

DIXIE DESPERADOS BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

Name

SECTION 1: NAME

1. The name of the club shall be the Dixie Desperados, Cowboy Action Shooting Club.
2. The name of the club's shooting range shall be called "Desperado Canyon".
3. The name of the club's official news letter shall be known as The Front Site.

ARTICLE II

Objectives

SECTION 1: OBJECTIVES

1. To encourage and promote Cowboy Action Shooting in a safe and organized competitive manner for the benefit of all members and the public at large.
2. To inform and train members and the public in the safe and responsible handling of firearms and the social and recreational value of shooting sports. This information and training shall include adults and youths with an emphasis on family participation.
3. To organize and hold regular competitive shooting events in compliance with current Single Action Shooting Society (SASS) rules and guidelines.
4. To develop personal characteristics of honesty, self-discipline, truthfulness, team cooperation, good sportsmanship, national patriotism and pride in our community, our club and especially ourselves.
5. To encourage and promote good fellowship, companionship, camaraderie, lasting friendship and mutual patience and understanding between all members and other organizations interested in the safe, lawful use of firearms.
6. To oppose any proposed legislation designed to limit or deprive law abiding citizens of the lawful use of any legal firearms.
7. To sponsor intelligent firearms legislation before legislative committees, public bodies and other organizations.
8. To sponsor, encourage and actively fight for local shooting facilities that are in

compliance with our beliefs that benefit our club and the shooting public.

9. To be law abiding citizens with love and respect for each other and assets to our community.

10. To be of benefit to each other. To watch out for the safety, well-being, welfare, health and happiness of our fellow club members and shooters.

11. And lastly: **"BE SAFE, HAVE FUN!"**

ARTICLE III

Membership

SECTION I: ELIGIBILITY

1. Membership in this club is open to all residents of the United States who are of good character and are able to legally purchase a firearm in their state of residence. No person who is or has been a member of any organization opposed to the principles of the Government of the United States of America or the Government of the State of Utah shall be eligible for membership.

SECTION II: MEMBERSHIP

1. All memberships, except Junior Memberships, are for adults 17 years of age and older. Individual memberships shall be in the following categories:

- a. Annual Membership
- b. Associate Membership
- c. Life Membership
- d. Honorary Life Membership
- e. Junior membership for youths age 16 and under.

SECTION III: TERM OF MEMBERSHIP

1. All memberships, except life, shall be for the remainder of the calendar year in which enrolled. Membership dates thereafter shall be from January 1st to December 31st of each calendar year.

SECTION IV: ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

1. Individuals who list as their "primary" residence within the boundaries of Washington County, Utah are eligible for the Annual Membership in the club.

2. Members with current paid memberships shall have full voting and membership privileges in the club.

SECTION V: ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

1. Individuals who list as their "primary" residence elsewhere in the United States are eligible for the Associate Membership in the club.

2. Associate Members, shall, in all respects, will have full voting privileges, be subject to the same rules and fees as Annual Members, except that Associate Members may not hold an elective office on the Board of Directors of the Dixie Desperados.

SECTION VI: LIFE MEMBERSHIP

1. Individuals who qualify as an Annual Member may purchase a life membership with the club.

a. Price for Life Membership is \$250 per membership.

b. Life Members shall be presented with a Life Membership brassard or badge.

2. Life membership have full voting and membership privileges in the club.

SECTION VII: HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

1. An Honorary Life Membership may be conferred on a club member as a reward for extraordinary and outstanding service to the club.

2. Recipients shall pay no membership fees and will be presented with an appropriate brassard or badge showing Life Membership in the club.

3. Honorary Life membership members have full voting and membership privileges in the club.

SECTION VIII: JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

1. A Junior Membership is for any person who has not reached their 17th birthday and is sponsored by a parent or guardian who is a club member.
2. Junior members shall enjoy all the benefits and privileges offered by the club except voting or holding any office in the club.
3. Junior members must shoot under the adult supervision of their parent or guardian.
4. Junior members may be subdivided by age and gender:
 - a. Young Guns: aged 14 through 16
 - b. Buckaroos: aged 13 and under.
5. Junior members shall follow outlined SASS rules when shooting at competitions.

SECTION IX: MEMBERSHIP LISTS

1. Membership lists (printed or/and electronic) of the club are confidential to club members for the express purpose of conducting club business. Such lists of members will not be made public except by legal court order.

ARTICLE IV

DUES

SECTION I: ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

2. Annual Membership renewals are due January 1st of each year.
3. Annual Membership dues will be set by the Board Of Directors.
4. Life Membership: Cost is \$250. Member may make payments of \$50.00 per calendar quarter after an initial payment of \$100.00, until the total amount is paid.
 - a. For a Spouse to become a Life Member an additional \$250.00 fee would apply.
5. New members to the club during the calendar year shall have their membership dues pro-rated at 1/12th per month for the remaining calendar

year.

Any member who joins the club in December shall pay for the month of December plus the full dues for the coming calendar year. For example: if annual dues were \$24, a member would pay \$2.00 + \$24.00 = \$26.00.

SECTION II: SHOOT FEES

1. The Board of Directors of the Dixie Desperados will annually set the monthly shoot fees for that year.
2. No shooter shall be exempt from paying shoot fees for regularly scheduled Club shoots.

ARTICLE V

MEETINGS

SECTION 1: MONTHLY MEETINGS

1. The club shall have a regular monthly meeting available to all members.
2. The members present in person or represented by written proxy shall constitute a quorum at the meeting.
3. Meeting schedule shall be announced in Club newsletters and E-Mails.
4. The Club President or an assigned Club Officer shall chair the meeting.
5. The Club Secretary shall take minutes of the meeting, which will be made available to all Club members 15 days prior to the next meeting.
6. Each meeting shall include a current financial report prepared by the Club Treasurer which shall be attached to the Club minutes of the meeting.
7. All voting on Club business shall take place at the regularly scheduled monthly Club meeting.

SECTION II: MINUTES

1. Each meeting shall also include a reading of the minutes of the previous Club meeting and the reading from any committee meeting that occurred since the last general membership meeting.

SECTION III: ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to order.

Welcome guests and new club members

Reading and approval of the minutes of the previous meeting.

Reading of the Treasurer's report and approval.

Old Business.

Reports of Standing Committees.

Reports of Special Committees.

New Business.

Establish date, time and place of next meeting.

Adjournment.

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern procedures not covered by these By-Laws.

ARTICLE VI

OFFICERS

SECTION I: CLUB OFFICERS

1. Club Officers shall include the following: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Range Master, Territorial Governor (for SASS), and one Member-at-Large.
2. All Club Officers must be current on their club dues and portray an image in accordance to that of an Officer of a Single Action Shooting Society (SASS) affiliated club.
3. Club Officers must be filled by persons who have been a member of the Club for a minimum of one (1) year and have participated in at least 60% of club activities (club meetings, club shoots, parties & socials, and volunteer events) during the current year.
4. The Territorial Governor, in addition to the above requirements for Club Officers, must be a Life Member of SASS.
 - a. They must fulfil any other requirements as set forth by SASS for this position.

b. This position is designed to carry recommendations and communications from the Dixie Desperados to SASS.

5. All Club officers shall be elected for a term of one (1) year.

a. Term of office shall run from January 1 through December 31 of the same year.

a. b. There are no restrictions as to how many terms an Officer may serve, as long as he/she remains a member with dues current and is elected by majority vote at the December meeting.

SECTION II: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The Board of Directors for the Club shall consist of the same Club Officers as noted in Section I above.

2. The Board of Directors shall meet no less than once a calendar quarter and discuss the club as a whole, including financial strength and any pending major activities such as shoots, special appearances, etc.

3. Recommendations for the betterment of the Club are to be made to the general membership for approval.

4. All Board members, while representing the club and conducting club business in the community, are encouraged to uphold the dress code of SASS and live by "The Spirit of the Game" as outlined in the SASS handbook.

a Dress Code does not apply to club meetings and Board of Directors meetings.

SECTION III: MINUTES

1. A written record shall be kept of all meetings held by Club Officers.

a. All meetings of the Board of Directors shall be made available to any member in good standing.

b. All general membership meetings shall be either mailed or E-Mailed to all members in good standing of the club, and shall be approved at the next general membership meeting.

2. Written records shall include polls and votes taken by either telephone or E-Mail.

SECTION IV: ELECTIONS

1. Notice of Elections shall be posted in the club's official newsletter The Front Site in the October newsletter giving notice to club members that nominations for next year's officers shall be held at the regular general membership meeting in November.

2. Any club member may nominate a member in good standing for any elected office, providing the candidate meets the requirements for that office as noted in Section I of this Article.

a. The nominating member shall be responsible to contact the member they wish to nominate and obtain that person's resolve to run for such office before the November meeting. Such notification shall be noted with the request of nomination.

i. It shall not be the duty of any standing officer of the club to make such notification.

b. Nominations may be mailed or E-Mailed to the Club Secretary before the regular scheduled November general membership meeting.

i. Mailed nominations must have a postmark dated at least 10 days before the November meeting.

ii. E-Mailed nominations must show a "sent" date no later than 3 days before the November meeting.

3. The Official Club Nomination Ballot shall list each office and the persons nominated for that position followed by a blank line which may be used for a "write-in candidate".

a. Write-in Candidate: A member wishing to write-in a club member in good standing for any office **must** contact that individual and obtain that person's resolve to run for that office **before** making such a vote.

4. Official Ballots will be mailed to each club member in good standing, with a return envelope pre-addressed to the Club Secretary.

a. Members mailing address on their Club application form shall be the official mailing address.

b. Ballots must be postmarked no later than 10 days before the normally scheduled December general membership meeting, or may be hand delivered to the Club Secretary at the December meeting.

5. Official Club Ballots will be opened at the regular December general membership meeting by the Club Secretary and counted, with assistance, as needed, by current Board of Directors members.

a. Nominations with a majority vote shall prevail.

b. Tie votes: Any office in which a tie vote is counted, the tie will be determined by secret written ballot at the December meeting by members in good standing who are present at the meeting.

6. Newly elected officers shall take office on January 1st of the following year, and will be sworn into office at the regular general membership meeting in January.

SECTION V: VACANCIES

1. In the case of a Club Officer vacancy, a special election shall be held to fill the vacant position for the remainder of the original term. The same member requirements prevail concerning the replacement.

2. The election shall be held at the general membership meeting following the vacancy.

a. In the case of a resignation, the election shall be held at the meeting where the resignation is accepted.

3. The majority vote at the meeting shall prevail.

4. The vote shall be by secret written ballot.

ARTICLE VII

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION I: PRESIDENT

1. The President shall preside at all general membership meetings.

2. The President shall represent the Club at local community functions as necessary.

a. The Vice President will represent the Club at local community functions whenever the President is unable to attend.

3. The President is responsible to the Club and its members to communicate on proposed projects that will require monies to be spent.

4. The President is authorized to approve expenditures and reimbursements up to and including \$100.00 as long as it is not a reimbursement to him/her self. No one shall approve reimbursement of his/her own expenses.

a. Expenditures of over \$100.00 must be approved by the membership.

b. The Board of Directors shall make recommendations on projects and/or any expenditure of over \$500.00.

SECTION II: VICE PRESIDENT

1. The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in his/her absence. This includes the approval of reimbursements up to \$100.00.

2. The Vice President shall Chair the Club Shoot Committee.

SECTION III: SECRETARY

1. The Secretary shall author all official correspondence, including recording and reading of the general membership minutes and those of the Board of Directors.

1.

2. The Secretary will keep an orderly record of all minutes and correspondence.

3. The Secretary is responsible for processing the application for membership in the Dixie Desperados .

a. While any member of the Club can provide an application form to a prospective member, it is the duty of the Club Secretary to approve the application form and forward any collected funds to the Club Treasurer.

SECTION IV: TREASURER

1. The Treasurer shall retain an accounting of all monies that pass through the Club. Such monies shall be deposited in a financial institution for safe keeping and disbursement.

2. The Treasurer shall submit a written financial report to the Club Secretary at the monthly club meeting to be filed with the Club monthly minutes.

3. The Treasurer shall maintain all funds and records according to the Articles of Incorporation and by the By-Laws of the Dixie Desperados.

4. The Treasurer shall hand over all records to the Board of Directors should they

wish to hold an audit of Club finances.

5. The Treasurer shall be responsible for Corporation renewals, payment of taxes, and any annual fees/dues required for the Club.

6. The Treasurer shall maintain all Club financial records for a period of a minimum of three (3) years.

SECTION V: RANGE MASTER

1. The Range Master is responsible for conducting the Range Safety Meeting prior to each match.

2. The Range Master is obligated to report any unsafe condition, at the range, or at the last match to the Board of Directors and the general membership, at the next meeting. A recommendation for improvement or correction should also accompany the report.

3. The Range Master is responsible to assure that all shooters and spectators present at the Club's range for organized club shooting activities have eye and hearing protection.

4. The Range Master must maintain a First Aid Kit at all organized club shooting activities and be diligent and alert to any injuries.

5. The Range Master will chair the Range Improvement Committee.

SECTION VI: TERRITORIAL GOVERNOR

1. The Territorial Governor shall collect input from the Board of Directors and the general membership as to items that should be discussed and changed at the Single Action Shooting Society (SASS) Territorial Governors Conference.

2. The Territorial Governor shall attend, if possible, the SASS Territorial Governors Conference and convey the concerns and/or recommendations made by the Club.

3. The Territorial Governor is responsible for reporting to the Board of Directors and the general membership the minutes of the most recent SASS Territorial Governor's meeting and items on the agenda of any conference.

3. SECTION VII: MEMBER-AT-LARGE

1. The Member-At-Large will be a voting member of the Board of Directors and will assist Club Officers as needed.

ARTICLE VIII

COMMITTEES

SECTION I: COMMITTEES

1. There shall be two types of committees:

- a. Standing
- b. Special

SECTION II: STANDING COMMITTEES

1. Range Improvement Committee:

- a. Chair: Club Range Master
- b. Responsible to oversee all improvement projects at the range.
- c. Responsible to make sure the range condition meets standards set by the Club and SASS.
- d. Assistance for projects and general clean-up of the range may come from the general membership of the Club. It is not the committee's duty to provide all the necessary labor for such projects.

2. Club Shoot Committee:

- a. Chair: Club Vice President
- b. Responsible for the monthly club shoots at the range.
- c. Includes development of the various stages, set-up of targets, props, and tools needed for the successful completion of the scheduled event and clean up afterwards.

3. Special and Annual Club shoots:

- a. Chair: As appointed by the Board of Directors
- b. Responsible for the successful completion of all aspects of major shoots held by the Club

1. Holiday Shoot, Ruckus at Red Rock,
Huntsman World Senior Games, etc.

- c. Unlike the other committees under this section, once the

major shoot is completed and critiqued this committee shall be dissolved.

SECTION III: SPECIAL COMMITTEES

1. Special Committees shall be chaired by a member of the committee as determined by committee members.
2. Special Committees shall report monthly to the Board of Directors of the Club.
3. Unlike a Standing Committee, a Special Committee is dissolved once they have completed the task which created them.
4. A Special Committee may also be dissolved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at any time.

SECTION IV: DISPENSING OF CLUB FUNDS

1. Both Standing and Special Committees cannot dispense club funds or assets without prior authority by the membership or the Board of Directors.

SECTION V: MINUTES

1. Written minutes of all committee meetings are to be kept and read at the next general membership meeting.
 - a. Committee minutes will be recorded in the minutes of the general membership meeting for a permanent record.
2. Committee minutes shall include all aspects of the committee's functions.

ARTICLE IX

AUDITS

SECTION I: AUDITS

1. An annual audit of the books shall be done each year prior to a new Board of Directors taking office.
 - a. An Audit Committee shall be comprised of a minimum of three (3) members of the Board of Directors and a volunteer from the current club membership.
2. The Board of Directors can call for a Special Audit if they deem necessary.

ARTICLE X

CONDUCT OF MEMBERS

SECTION I: GENERAL CONDUCT

1. If any current member is convicted of any crime, the Board of Directors must review the circumstances and shall have the authority to suspend or revoke the person's membership.
2. Any member consuming alcohol or drugs affecting his/her ability to function in a safe and reasonable manner, while at the Club range or at any shooting event, shall be terminated from membership.
3. No member shall allow any person to discharge a weapon that is of a configuration or caliber that isn't SASS legal at the Club range.
4. Any member or guest of a member, who destroys club property makes the member liable for such damage and could result in disciplinary action by the Board of Directors.

SECTION II: SPIRIT OF THE GAME

1. "The Spirit of the Game" means you fully participate in what the competition asks. You do not look for ways to create an advantage out of what is or is not stated as a rule or shooting procedure.
2. A "Spirit of the Game" infraction occurs when a competitor willfully or intentionally disregards the stage instructions in order to obtain a competitive advantage (i.e., taking the penalty would result in a lower score or faster time than following the instructions) and is not assessed simply because a competitor "makes a mistake."
3. In addition to any penalties for misses, a 30 second failure to engage/Spirit of the Game penalty is assessed.
4. Shooting ammunition that does not meet the power factor or minimum velocity is also a "Spirit of the Game" infraction.
5. Two "Spirit of the Game" penalties within a match will result in a Match Disqualification.

SECTION III: FAILURE TO ENGAGE

1. A "Failure to Engage" occurs when a competitor willfully or intentionally disregards the stage instructions in order to obtain a competitive advantage and is not assessed simply because a competitor "makes a mistake".

2. A "Failure to Engage" applies only to non-shooting situations such as refusing to rope a steer, throw a stick of dynamite or otherwise make an attempt to complete any other non-shooting procedure written within the stage instructions.

2. 3. In addition to any penalties for misses, a 30 second Failure to Engage/Spirit of the Game penalty is assessed.

ARTICLE XI

SUSPENSION, EXPULSION, or PROBATION

SECTION I: ACTION

1. Any officer or member of the club is subject to suspension, expulsion, probation or disciplinary reprimand by the Board of Directors for.

a. Un-sportsmanlike or other conduct that does not comply with Articles X and XIII of these By-laws, but not without a fair and full hearing as outlined in this Article.

b. Charges must be filed in writing with the Board of Directors.

SECTION II: PROCEDURE

1. Any member may prefer charges against any officer or member.

2. They shall be in writing, clearly stating the facts, and accompanied by all affidavits and exhibits which are to be used at the hearing.

3. Such charges shall be filed with the Secretary, who will immediately notify the President.

a. The President will call a meeting of the Board of Directors to hear the charges.

b. The Secretary will give at least fifteen (15) days written notice of the meeting to each member of the Board of Directors and to the accuser and the accused.

c. The notice to the accused shall be in writing and shall include duplicate copies of the charge and of any supporting affidavits and exhibits.

d. The hearing by the Board of Directors must be attended by at least five of the seven Board members.

e. The Board of Directors may, by a majority vote, discipline the accused by admonition or reprimand, either verbal or in writing,

or suspend the accused. The Board may also expel the accused from the Club or place the accused on probation.

SECTION III: APPEAL

1. Any officer or member disciplined by the Board of Directors may appeal to the full membership of the Club.

2. Such appeal shall be in writing to the Secretary, who shall notify the President.

3. The President shall call a special meeting of the Club for the purpose of acting on the appeal.

a. The Secretary shall give at least fifteen (15) days notice in writing to all members in good standing, stating the date, time, place and reason for the meeting.

b. This notice may be given by E-Mail or by special mailing by the Club.

4. At the meeting, the Secretary shall read the original charges, with supporting affidavits and exhibits.

a. The Secretary shall also read the minutes of the meeting of the Disciplinary Board Meeting.

b. Full hearing will be given the accuser and the accused.

c. A vote will be taken by secret ballot of the members in good standing who are present.

d. A two-thirds (2/3) vote shall be required to reverse the action of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII

MATCH RULES

SECTION I: MATCH RULES

1. All annual Club shooting events shall be governed and regulated by current SASS rules and guidelines.

ARTICLE XIII

SAFETY

SECTION I: GOAL

1. The primary goal in all shooting activities shall be the personal safety of all persons involved.
2. All thinking and behavior must be directed towards the prevention of personal injury.
3. Firearm safety violations must never be tolerated.
4. Repeated firearms safety violations must be reviewed by a disciplinary meeting of the Board of Directors as outlined in Article XI of these By-laws.

SECTION II: BASICS

1. The four basic firearms safety rules shall always apply:
 - a. Muzzle control: Never point any firearm at any person.
 - b. Trigger control: Never touch the trigger until ready to shoot.
 - c. Mind Set: Always treat guns as if they are loaded.
 - d. Backstop: Always know where your bullet will stop.

SECTION III: SINGLE ACTION SHOOTING SOCIETY (SASS)

1. All current SASS rules and guidelines shall be observed at all shooting events.
2. Everyone is a safety officer. Be aware and report or take action if someone is being unsafe.
3. Hearing and eye protection is mandatory at all shooting events.
4. Alcohol and drugs are not permitted at any shooting event.
5. No persons shall be allowed to shoot until the age of eight (8) years.
6. A parent/legal guardian must accompany shooters under the age of eighteen (18) years.

SECTION IV: FIREARMS

1. Make sure your firearms are in safe working condition and that ammunition is

safe and within SASS guidelines for velocity and bullet type (lead only).

2. Only SASS legal firearms are allowed to be shot on the Club range.

a. The use of firearms on the Club range is limited to those listed as legal in the current SASS manual for side matches and regular competition.

SECTION V: RANGE SAFETY MEETINGS

1. A range safety meeting shall be conducted prior to all club shooting events.

2. This meeting shall be conducted by the Range Master or a temporarily appointed Range Master for the shooting event.

3. The purpose of the meeting shall be to educate and encourage all shooting participants in the safe operation of the shooting event.

4. The meeting shall include general firearms safety rules, SASS guidelines and shooting rules and guidelines specific to the event.

4. 5. No persons shall be allowed to participate in shooting events without attendance in the range safety meeting or without receiving prior instructions by the Range Master.

SECTION VI: FIRST AID

1. It shall be required for medical first aid to be available at all Club shooting events.

2. The Club shall purchase and maintain such supplies as reasonably deemed necessary to provide medical first aid to injury victims.

3. Medical first aid shall be administered by the Range Master or temporarily appointed Range Master or safety first aid person otherwise appointed.

a. The designated medical first aid person or Range Master shall be named and introduced at the Range Safety Meeting.

ARTICLE XIV

AMENDMENT PROCESS

SECTION I: AMENDMENT PROCESS

1. Any member may propose an amendment to the By-laws.

2. A proposed amendment must be approved, by majority vote at the meeting where it is presented.

3. Then the proposal must be presented to the entire membership.

a. The Club bulletin or a letter may be the vehicle to notify the membership of any proposed change to the By-laws.

b. The date the vote will be taken must also be included in the notification.

c. A recommendation can be made by the Board of Directors, and placed in the mailing, explaining the benefits or disadvantages of the proposed changes and the importance of each member's vote.

d. In the notification, a ballot will be placed for those members not able to attend the meeting where the final vote is conducted.

e. At the prescribed regularly scheduled meeting a vote will be taken.

4. The amendment must be approved by two-thirds (2/3) of the total membership.

a. If a member is not able to attend the meeting where the final vote is to be taken, the member's ballot must be signed and returned for his/her vote to be counted.

b. No proxy votes will be counted in a By-laws change.

ARTICLE XV

DEACTIVATION

SECTION I: DEACTIVATION

1. In the event of dissolution of the Dixie Desperados, all monies and assets will be distributed in a manner set forth in the Articles of Incorporation, Article IV, h:

Upon dissolution of the corporation, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax laws, or shall be distributed to the federal government or to a state and local government for a public purpose.

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