

BYLAWS OF CUSTER'S COWBOYS

PREAMBLE

The object of the association shall be the encouragement of cowboy mounted shooting in Michigan and to provide an outlet for those persons wishing to compete by the rules as specified by the Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association Rule Book. We encourage organized shooting of single action .45 caliber pistols of the type carried prior to 1900 among citizens of the United States and residents of our community, with a view toward a better knowledge of the part of such citizens in the safe handling and proper care of firearms, as well as improved marksmanship. It shall be our objective and purpose to further the development of those characteristics of honesty, good fellowship, self-discipline, team play, and self-reliance, which are the essentials of good sportsmanship and the foundation of true patriotism. The further intention of the organization is to provide an atmosphere and social climate conducive to riding, camping, and other similar events where members dress and conduct themselves in a fashion that promotes our western heritage. The Board of Directors following the guidelines set forth in the following articles shall administer the affairs of the association.

ARTICLE I – NAME

Effective 1 September 1999, the name of the organization shall be **Custer's Cowboys**.

ARTICLE II – BUSINESS ADDRESS

The business office shall be located at the residence of the current organization President.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

1. **Membership** shall consist of three types:

- A. **Active**- Active members will be all persons wishing to participate in Custer's Cowboys matches as competitors regardless of age or gender. Any rider under the age of 18 may compete only with a signed parental/guardian consent form.
- B. **Associate**- Associate members will be all persons wishing to participate in the activities and/or non-riding participants (support staff) at Custer's Cowboys matches.
- C. **Family**- Family members will be immediate family and legal or responsible guardian, or individuals residing at the same address.

2. **Dues** are payable January 1 of the current year.

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| A. Active member : | \$35 | After February 1: | \$40 |
| B. Associate member: | \$20 | | \$25 |
| C. Family member: | \$50 | | \$55 |

3. **Elegibility** Custer's Cowboys shall be extended to all persons of good character who would like to become members of an organization dedicated to the preservation of the cowboy lifestyle.

4. **Resignations, Suspension, Expulsion, Reinstatement, and Departure of Members**

- A. **Resignation** – A member in good standing may tender their resignation at any time to any member of the Board of Directors. A member's resignation will not be cause for refund of membership dues.
- B. **Suspension** – Any member who, through his/her own actions has caused personal injury to themselves or others, damage to another's property or has abused their own or another's livestock, or has projected themselves to be an undesirable character may be put on suspension by a unanimous vote by the Board of Directors, after the Board has had up to seven days to review the matter.

- C. **Expulsion** – the Board of Directors may expel a member from Custer's Cowboys only with a unanimous vote. Expulsion would result from either a member's total disregard for the welfare of the organization through their actions or any blatant and continued safety violations. In either case, the decision will be based on specific incidents or actions.
- D. **Reinstatement**- Any member suspended or expelled from Custer's Cowboys, after a period of 30 days, may appear before the Board of Director to seek a reversal of the decision concerning their membership status. Reinstatement will require a unanimous decision by the Board of Directors. The Board's reply will be by mail only.
- E. **Departure**- If at any time the President must leave the Club, the Vice President shall succeed to the Presidency for the remainder of said term. The Board members will appoint a Vice President replacement. If any other officer or trustee relinquishes/defaults their position, the Board will appoint a replacement officer.

ARTICLE IV – CLOTHING

1. **Clothing** – All members of Custer's Cowboys will be encouraged to wear western period headgear and clothing reminiscent of the 19th and early 20th century (through the "Silver Screen" era), during sanctioned matches and club exhibitions. No t-shirts, sneakers, ball caps, men's short sleeve shirts, modern day clothing, etc. will be allowed. Members are asked to remain in period dress at all match events: dinners, award presentation, etc.
2. **Non Compliance**- Any member not complying with section 1 of this article may be requested to not participate in a match or exhibition at the discretion of the match director or the Board of Directors

ARTICLE V- ARMS, AMMUNITION, AND HORSES

1. **Firearms**- All firearms shall be .45 Colt caliber. All pistols shall be of single-action design with fixed sights only. Modification to firearms is limited to the guidelines followed by all current CMSA rules. The rifle firearm shall be one manufactured prior to 1900, or a reproduction thereof. It shall be a pump-action, lever-action, or a revolving rifle. The pump- and lever- action rifle can be .45 Colt, .44/40, or .44 magnum caliber. The revolving rifle shall be .45 Colt. Rifle minimum barrel length shall be 16 inches and minimum overall length shall be 26 inches (per ATF Law).
2. **Ammunition**- All ammunition shall be provided by Custer's Cowboys. All firearms will be loaded at the armorer's table. The producer of the ammunition will be listed for each match and only CMSA Certified ammunition will be used.
3. **Display Ammunition**-Contestants are to have no live ammunition on their person, in their cartridge belts or saddlebags, or on the grounds. Dummy rounds with inert primers may be used in cartridge belts. Failure to follow this rule may result in disqualification and expulsion from the grounds.
4. **Stallions**- No one under the age of 18 shall be permitted to ride a stallion at any Custer's Cowboys event, exhibit, or practice.

ARTICLE VI-QUALIFICATION OF BOARD MEMBERS

1. **President**- Should be a Custer's Cowboys member for 1 year.
2. **Vice President**- Should be a Custer's Cowboys member for 1 year.
3. **Board of Directors**- Any Board member should have been a member of Custer's Cowboys for 1 year prior to serving on the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII- BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. **Number of Directors**- The Custer's Cowboys board of Directors shall consist of 7 individuals, which includes 4 officers and 3 directors. President and Vice President and Treasurer must be at least 21 years of age. Secretary and Directors must be at least 18 years of age.
2. **Specific Duties of Officers:**

- A. **President** – The President shall preside at all regular meetings of the Board of Directors. He/She shall prepare the agenda for the meetings of the Board. He/She may appoint necessary committees to carry on the Board's program. The President, within the limits of the law and the direction of the Board of Directors, shall act from

time to time as the representative of the Board and the Association. In addition, he/she shall have the authority to sign all papers required for the business of the Board of Directors and the Association.

- B. Vice President** – The Vice President shall perform such duties as from time to time may be assigned to him/her. The Vice President, as authorized by the board, shall have all the powers to perform all the duties of the President in case of the temporary absence of the president or in the case of his or her temporary inability to act, the office shall be declared vacant by the Board and a successor chosen by the Board.
- C. Secretary** – The Secretary shall record the meeting minutes and maintain membership records. The Secretary shall coordinate articles for the Rundown, Press Releases, and Web Page News.
- D. Treasurer**- The Treasurer will collect all entry fees and membership dues. The Treasurer shall record all gifts, donations and financial transactions of the Boards in an accepted bookkeeping method. The Treasurer shall provide current financial reports at each regularly scheduled meeting and a yearly financial statement. All financial records will be available to the Board upon request. The Treasurer shall deposit all funds of the Association in such bank or banks as designated by the Board.
- E. Directors**- The Directors shall actively participate in the planning and organization of all Custer's Cowboys events. Directors shall serve on special committees as directed by the President. Areas of assistance may include, but are not limited to setting up equipment, setting and changing stages, acting as Range Master, Safety Rider, Announcer, advocate of safety, and encouragement to new riders.
- F. Awards Committee**- The awards committee duties are to decide the type of awards, and to purchase these awards for each match. Other duties required are to decide the placement of awards to the men's and women's division. men's and women's overall awards and wrangler awards. The committee will decide the year-end awards and award according to attendance at the matches. The committee will be responsible for the Christmas Banquet and gifts. The committee can ask for volunteers for assisting the banquet. The Board will set the budget for the awards and the committee will acquire funds from the Treasurer.

ARTICLE VIII – ELECTION AND TENURE

- 1. Method of Nominations**- The President should appoint a nomination committee who shall submit nominations for the officers and Directors positions. The slate of nominees will be presented at the December meeting. The General membership may nominate officers/directors of the slate is incomplete. Only members 13 years of age and up may be eligible to vote. Absentee ballots will be available and must be returned before the election.
- 2. Time of Elections**- the election of officers and directors shall take place during the December Christmas Banquet.
- 3. Term of Office**- The term of office shall begin in January following the December elections. The term for officers shall be 2 years. The election of Vice President and Secretary shall alternate with the election of President and Secretary. Directors term of office shall be 1 year. An officer or director may be re-elected to the same or another position as often as the position elects them.
- 4. Vacancies**- The Board shall bring forth the name of an individual or individuals to be considered to complete the vacated term of office. The replacement shall be decided by a majority vote of the board.
- 5. Awards Committee**- The awards Committee will be appointed by the Board and is open to all members 18 and older. This committee is to be no less than 2 members and no larger than 4 members.

ARTICLE IX – MEETINGS

1. Voting -

- A. Motions made at meetings shall be passed by a simple majority vote of the members present providing that at least 25% of the clubs eligible voters are present, except those issues governed by specific approval voting procedures.
- B. The president shall not vote unless a deciding vote is necessary.

2. Meetings -

- A. Meetings will be held unless otherwise decided by a majority vote of the members present, when said change has been declared a motion. All members will be notified of the meeting and the meeting shall be open to all interested members and guests.
- B. Meetings shall not be held with less than 4 elected officers and 4 members present. If such a situation occurs, the President can request an officers meeting to decide on any emergency decisions and/or set a date for the next meeting.
- C. The President, any 3 officers, or 25% of the eligible membership may request special meetings. Such request shall be made by e-mail, telephone or in writing. Such requests shall be made to the President and the President shall call such a meeting. All members will be notified of the meeting.

ARTICLE X – COMPENSATION

1. Wages - No wages or salaries shall be paid to any member or officer for services rendered to the club.

2. Reimbursement - Receipt for consented expenditures must be submitted to the Treasurer, and the amount within reasonable cost as budgeted and/or approved for reimbursement by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XI – EMERGENC CLAUSE

1. Emergency Clause - These By-Laws may be temporarily altered in full or in part when the Board of Directors decides an emergency exists and provided that the action is temporary expedient to best serve the interest of all members of Custer's Cowboys.

2. Robert's Rules of Order - The Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of any business of Custer's Cowboys, which is not otherwise listed in these by-laws.