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**BY-LAWS**  
**Of the**  
**Arizona Cowboy Shooters Association, Inc.**

**Affiliated with:**

**The National Rifle Association (NRA)**

**11250 Waples Mill Road**

**Fairfax, Virginia 22030**

**(703) 267-1400**

**Single Action Shooting Society (SASS)**

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<b><u>Article I</u></b>	<b>Name</b>
<b><u>Article II</u></b>	<b>Purpose</b>
<b><u>Article III</u></b>	<b>Memberships</b>
<b><u>Article IV</u></b>	<b>Dues and Assessments</b>
<b><u>Article V</u></b>	<b>Meetings</b>
<b><u>Article VI</u></b>	<b>Officers</b>
<b><u>Article VII</u></b>	<b>Election and Term</b>
<b><u>Article VIII</u></b>	<b>Duties of Officers</b>
<b><u>Article IX</u></b>	<b>Removal of Officer</b>
<b><u>Article X</u></b>	<b>Suspension and/or Expulsion</b>
<b><u>Article XI</u></b>	<b>Finance</b>
<b><u>Article XII</u></b>	<b>Amendments and Policy Statements</b>
<b><u>Article XIII</u></b>	<b>Governing Rules &amp; Restrictions</b>
<b><u>Article XIV</u></b>	<b>Dissolution</b>

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## **Article I**

### **NAME**

The name of this organization shall be ARIZONA COWBOY SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED, hereinafter referred to as ACSA.

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## **Article II**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Association shall be as follows:

To encourage organized shooting activities among citizens of the United States with a view towards a better knowledge of the safe handling and proper care of firearms, as well as improved marksmanship.

To establish a public development of the essentials of good sportsmanship, honesty, law observance and self-reliance.

To establish and support junior sportsmen for the purpose of carrying out the objectives of this Association with adults and youth of our state and nation.

To hold exhibits from time to time at various locations throughout the state, where membership and general public may within applicable laws, view, display, and trade.

To promote and communicate the living history of the West, of early American history including the post Civil War Era, and Cowboy history in general.

To hold Cowboy Shooting contests from time to time, in which the primary object is to enjoy the challenge of recreating an event that may or may not have

occurred in the Old West. Although scores may be kept and prizes awarded for noteworthy performance, the emphasis of the event shall always be in the participation and not on winning.

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### **Article III**

#### **Memberships**

There shall be four classes of membership:

Sponsored Members - Any citizen of the United States is eligible for membership in this Association if he or she is recommended by a member in good standing, and agrees to abide by the By Laws of this Association and makes timely payment of dues, and subscribes to the following pledge:

#### **"THE PLEDGE"**

*I certify that I am not a member of any organization or group having as its purpose, or one of its purposes, the overthrow, by force or violence, of the government of the United States or any of the political subdivisions. That I have never been convicted of a violent crime. And that if admitted to membership, I will fulfill the obligations of good sportsmanship and good citizenship and will abide by all the rules and by-laws of the Arizona Cowboy Shooters Association, Inc.*

Endowment Members - Those individuals who qualify as sponsored members and pay a one-time fee for lifetime membership.

Honorary Members - Those individuals whom the Association from time to time may wish to honor for some special service or contribution to the shooting sports.

Associate Members - Those individuals, who are non-shooters, but agree to dress in period costumes, participate in non-shooting events and support all other activities of the Association. Associate members may hold office, and are entitled to membership card, voting privileges and a registered alias.

The annual dues of each member shall be due on January 1<sup>st</sup> each year.

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## **Article IV**

### **Dues and Assessments**

Annual Membership dues shall be determined by the ACSA Board and published to the membership each June, effective October 1<sup>st</sup> annually.

Additional family members residing in the same household, who wish to participate in any shooting event as a member shall pay \$10.00 per year in conjunction with an annual member. Members will receive only one newsletter per household.

Associate members shall pay \$10.00 per year.

Lifetime membership shall be \$200.00 for an individual. This amount may be paid in one lump sum, or installments of not less than \$25.00 paid not less frequently than quarterly. Lifetime membership may be extended to additional family participants upon the payment of an additional \$100.00 each.

A member of this Association who is in arrears in dues by thirty (30) days shall not be eligible to vote or to enjoy any of the privileges or benefits of this Association.

A member of this Association who is in arrears in dues by ninety (90) days shall be dropped from the rolls and must re-apply for membership as a new member.

Special assessments can be levied by a majority vote of the members present at a regular business meeting, provided notice of such proposed assessment is mailed to all members in good standing ten (10) days prior to the meeting.

Every member of this Association shall be encouraged to become a member of the National Rifle Association (NRA).

Every member of this Association shall be encouraged to become a member of the Single Action Shooting Society (SASS).

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## **Article V**

### **Meetings**

Monthly Business Meeting - The regular business meeting of the Association shall be held each month. During the regular meeting, those members in good standing that are present shall constitute a quorum. This meeting shall not be held during a shooting event. In the event that neither the President nor the Vice President can be present to chair the meeting, the President shall designate a member in good standing as Chairman. This meeting shall be open to all club members in good standing. All business matters that affect this Association shall be open for discussion. The Executive Board, provided a ten- (10) day notice is given to all members may make exception to the scheduled business meeting.

Executive Board Meetings - Executive Board meetings shall be held at such time and location as designated by the Executive Board.

Shooting events - During the shooting event and prior to the commencement shall not be classified as meetings. Announcements may be made at these times, but business shall not be conducted until the conclusion of said event.

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## **Article VI**

### **Officers**

The officers shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Range Master, and two members-at-large. These officers acting together shall constitute the Executive Board (see by-law Article VIII and ACSA Operating policies for additional information regarding the SASS position of Territorial Governor).

The Executive Board shall have a general supervision, control and management of all activities of the Association. Any decision of the Executive Board may be reversed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of ballots cast by the members in good standing present at a regular business meeting.

A vacancy in the Executive Board shall be filled by Presidential appointment, subject to the approval of the members in good standing, and the appointee shall serve until the next general election for that position. However, if more than two vacancies exist, new officers shall be elected at a regular business meeting of the Association to fill the vacancies for the remainder of the terms. Should the offices of President and Vice President become vacant simultaneously, the remainder of the Executive Board may select from its members in good standing a President Pro Tem, to preside over the meetings of this Association in order to elect a new President and Vice President.

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## **Article VII**

### **Election and Term**

The election of new officers shall be held annually at the October meeting with the term of office beginning in January.

All officers shall be elected to serve for a period of two years.

No two officers shall be related either by law or by blood.

The election for the President shall be held in even numbered years. The elected President will select and appoint the offices of Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer who will serve for two years; the Territorial Governor is appointed annually. Appointed officers shall be approved by a voice vote of the membership attending the December business meeting. The Territorial Governor although appointed, is a non-voting member of the Board.

The election for Range Master, and two Members-At-Large shall be held in odd numbered years. These officers shall serve for a period of two years.

The four elected officer positions shall be elected by the majority vote cast by the members in good standing of this Association.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the September business meeting. If, for any reason, a member of good standing cannot attend this meeting, he or she may submit or accept a nomination by proxy to any board member prior to the *September* business meeting.

If there is only one (1) individual nominated for any one of the elected positions, and no further nominations are made from the floor, the presiding officer may declare the slate elected by "acclamation" in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

In the case of two (2) or more individuals nominated for the elected positions;

Official ballots and specially marked return envelopes shall be prepared under the direction of the Executive Board for mailing to all members in good standing. Ballots shall be prepared and/or marked in some unique manner to prevent easy duplication. The envelopes shall bear the inscription "Ballot, Do Not Open", or some similar wording.

The ballots, ballot envelopes, and instructions will be mailed to all members in good standing within 10 days after nominations have closed.

If Ballots are mailed, they must be returned in the ballot envelopes, which will not be opened until the October business meeting. Sealed ballot envelopes will be accepted until that time. No ballots will be available for distribution at the business meeting.

Two volunteers, who are members in good standing, at the October business meeting shall open and tally the Ballots. Candidates receiving a simple majority of the votes shall be deemed elected. In the event of a tie vote, the matter will be resolved by a voice vote of the membership attending the October business meeting.

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## **Article VIII**

### **Duties of Officers**

President - The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Board. The President shall be a member ex-officio of all regular and special committees, and shall perform all other duties as usually pertain to the office. The President shall be responsible for enforcing Robert's Rules of Order at all Executive Board and Association meetings. The President is further responsible for maintaining order as necessary at all meetings and events. He shall assist the Range Master as required in enforcement of all rules and regulations of this Association.



Vice President - The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in the President's absence or at the President's request. He shall also perform other duties as requested by the President.

Secretary - The Secretary shall conduct all official correspondence pertaining to the proper preparation and forwarding of all required reports. The Secretary shall notify all members of regular and special meetings, and shall keep true record of all meetings of the Executive Board and of this Association, and have custody of the books and papers of the Association including membership files.

Treasurer - The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds of the Association and place same in such banks as may be approved by the Executive Board. Such money shall only be withdrawn by check signed by the Treasurer and one other member of the Executive Board and for the payment of such bills as shall be approved by the Executive Board. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate account of all transactions and render a detailed report at any meeting of the Association when requested. The Treasurer shall submit a complete summary, which shall constitute the annual report, of all expenditures and income at the regular June meeting of the Association. The Treasurer shall be bonded in an amount to be specified by the Executive Board.

Range Master -The Range Master shall have charge of the ranges of the Association, arranging and control of competitions, and range activities including safety and arms instruction, with authority to appoint assistants from the members of the Association. The Range Master shall be responsible for range safety during Association activities.

The assistants appointed by the Range Master shall be Marshals and shall serve for a period of one year, January through December. The number of Marshals appointed shall be not less than one and one-half (1.5) times the usual number of stages at the regular events of the Association.

It shall be the duty of the officers to attend all regular, Executive Board, and special meetings of the Association.

Any office shall be considered vacant when the office holder is absent from two (2) meetings in any six (6) month period.

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## **Article IX**

### **Removal of Officer**

Any officer who is unable or willing to perform the duties of the office to which elected shall notify the President for replacement. In the event of non-performance by a member of the Executive Board, upon the unanimous vote of the balance of the Executive Board, recommendation for removal from office of the non-performing officer shall be submitted to the membership at the next Association business meeting. A majority vote of the members present at the Association business meeting shall be required to remove the officer.

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## **Article X**

### **Suspension and/or Expulsion**

Any member may be suspended or expelled by a unanimous vote of the Executive Board.

Conduct that may result in the filing of charges includes, but is not limited to, unsafe firearm handling, continued non-sportsman like and/or disruptive behavior, participation in any club event while under the influence of any intoxicating beverage or illegal drug.

Any member in good standing may refer charges against any member to the Executive Board. Such charges shall be in writing, clearly stating the facts, accompanied by all affidavits or exhibits, which are to be used in their support. Such charges shall be filed with the Secretary who will immediately notify the President. The President will present the charges at the next regular Executive Board meeting.

The accused may have representation at such meeting.

The accused may file an appeal for a hearing by the general membership of this Association within thirty (30) days of the Executive Board's decision. A written

appeal shall be filed with the Secretary, who will within 48 hours notify the President. The President will present the appeal at the next regular Association meeting.

The accused may have representation at that Association meeting.

A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members in good standing at the Association meeting shall be required to reverse the decision of suspension or expulsion.

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## **Article XI**

### **Finance**

The capitol of this Association shall consist of such property as acquired, including any real property, by leasehold, or fee title, which it may acquire and hold in accordance with the law, such money as may be paid into the treasury of the Association by the members thereof as dues, fees and assessments, or received by the Association from other sources.

The highest amount of indebtedness or liability, direct or contingent, to which the Association may, at any time subject itself, shall be subject to the limitations of law and approval of the Corporation Commission of Arizona, and shall not exceed eighty (80) percent of the assets. The asset value of real estate and improvements shall be appraised value of the property.

No obligations and/or other encumbrances against the real property of the Association may be made without the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the members in good standing in attendance at a regular business meeting.

The Association shall publish a complete year-to-date Income/Expense report, quarterly in the newsletter. Complete being defined as a beginning balance, totals of all Income/Expense categories and sub-categories and an ending balance. To be published in the April, July, October and January newsletters.

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## **Article XII**

### **Amendments and Policy Statements**

Any proposed amendments to these by-laws may be introduced by any member in good standing of the Association at any regular monthly business meeting.

All amendments to these by-laws shall be submitted to the National Rifle Association for their approval in accordance with the Association's affiliation agreement.

A Policy Statement may record interpretation of these by-laws.

Policy Statements may be executed by the Executive Board and approved by a majority of members present at any regular business meeting on any concern to this Association.

All policy statements shall be recorded and shall be considered as part of the by-laws of this organization. The Executive Board may rescind any policy statement. Such rescission must be approved by a majority of members present at a regular business meeting.

Interpretation of these by-laws shall be the responsibility of the Executive Board.

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## **Article XIII**

### **Governing Rules & Restrictions**

All monthly business meetings and Executive Board meetings shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order.

All stages of all events shall be conducted according to SASS rules, unless specifically stated otherwise in the written Stage Procedures.

Activities of the Association shall be restricted to areas designated for that specific purpose.

The Association shall not be used for the firing or detonation of such weapons as described in Title II, Machine Guns, Destructive Devices, and certain other Firearms; Subchapter B, Section 5845. Definitions of Public Law 90-816, known as the Guns Control Act of 1968, Paragraph (b) Machine Guns, and Paragraph (f) Destructive Devices; or any other weapon or device that violates the spirit of the Arizona Cowboy Shooters Association. The above restrictions shall not be construed to pertain to those weapons described in Paragraph (g) Antique Firearms.

The above paragraph shall not prevent the Executive Board from granting permission for the demonstration of such weapons when deemed beneficial to the Association membership as a whole.

No shooting or gun handling shall be permitted during any meeting of this Association.

This Association forbids before or during a shooting event the consumption of alcoholic or substitute alcoholic beverages. Alcoholic or substitute alcoholic beverages may be present after the shooting event has concluded and all firearms are stowed. These restrictions may change depending on the rules and regulations of the facility we are holding our shooting event. However, regardless of the facility's rules and restrictions, the restrictions fore said will be strictly enforced.

It shall be the duty of all members to acquaint themselves with all restrictions.

Because safety and public image are of paramount importance to the Association, any violation of these restrictions shall be sufficient cause to initiate expulsion or suspension proceedings as outlined in Article X of the Arizona Cowboy Shooters Association by-laws.

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## **Article XIV**

### **Dissolution**

Upon dissolution of this Association, any monies remaining in the Association treasury shall be donated to non-profit organizations or charity after all expenses of this Association are satisfied. The organizations to receive these monies shall be nominated and voted upon at a monthly meeting held just prior to the dissolution.

Due to the nature of this Association, the National Rifle Association would be given preference.

The duly authorized Board of Directors of the Arizona Cowboy Shooters Association, Inc. does hereby submit these by-laws for adoption, effective 10-30-2004.

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