposed amendment in writing at any regularly scheduled meeting. The proposed amendments shall be read at that meeting and the next meeting before being voted on at that second meeting. If the meeting is canceled, the proposed amendments shall be presented at the next regular monthly meeting.

**SAFETY RULES**

- Always leave one member of your party standing in front of the target while you are looking for lost arrows as a warning to others following on the course. If you are alone, leave your bow.
- Never release an arrow when you cannot see where it will land. Never flight shoot an arrow in the woods. Never shoot straight up.
- Never shoot a broken arrow. Inspect each arrow carefully as you retrieve it.
- Remember at all times that a bow and arrow is a deadly weapon, as dangerous as a gun in the hands of an irresponsible person.
- Never attempt to demonstrate your skill by using a person as a target or by permitting another to hold the object at which you are shooting.
- Never brace another's bow without his/her permission, and never draw it under any circumstances.



- Protect your sport by being careful and sure when you shoot.
- Safety is cheap, so use plenty of it. Accidents are expensive.
- All Range facilities are closed during any work party.

NOTE: A copy of these By-Laws are stored on the computer of Kristina Erin Kaye as of 2016.01.03